

# St. Matthew's Lutheran

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

Church and School Phone: 507.454.3083

[www.stmatthewswinona.org](http://www.stmatthewswinona.org)

[www.facebook.com/stmatthewswinona](https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewswinona)

**April 18 & 19, 2026**

*Closer to Jesus, Closer Together*



In Saturday's service, we will celebrate the Baptism of  
**Erika Arima Abts,**  
daughter of Brett and Kana Abts

Pastor Winfried Schroeder

1.605.281.0155

[winfriedj6@gmail.com](mailto:winfriedj6@gmail.com)

Pastor Jason Threlkeld

Vacancy pastor

1.414.943.4461

[pastorthrelkeld@gmail.com](mailto:pastorthrelkeld@gmail.com)

# Third Sunday of Easter

## The Fruits of the Spirit

### GENTLENESS

*The students of St. Matthew School are focusing on the Fruits of the Spirit this school year. The fruit for April is Gentleness.*

*God could have been swift and harsh in his judgement of sinners. Jesus could have been stern when he confronted the weak and rebellious. Instead, we see our God gently going to the hurting, the dying, the sinful and bringing his endless grace and forgiveness.*

### **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.

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

## Opening Hymn - 445 He's Risen, He's Risen

sts. 1-3



1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;  
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry  
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,



he o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate Word.  
the Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.  
and death, hell, and Sa - tan he van - quished, his foes.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song  
In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,  
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts his ban - ner on high;



and earth, sea, and moun - tain, the prais - es pro - long.  
for Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.  
he lives, yes, he lives, and will nev - er - more die.

Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811-1887, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867-1941, alt.

Tune: C. F. W. Walther, 1811-1887

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Tune: Public domain

*Stand*

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

**Amen.**

## Confession

CW 173

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

### Responsive Hymn verses - 445 He's Risen, He's Risen

sts. 4-5



4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;  
5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.  
pro - claim the blest ti - dings that all may re - joice.



For all our trans - gres - sions his blood does a - tone;  
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are his own.  
with Fa - ther and Spir - it he ev - er shall reign.

Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811-1887, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867-1941, alt.

Tune: C. F. W. Walther, 1811-1887

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### Saturday – Rite of Baptism

# The Word

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; 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

1 Kings 19:9–13

<sup>9</sup>There he went into a cave and spent the night.

And the word of the LORD came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

<sup>10</sup>He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

<sup>11</sup>The LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.”

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup>After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

1 Peter 3:15

<sup>15</sup>But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

John 20:31



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## Gospel

John 8:1-11

<sup>1</sup> but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>2</sup> At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. <sup>3</sup> The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group <sup>4</sup> and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup> In the Law Moses commanded us

to stone such women. Now what do you say?"<sup>6</sup> They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.<sup>7</sup> When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."<sup>8</sup> Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

<sup>9</sup> At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.<sup>10</sup> Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

<sup>11</sup>"No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**Children are invited to come forward to the altar at this time**



## Hymn of the Day - Jesus Loves Me

1 Jesus loves me! This I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong;  
they are weak, but he is strong. (Refrain)

Ref Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me! He who died  
heaven's gates to open wide.  
He will wash away my sin,  
let his little child come in. (Refrain)

3 Jesus loves me! This I know,  
As He loved so long ago,  
Taking children on His knee,  
Saying "Let them come to Me." (Refrain)

4 Jesus loves me still today.  
Walking with me on my way;  
Wanting as a friend to give  
Light and love to all who live. (Refrain)

5 Jesus love me! He will stay,  
Close beside me all the way;  
He's prepared a home for me,  
And some day His face I'll see. (Refrain)

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, abr.; Spanish tr. unknown  
Text: Public domain

## Sermon

*Stand*

### Saturday - Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Be seated*

### Sunday – I Believe, I Do Believe

**Refrain:**

**I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it!**

**Truly I believe it! Truly I believe it! (repeat)**

I believe in God, the Almighty Lord, Creator!

Mighty Lord, Creator! Mighty Lord, Creator! (repeat)

**Refrain:**

I believe in Jesus, the Savior of the people!

Savior of the people! Savior of the people! (repeat)

**Refrain:**

And, I do believe in the power of the Spirit!

Power of the Spirit! Power of the spirit! (repeat)

**Refrain:**

## 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 - 470 Like the Golden Sun Ascending

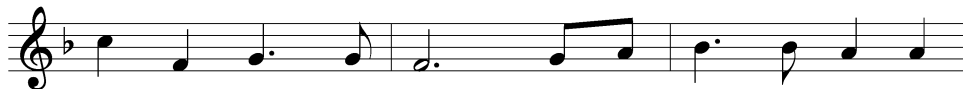
sts. 2, 4



2 Thanks to you, O Christ vic - to - rious! Thanks to you, O  
4 For the joy your ad - vent gave me, for your gos - pel's



Lord of life! Death has now no pow - er o'er us, you have  
great re - ward, for your bap - tism which has saved me, for your



con - quered in the strife. Thanks be - cause you did a -  
sup - per and your Word; for your death, the bit - ter



rise and have o - pened par - a - dise! None can  
scorn, for your res - ur - rec - tion morn: Lord, I



ful - ly sing the glo - ry of the res - ur - rec - tion sto - ry.  
thank you and ex - tol you, and in heav'n I shall be - hold you.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.  
Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Church

## Hymn– Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need Your tender care.  
In Your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use Your folds prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; Yours we are.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; Yours we are.
2. We are Yours; in love befriend us; be the guardian of our way.  
Keep Your flock; from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear Your children when they pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear Your children when they pray.
3. Ever let us seek Your favor; ever let us do Your will.  
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with Your love our hope fulfill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us; love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us; love us still.

*Stand*

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.**

## 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 T give you peace.

**Amen.**

## **Closing Song - Always Prepared** (This school year's theme song)

No longer fearful, weighed down by guilt and shame;  
Christ made my rescue, my hope and soul reclaimed!  
He paid the wage—the wage was death—and death was overcome,  
His death and life became my own, eternity is won.

### **Refrain:**

*May I always be prepared to give an answer for this hope I have.  
May I always be prepared to give an answer for this hope I have in Christ.*

No longer selfish, engaged in boastful deed;  
Christ gave me purpose, equipped to serve and lead.  
With skills and gifts he makes my life a living sacrifice,  
His will and Word remain my guide, and show the world his light.

### **Refrain:**

*May I always be prepared to give an answer for this hope I have.  
May I always be prepared to give an answer for this hope I have in Christ.*

No longer silent, restrained by deed alone;  
“Christ is my Savior,” I speak in daring tone.  
With gentleness, with kind intent, his story is my song,  
My conscience clear, my words set free, in Christ my voice is strong!

### **Refrain:**

*May I always be prepared to give an answer for this hope I have.  
May I always be prepared to give an answer for this hope I have in Christ.*

**Today's bulletin is given to the Glory of God!**

#### **Acknowledgments**

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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# Announcements

April 18 & 19, 2026

**Worship Leader:** Jason Threlkeld

**Musicians:** Sarah Sell



## Councilmen on Duty this Weekend

Saturday – Dean Rupprecht

Sunday – Neil Gerdes

**Altar Committee** – Rose Drazkowski & Savannah Kubis

**Last Week Attendance:** Sat. - 57 Sunday - 104

## Ushers on Duty this Weekend

Saturday – Tom & Rose Drazkowski

Sunday – Steve Erickson Group

## This Week – April 19 - 26

Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship
	10:15 AM	Quarterly Voters Meeting/Kids for Christ
	11:00 AM	Worship Service Radio KAGE 1380AM or 101.5FM
	11:45 AM	Lunch & Cards
	12:00 PM	Public School Catechism (Wilson)
Monday		Finance #3
Tuesday	9:00 AM	Worship Committee
	1:30 PM	Sugar Loaf Manor Service
Wednesday	6:00 PM	Bible Study
		NO CHOIR REHEARSAL
	7:00 PM	Worship Service broadcasted on HBC Channel 20
Thursday	11:30 AM	Women's Bible Study
Friday	9:30 AM	School Musical Dress Rehearsal
	6:00 PM	School Entertainment Night/Silent Auction
Saturday	5:00 PM	Worship/Communion
Next 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)

## Financial News

**Weekly Budget for Envelope Offerings:** \$8,173.08

**Offerings received April 12:** \$5,597.00

## Church Announcements:

- **Our next card club and lunch** will be on April 19th. There is a church meeting that day, so we will have lunch as soon as that is cleared out, hopefully still close to 11:45. We'll follow the pizza lunch with our card games. The sign-up sheet is in the back of church. We also need people to sign up to bring desserts. Hope you will be able to join us on that day.
- **Please remember** to write your name in the red attendance books located at the end of each pew, the Elders thank you for this.
- **Do you have a student** attending MLC next fall? Please let Lindsey Anderson in the office know. email: [smoffice@stmatthewswinona.org](mailto:smoffice@stmatthewswinona.org) or phone: 507-454-3083.

## Women's Fellowship

- **April 20 – Meeting @6:30 – Game Night**

## School News

- **Please join the St. Matthew's students** (Pre-K through grade 8) as they present “Rock Around the 50's” for this year's Entertainment Night musical on Friday, April 24. There will be a dress rehearsal at 9:30am and the evening performance begins at 6:00pm. Following the musical will be the annual Silent Auction. Hope to see you there as we “Rock Around the Clock!”

**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](mailto:club316@stmatthewswinona.org).



## WELS News

- **Martin Luther College** is accepting applications for a full-time Sports Information Director and a part-time Assistant Volleyball Coach. In each of these roles, you will help promote excellence in competition while supporting the formation of student-athletes for lives of Christian service.
- **MLC is also accepting applications** for part-time summer seasonal positions, offering valuable hands-on experience, practical skill development, daytime hours, and flexible scheduling. **Interested individuals should apply online at [mlc-wels.edu/hr/](http://mlc-wels.edu/hr/).**

## Ways to Serve

- **Church Cleaning** will take place on **May 1<sup>st</sup> from 2:00PM – 7:00PM**. If you can come for the whole time or just an hour or two, your help is greatly appreciated.
- **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](mailto: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: **Apr 26, May 3, 17, 24, 31**. The cost is \$30.00. If you would like to sponsor a bulletin, you may email the information to Tamara Koenig [tkoenig@stmatthewswinona.org](mailto:tkoenig@stmatthewswinona.org) or contact Lindsey in the office @507-454-3083.

## BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES!

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** meets after the morning worship service starting about 10:15-11:15. In our study this Sunday we'll be looking at how God prepares the world for the Gospel that the apostle Paul would preach to the Gentiles. Please join us. Coffee and donuts are offered.



**Wednesday Bible Study @ 6pm** meets in the Church Fellowship room in the basement.

**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.



**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

