

FIRST READING. Acts 10:34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

SECOND READING. 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

GOSPEL. Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.



Sunday, March 31, 2024

"In response to God's love, St. Matthew's is a faith community welcoming all to grow in faith, to worship Christ and to reach out to everyone."

Welcome!

We hope our worship will be a blessing to you. Our Lord's Supper is being celebrated today. Everyone is welcome to receive this Holy Sacrament.

Order of Worship

This morning's Order of Worship is located in the *Hymnal Supplement*, and the hymns are located in the *Hymnal Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW).

Flowers

The Easter flowers adorning the church are placed to the Glory of God from the Altar Guild Fund. May their beauty express our cherished memories of family members and friends.

Easter Message

As Holy Week begins, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) National Bishop Susan C. Johnson and Anglican Church of Canada (ACC) Archbishop and Primate Linda Nicholls share an Easter message of courage, hope and joy. Visit www.elcic.ca for more information.

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church



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Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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The lines of the Psalm printed in bold font are sung in unison to the tune of a familiar hymn. The lines in plain font are read by the leader.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 — Tune: 380 Hallelujah! Jesus Lives! (Fred til Bod)

Leader: On this day the Lord acted; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**On this day the Lord has done
Such a deed of glorious might!**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

**Oh, rejoice with gladsome song:
It is wondrous in our sight!**

Let the people of God and all who gather to worship him proclaim, "His steadfast love endures forever!"

**Lo, the once-rejected one
Has become the cornerstone!**

Listen to the glad shouts of victory in the tents of God's people: "The Lord's mighty power has done it! His power has brought us victory--his mighty power in battle!"

**On this day the Lord has done
Such a deed of glorious might!**

I shall not die but live, and recount the deeds of the Lord. He punished me sorely, but did not deliver me to death.

**Oh, rejoice with gladsome song:
It is wondrous in our sight!**

I praise you, Lord, because you heard me; you have become my salvation!

**Lo, the once-rejected one
Has become the cornerstone!**

Sing Psalms! By Arden W. Mead. © Copyright 1999/2005 by Creative Communications for the Parish

Dates to Remember

Apr 7 10:00 a.m. – Coffee Hour

Apr 14 Special Congregational Meeting after the service to review and discuss the proposed budget, followed by a ballot vote. Votes by email will be available.

A funeral service for **Carole Bender** will be held at Pleasantview Funeral Home (2000 Merrittville Hwy, Thorold) on Friday, April 5 at 11:00 a.m., with visitation on Thursday April 4, 6:00-9:00 p.m. May God's love console the Bender Family, especially Cindy, Bill, Pam, and Dave as they mourn the loss of a loved one.

GATHERING

Thanksgiving for BaptismPrinted
Gathering Song365 Jesus Christ Is
Risen Today

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KyriePage 3

Now the FeastPage 4

SalutationPage 7

Prayer of the Day

Choir Anthem“Hallelujah! He’s Alive”

WORD

First ReadingActs 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24printed in bulletin

Second Reading1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel Acclamation Page 8

“Glory to you, O Lord.”

GospelMark 16:1-8

“Praise to you, O Christ.”

Sermon

Hymn of the Day364 Christ Has Arisen

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Prayers of Intercession

Prayer Response**“hear our prayer.”**

Peace

MEAL

Offertory PrayerPage 13

Great Thanksgiving.....Page 14

HolyPage 15

Eucharistic Prayer

Acclamations 2 and 3Page 16-17

Through Christ, With Christ.....Page 17

The Lord’s PrayerPage 18

Communion

Lamb of GodPage 18-19

Communion Hymns 362, 374

Thanks Be To YouPage 20

Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Song367 Now All the Vault...

Dismissal:

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!