

St. Matthew's Lutheran

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
766 West Wabasha Street, Winona MN 55987

Church and School Phone: 507.454.3083

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March 21 & 22, 2026

Closer to Jesus, Closer Together



exactly
what i need

Life

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Fourth Sunday in Lent

Exactly What I Need

LIFE

I recognize the danger of death. I am tempted to wonder whether my life was worth it if I do not leave a legacy or live on in the memories of my loved ones after I die. When my soul separates from my body, will I also be eternally separated from God in hell? Jesus promises much better. He promises life. One day I will be reunited with my believing loved ones, both soul and body. I will live with Jesus forever in eternity. Jesus raised people from the dead to prove his power over death. That's exactly the power I need.

Welcome to our Guests.

Thanks for joining us! We are gathered here to be strengthened in the faith through the Word of Jesus, the Son of God who has come to save us. If there is anything that we can do to serve you, please let us know.

OUR MISSION

The mission of every Christian and this congregation is to serve all people in God's world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of the Holy Scriptures.

OUR FACILITIES

A restroom is located in the Mother's Room at the back of church and also in the church basement. There is also a handicapped accessible restroom in the back of church. Ask an usher for help and directions. The members of St. Matthew's believe that families should be allowed to worship together. If the need arises, we have an audio-equipped children's room just outside of the church doors to your left. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday Mar. 29	Sat. 5:00pm	Worship
	Sun. 9:00am	Family Worship
Maundy Thursday Apr. 2	6:00pm	Worship/Communion
Good Friday Apr. 3	6:00pm	Worship
Easter Sunday Apr. 5	7:00am	Worship
	8:00am	Breakfast served by Club 3:16
	9:00am	Worship

Out of courtesy for your fellow worshipers, please silence all electronic devices.

Opening Hymn - 700 Draw Us to Thee sts. 1-3



1 Draw us to thee, for then shall we walk in thy
2 Draw us to thee, Lord, lov - ing - ly; let us de -
3 Draw us to thee; O grant that we may walk the



steps for - ev - er and has - ten on where thou art
part with glad - ness that we may be for - ev - er
road to heav - en! Di - rect our way lest we should



gone to be with thee, dear Sav - ior.
free from sor - row, grief, and sad - ness.
stray and from thy paths be driv - en.

Text: Friedrich Funcke, 1642-1699; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.
Tune: As hymnodus sacer, Leipzig, 1625
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 172

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Response - 700 Draw Us to Thee *sts. 4-5*

4 Draw us to thee that al - so we thy heav'n - ly
5 Draw us to thee un - ceas - ing - ly; in - to thy
bliss in - her - it and ev - er dwell where sin and
king - dom take us. Let us for - e'er thy glo - ry
hell no more can vex our spir - it.
share; thy saints and joint heirs make us.

Text: Friedrich Funcke, 1642–1699; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: As hymnodus sacer, Leipzig, 1625
Text and tune: Public domain

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

2 Kings 4:17–37

God enables the prophet Elisha to prove to a grieving mother that God can and will raise people from the dead.

¹⁷But the woman became pregnant, and the next year about that same time she gave birth to a son, just as Elisha had told her.

¹⁸The child grew, and one day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. ¹⁹He said to his father, “My head! My head!”

His father told a servant, “Carry him to his mother.” ²⁰After the servant had lifted him up and carried him to his mother, the boy sat on her lap until noon, and then he died. ²¹She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, then shut the door and went out.

²²She called her husband and said, “Please send me one of the servants and a donkey so I can go to the man of God quickly and return.”

²³“Why go to him today?” he asked. “It’s not the New Moon or the Sabbath.”

“That’s all right,” she said.

²⁴She saddled the donkey and said to her servant, “Lead on; don’t slow down for me unless I tell you.” ²⁵So she set out and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When he saw her in the distance, the man of God said to his servant Gehazi, “Look! There’s the Shunammite! ²⁶Run to meet her and ask her, ‘Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is your child all right?’ ”

“Everything is all right,” she said.

²⁷When she reached the man of God at the mountain, she took hold of his feet. Gehazi came over to push her away, but the man of God said, “Leave her alone! She is in bitter distress, but the LORD has hidden it from me and has not told me why.”

²⁸“Did I ask you for a son, my lord?” she said. “Didn’t I tell you, ‘Don’t raise my hopes?’”

²⁹Elisha said to Gehazi, “Tuck your cloak into your belt, take my staff in your hand and run. Don’t greet anyone you meet, and if anyone greets you, do not answer. Lay my staff on the boy’s face.”

³⁰But the child’s mother said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So he got up and followed her.

³¹Gehazi went on ahead and laid the staff on the boy’s face, but there was no sound or response. So Gehazi went back to meet Elisha and told him, “The boy has not awakened.”

³²When Elisha reached the house, there was the boy lying dead on his couch. ³³He went in, shut the door on the two of them and prayed to the LORD. ³⁴Then he got on the bed and lay on the boy, mouth to mouth, eyes to eyes, hands to hands. As he stretched himself out on him, the boy’s body grew warm. ³⁵Elisha turned away and walked back and forth in the room and then got on the bed and stretched out on him once more. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.

³⁶Elisha summoned Gehazi and said, “Call the Shunammite.” And he did. When she came, he said, “Take your son.” ³⁷She came in, fell at his feet and bowed to the ground. Then she took her son and went out.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 8:11–19

The Father promises to raise me from the dead and make me an heir of everlasting glory.

¹¹And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

¹²Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷Now if we are children,

then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 11:25

I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die.

Gospel

John 11:17–27,38–45

A corpse responds to the empowering command of Christ, proving that Jesus is the Lord of life.

¹⁷On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

¹⁸Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

²²But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

²³Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

²⁴Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

²⁵Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

²⁷“Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

³⁸Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹“Take away the stone,” he said.

“But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.”

⁴⁰Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?”

⁴¹So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.”

⁴³When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

⁴⁵Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated



Children are invited to go to Children's Church at this time

Hymn of the Day - 502 Children of the Heavenly Father



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther safe - ly
2 God his own doth tend and nour - ish; in his
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his



in his bos - om gath - er; nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things he
Lord his chil - dren sev - er; un - to them his grace he
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; his the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; in his might - y arms he bears them.
show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, abr.; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, Sweden, 1873

Text: © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715394

Tune: Public domain

Sermon

John 11:17-27; 38-45

"LORD, IF YOU HAD BEEN HERE "

- 1. He was there in Spirit**
- 2. He was there in person**
- 3. He was there in glory**

Stand

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Thank Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.

Our offerings will be collected today at the church entrance and brought forward during the offering hymn. To give by phone send a text message to 844-703-3129 with the amount you would like to contribute and you will be sent further instructions.

Offering Hymn - 405 On My Heart Imprint Your Image



On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



that life's rich - es, cares, and plea - sures have no pow'r to hide your face.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, and my glo - ry and sal - va - tion.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.

Tune: Johann B. König, 1691–1758

Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all the baptized, that they would live according to the Spirit they have received, shunning the works of the flesh and living in the hope of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the home, that God would soften obdurate hearts, turning parents and children toward each other in love and patience; and that He would banish the spirit of impudence, stubbornness and rebellion from all, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in authority over the lives of our people, that they would exercise this God-given duty humbly and in accord with His will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those suffering affliction, [*including _____*,] that God would strengthen their hope, show them His steadfast love, redeem them from all their iniquities, and grant healing and relief according to His will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who partake of the Lord's Supper, that they may come with repentant hearts to taste the body and blood of Christ, given and shed for our life, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who mourn, that they might not grieve as those who have no hope but as those whose hope is the crucified and risen One, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

O Lord, God almighty, through Your Son You have kept the promise of the ages and rescued us from sin. You have raised up the dry bones of a people captive to death and made us alive in Christ forever. Sustain us in this hope, that we may endure the tests, trials and troubles of this life and be ready when our Savior comes again in His glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 183

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Tune: Marty Haugen

Tune: © 1984, 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715394

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.' This phrase is repeated on the second and fourth staves. The final line of the score is 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace.'

Tune: Marty Haugen

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Be seated

OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church observes the biblical practice of *close communion*. If you are not currently a member of our congregation or a sister WELS/ELS congregation, you may come forward for a blessing (indicated by placing your hand on your heart) but we would kindly ask that you understand that we are not able to give you communion. If you would like to commune with us in the future, please speak with the pastor. We look forward to talking about this with you.

Distribution Hymn - 396 Christ, the Life of All the Living



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
 2 Thou, ah! Thou hast tak - en on thee bonds and stripes, a
 3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly that my wounds might
 4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur - round thee, treat - ing thee with



death, our foe, who, thy - self for me once giv - ing
 cru - el rod; pain and scorn were heaped up - on thee,
 all be whole; thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,
 cru - el scorn, and with pierc - ing thorns they crowned thee.



to the dark - est depths of woe: through thy suf - f'rings,
 O thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst thou my
 rest to give my wea - ry soul; yea, the curse of
 All dis - grace thou, Lord, hast borne that as thine thou



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
 soul de - liv - er from the bonds of sin for - ev - er.
 God en - dur - ing, bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.
 might - est own me and with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.

5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise
 thee that from pain I might be free;
 falsely did thy foes accuse thee:
 thence I gain security.

Comfortless thy soul did languish
 me to comfort in my anguish.
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall
 be, dearest Jesus, unto thee.

6 Thou hast suffered great affliction
and hast borne it patiently,
even death by crucifixion,
fully to atone for me.
Thou didst choose to be tormented
that my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall
be,
dearest Jesus, unto thee.

7 Then, for all that wrought my
pardon,
for thy sorrows deep and sore,
for thine anguish in the garden,
I will thank thee evermore,
thank thee for thy groaning, sighing,
for thy bleeding and thy dying,
for that last triumphant cry
and shall praise thee, Lord, on
high.

Text: Ernst C. Homburg, 1605–1681, abr.; (sts. 1–2, 5, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (sts. 3–4, 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, alt.
Tune: Das grosse Cantional, Darmstadt, 1687, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn - 836 I Walk in Danger All the Way

1 I walk in danger all the way;
the thought shall never leave me
that Satan, who has marked his prey,
is plotting to deceive me.
This foe with hidden snares
may seize me unawares
if e'er I fail to watch and pray;
I walk in danger all the way.

2 I pass through trials all the way,
with sin and ills contending;
in patience I must bear each day
the cross of God's own sending.
Oft in adversity
I know not where to flee,
when storms of woe my soul
dismay;
I pass through trials all the way.

3 Grim death pursues me all the way,
nowhere I rest securely;
he comes by night, he comes by day,
he takes his prey most surely.
A failing breath, and I
in death's strong grasp may lie
to face eternity today;
grim death pursues me all the way.

4 I walk with angels all the way,
they shield me and befriend me;
all Satan's pow'r is held at bay
when heav'nly hosts attend me.
They are my sure defense;
all fear and sorrow, hence!
Unharmed by foes, do what they
may,
I walk with angels all the way.

5 I walk with Jesus all the way,
his guidance never fails me;
within his wounds I find a stay
when Satan's pow'r assails me;
and by his footsteps led,
my path I safely tread.
No evil leads my soul astray;
I walk with Jesus all the way.

6 My walk is heav'nward all the way;
await, my soul, the morrow,
when you at last with joy can say
farewell to sin and sorrow.
All worldly pomp, begone!
To heav'n I now press on.
For all the world I would not stay;
my walk is heav'nward all the way.

Text: tr. Ditlef G. Ristad, 1863–1938, alt.; Hans A. Brorson, 1694–1764
Text: Public domain

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Announcements

March 21 & 22, 2026

Worship Leader: Winfried Schroeder

Musicians: Sarah Sell

Councilmen on Duty this Weekend

Saturday – Dean Rupprecht

Sunday – Ryan Brink

Altar Committee – Andrea Frick & Amalia Wilde

Last Week Attendance: Saturday – 81; Sunday – 0 Wed. 4pm -57, 6pm - 40



Ushers on Duty this Weekend

Saturday – Matt Rupprecht

Sunday – Jay Bade Group

This Week – Mar. 22-29

Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship/Communion/Children's Church
	10:15 AM	Bible Class/Kids for Christ
	11:00 AM	Worship Service Radio KAGE 1380AM or 101.5FM
	12:00 PM	Public School Catechism (at Wilson)
Monday		Finance #4
Tuesday		
Wednesday	4:00 PM	Lent Worship
	5:00 PM	Supper
	6:00 PM	Lent Worship
	7:00 PM	Sr Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Worship Service broadcasted on HBC Channel 20
Thursday	11:30 AM	Women's Bible Study
Friday		
Saturday	12:00 PM	Eggstravaganza
	5:00 PM	Palm Sunday Worship
Next Sunday	9:00 AM	Palm Sunday Worship
	10:15 AM	Pancake Breakfast
	11:00 AM	Worship Service Radio KAGE 1380AM or 101.5FM
	12:00 PM	Public School Catechism (at Wilson)

Financial News

Weekly Budget for Envelope Offerings: \$8,173.08

Offerings received Mar. 15/16: \$3,817

Church Announcements:

A Call Meeting to extend a pastoral call is scheduled for Sunday, March 22 after worship. Please plan on attending.

On March 8, a call was extended to Lydia Lindemann to teach grades 2-3 starting with the 2026-2027 school year. Please keep her in your prayers as she seeks the Lord's guidance.

Easter Lilies: There is a sign-up sheet in the church entrance for Easter lilies that will be used to decorate the front of church on Easter Sunday. Plants are \$16.99 each. Checks should be made payable to St. Matthew. The last day to order is **March 22nd**.

Do you have a student attending MLC next fall? Please let Lindsey Anderson in the office know. email: smoffice@stmatthewswinona.org or phone: 507-454-3083.

Church Library News: In your studies of the Bible, you may have come across some sections that are hard to understand. Or, you might not understand well enough to explain to someone else. The books on display in the Church Library may help clarify without adding to or subtracting from the inspired words of the Bible. Those sections of the Bible that are not necessary for us to understand now for our salvation we will fully understand when we get to Heaven.

As 2025 came to a close, our long time and faithful Historian for St. Matthew's moved out of the area and hence retired their position as St. Matthew's Historian. If you enjoy and/or are interested in this type of service to St. Matthews please contact Lindsey in the office at 507-454-3083 or Dean Rupprecht at 507-730--8854 and we will be glad to share more details with you.

Thrivent Choice. Just a bit of info. You can direct your 2025 Thrivent Choice dollars anytime between now and March 31. This is a very beneficial program for our church and school. Please don't forget.

Women's Fellowship

- **LWMS door offerings for mission projects will be received this weekend; March 21/22 (See mission project information on page 23)**
- **March 28 & 29 – Palm Sunday Bake Sale (pies and other baked goods). Please indicate on the sign-up sheet in the church entrance what you will be bringing.**

SAVE THE DATE The Winona Circuit Spring Rally will be held on Saturday, April 19th at St. Paul Lutheran in Onasaska WI. We will be learning how the 100 Missions in 10 Years is progressing from Jeff Mahnke, chairman of the Western Wisconsin District Mission Board.

Registration for the National LWMS Convention has opened. This year's convention is being held in the Madison WI area. You may register online at 62.lwms.org or a mail in registration form may be found in the church entrance on the LWMS bulletin board.

School News

- **March 6th - March 26th** - Hanging Basket Fundraiser. Delivery/Pick up day is April 30th
- **March 25th** - PTO serving Lenten Supper, Kids singing at the service
- **March 28th** – Eggstravaganza
- **March 29th** – Palm Sunday Family Worship – the children will be singing for worship and a Pancake Breakfast will be served after worship.

We are accepting candy donations for the Eggstravaganza. There will be a tote in the church to place your donations in. We are also in need of volunteers on March 28th! The event will be from noon to 2pm. Set up will be 10:30am to 11:30am. Needs: help direct traffic in the halls, supervise a game in the gym, help with an activity in a classroom and clean up. Would you be able to help? Contact Lindsey Anderson with your availability: smoffice@stmatthewswinona.org.

There has been some confusion about the Scrip Program. We are not getting rid of it! It is doing well and we are selling more cards than ever! However, we don't sell much after church and the ladies are feeling like their time could be better spent on other things. So, going forward there may be a lot of times that scrip isn't available after church. You can always stop in the church office, or email Lindsey in the office to order what you need! Thank you for your support of the scrip program! It is a huge benefit to our school!



Spring Yard Clean Up! Club 3:16 is offering their services to clean up yards this spring. There is no minimum fee for this service, however, we do encourage a freewill donation. This donation will be directly put towards our funds needed to attend the Youth Rally coming up in July. If you are in need of some yard cleaning, please reach out to Kris Anderson @ 507.459.0044 or at club316@stmatthewswinona.org.

Ways to Serve

- **If you would like to sponsor a Radio broadcast**, similar to a bulletin sponsorship, the cost is \$100.00. Please contact Lindsey by email: smoffice@stmatthewswinona.org or by phone: 507-454-3083. If you would like to donate to the Radio Broadcast fund, please use your designated offering envelope.
- **Bulletin Sponsorship**: Upcoming bulletins available for sponsorship: **Mar 25, 29; Apr 2, 3, 5, 12, 19, 26**. The cost is \$30.00. If you would like to sponsor a bulletin, you may email the information to Tamara Koenig tkoenig@stmatthewswinona.org or contact Lindsey in the office @507-454-3083.

WELS News

WELS Coulee Women's Retreat Luther High School, Onalaska, WI April 25, 2026

We're thrilled to welcome you back this spring for a day of spiritual renewal, fellowship, and encouragement. This year's theme is: "His Grace is Sufficient" based on 2 Corinthians 12:9 Come be refreshed in God's Word, surrounded by sisters in Christ, as we celebrate the boundless grace He gives us each day. Registration/info: welscwr.wix.com/retreat or email welscwr@gmail.com

Luther High Open Enrollment — Whether you are the family of an eighth grader preparing for high school or are considering a change in your child's high school experience, we invite you to partner with Luther High School for this important next step. At Luther, we walk alongside families to root students firmly in their identity in Christ as they grow academically, spiritually, and personally. With Christ at the center, our community equips students with the faith, character, and preparation to be the next generation of Christian leaders who are ready for what's next. Visit LutherHigh.org or call **608-783-5435** to learn more about how your child can benefit from a Christ-centered education. LHS is a WI Choice School and has a robust tuition assistance program to make Christian education accessible to **every** family.

WELS Group Tour to the Ark+

Father's World Tours and the OWLS (WELS Seniors Group) invite W/ELS members of all ages to join us for an April 17-26 trip to the beautiful Bluegrass State of Kentucky. Our deluxe motorcoach originates in MN and continues through WI with free parking and pickups offered at WELS churches/schools in New Ulm, Mankato, Rochester, LaCrosse, and Madison. You can also opt to start and end in Brookfield/Milwaukee (April 18-25). Highlights include daily devotions, weekend worship, visits to the Ark Encounter, Creation Museum, Cumberland Falls, Old Friends (horse farm), Keeneland (horse racing), and much more. All meals are also included! Don't delay. Registration closes at midnight on the ides of March (3/15). Visit www.fathersworldtours.com or contact Steve Balza at 507-217-1731 for more information or to register.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES!

Sunday Morning Bible Study meets after the morning worship service starting about 10:15-11:15. Our study this coming Sunday is a continuation of Basic Bible Christianity and this week we ask the question “Why is our World so Crazy?”. Coffee and donuts are offered.



Wednesday Bible Study @ 6pm meets in the Church Fellowship room in the basement. We are currently on break during the Lenten season. Look for an announcement for when we start our new session.

College to 30's Bible Study meets at the Bohme's home on Monday evenings at 5:45-7:30pm. Come and enjoy time with friends sharing faith and food. The address is 27385 Ruslynn Dr. Winona MN. **We resume meeting on March 23rd.**



Men's Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 7am at Perkins. All men are invited. Please contact Dean Rupprecht for the next meeting.

Women's Bible Study meets on Thursdays @ 11:30am at Beno's. We will be studying from the book **Taboo** by Mike Novotny beginning March 5. All women are welcome!

There is a mini **outreach group** that you may contact if there is someone you are wanting to invite to church or would like to give a bible presentation to. These men are willing to meet with you and that person at a place of your choosing to talk with, listen to and share with them. **Shannon Bohme**- 651-324-4218; **Dean Rupprecht**- 507-730-8854; **Jeff Sell**- 801-895-9910

SHARE JESUS
WITH A FRIEND

Dear St. Matthews members,

The following is information from the Winona Circuit of LWMS regarding our door offerings that we are receiving this weekend:

Winona Circuit churches have the opportunity to touch lives around the world through their mission offerings. Collected in March and September, Seventy-five percent of these donations go to the Winona Circuit LWMS Missions selected at the Spring Rally. Please be sure to share this information with your congregation and encourage them to support these worthy projects through their mission offerings.

2025 Winona Circuit Home and World Mission Projects

Home Mission - Project #2024-04: Family and Children's Ministry Outreach

Every home mission congregation hopes to draw in new people from the community and ultimately serve their spiritual needs. Family and children's ministry programs, such as Mornings with Mommy, early childhood ministries, Sunday Schools, and other similar programs are being developed to specifically welcome parents/caregivers and their young children to social gatherings. While such programs foster friendships, communication skills, positive relationships, and child development, congregations can do so much more when integrating the love of Jesus and truths based on God's Word. Your gifts will assist home mission congregations looking to begin programs to reach this special demographic by sharing Jesus through music, crafts, and fellowship as parents/caregivers and their young children interact in a safe, caring, and welcoming environment.

World Mission – Project #WM-2024-15: Europe.

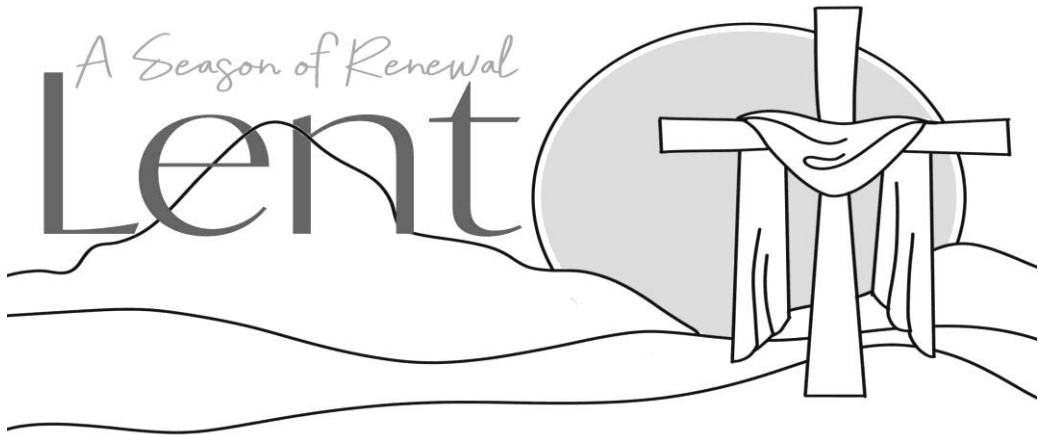
The Europe mission team partners to share Christ's grace in Albania, Bulgaria, London and the U.K., Portugal, Russia, and Ukraine, while supporting sister church bodies in seven additional European countries. There are currently three WELS missionaries residing in Europe. A large emphasis of mission work in Europe is focused on equipping and training national pastors to lead their own congregations and facilitating continuing education for our nation church partners, many of whom are tent ministers who preach and teach on weekends and support themselves with secular work during the week. Your gifts will support theological education, church planting, new outreach initiatives, and other general mission expenses throughout Europe.

**In Christ,
Tamara Koenig, Reporter for St. Matthews**

Mid-week Lenten Worship Schedule

Worship services at 4:00 & 6:00pm; Meal at 5:00pm

March 25 **The Kingly Priest** – Pastor Boese
Meal served by PTO – Tacos



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday - Mar. 29	Sat. 5:00pm	Worship
	Sun. 9:00am	Family Worship
Maundy Thursday - Apr. 2	6:00pm	Worship/Communion
Good Friday - Apr. 3	6:00pm	Worship
Easter Sunday - Apr. 5	7:00am	Worship
	8:00am	Breakfast served by Club 3:16
	9:00am	Worship

**Today's bulletin is given in memory of Jody Volkman,
whose birthday was March 20, by her daughter KC**