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 www.facebook.com/stmatthewswinona

Closer to Jesus, Closer Together



Pastor Winfried Schroeder

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Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

Today we have the joy of celebrating the blessings of Christian Education at Luther High School and the blessing of completing our Heating Project. May God continue to bless us so that His Word may continue to be proclaimed!

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.

*Cover artwork by Ashton Novakoski

Christian Education

Serving Together at Luther High School

Opening Hymn: CW21 #921 Come, Thou Almighty King (v. 1-3)

- 1 Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing; help us to praise. Father all-glorious, o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.
- 2 Come, thou incarnate Word, gird on thy mighty sword; our prayer attend. Come and thy people bless, and give thy Word success, and let thy righteousness on us descend.

Refrain: All Glory be to the Father All Glory be to the Son All Glory be to the Spirit The Blessed three in one

3 Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour! Thou, who almighty art, now rule in ev'ry heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.

Refrain: All Glory be to the Father All Glory be to the Son All Glory be to the Spirit The Blessed three in one

Text: English, c. 1757, abr., alt. Text: Public domain

Stand

INVOCATION

We begin our worship in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION:

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.

Amighty 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.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn Response: CW21 #921 Come, Thou Almighty King (v. 4)

4 To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be hence evermore! Thy sov'reign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

Refrain: All Glory be to the Father All Glory be to the Son All Glory be to the Spirit The Blessed three in one (2x)

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Merciful Lord, comforter and teacher of your faithful people, increase in your church the knowledge of your will. Strengthen the hearts of those who hope in you, and show them the depth of your promises. Let our children follow the light of your Word, and follow you with eager footsteps; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 119:129-135 (spoken responsively)

Your statutes are wonderful;

Therefore I obey them.

The unfolding of your words gives light;

It gives understanding to the simple.

I open my mouth and pant,

Longing for your commands.

Turn to me and have mercy on me,

As you always do to those who love your name.

Direct my footsteps according to your word; Let no sin rule over me.

Redeem me from human oppression, That I may obey your precepts.

Make your face shine on your servant And teach me your decrees.

EPISTLE: Romans 15:4-6

St Matthews School Children

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! The Lord gives wisdom;

From his mouth come knowledge and understanding. Alleluia!

Make your face shine on your servant

And teach me your decrees.

⁴ For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

⁵ May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶ so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL: Matthew 7:24-27

²⁴ "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON HYMN: "Always Prepared"

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. SERMON Psalm 78:1-7

¹ My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. ² I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old—³ things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us. ⁴ We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done. ⁵ He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children, ⁶ so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. ⁷ Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.

WE WILL TELL

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.

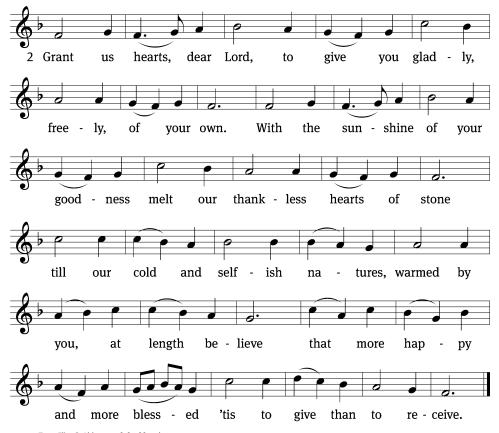
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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 stanza - 767 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–1889, alt. Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887 Text and tune: Public domain

LUTHER HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTATION (Mr. John Byus)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God, we thank you for giving your people the ministry of education to share your gospel promises with others. Give us the wisdom to daily humble ourselves before your Word, and the zeal to let the light of our faith shine in both words and deeds.

Bless the many ways that our schools and churches proclaim your truths to the next generation.

Continue to send your Holy Spirit to teach us all we need to know for salvation. Give strength to teachers and professors, instructors and aides, so that they never grow weary of proclaiming the wonders you have done.

Give them joy in their work, and use them to bring more people into your holy family.

Inspire all your people with a faithful desire to learn more about you. Give parents and students willing hearts to partner with schools and churches in education. Lead them to an enthusiasm for learning, and an eagerness for growth.

Let your truth of Christ crucified and risen remain the beating heart of all our educational work. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, and 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.

The Sacrament

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 T 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 T 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.**



Be seated

Musical Selection by Luther High School

Distribution

Stand

Thanksgiving Litany

For all those ministers of the gospel who have led your people in worship here throughout the past 105 years, who have preached your word from the pulpit, and who have administered the sacraments to waiting and believing hearts:

We thank you, Lord.

For those who founded our school, for teachers who instructed young souls in the wonders of God's creation and the message of salvation, and for the students who grew in the grace and knowledge of their Savior:

We thank you, Lord.

For those who have brought their children here for baptism, for those who have pledged their love to one another at this altar, and for those who in Christian faith and trust have here parted with loved ones and committed them to your grace:

We thank you, Lord.

For all those who have here confessed their faith in Jesus Christ, and have shared in the life and witness of the Church:

We thank you, Lord.

For sins that have been confessed and forgiven here, for burdens that have been made easier to carry, for distressed and troubled hearts that have known the peace that passes all understanding, and for lives that have been inspired to new heights of love and service:

We thank you, Lord.

For those who brought gifts and also those who took our need for a new boiler before our Father's throne in heaven. We have been blessed by the outpouring of gifts not only from our own members but also those who care about the need of serving the young with a Christian Education.

We thank you, Lord

For our fellowship in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, for the opportunity to support the Christian education of teenagers at Luther High School, and for the privilege of enriching the education of students at Martin Luther College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary who serve among us:

We thank you, Lord.

For all who have come to this place seeking your mercy and finding peace in Christ Jesus: **We thank you, Lord.**

Lord God, you have graciously blessed this congregation of believers for the past 105 years. Be with us in the future as you have been in the past that with faithful hearts we may receive your grace, rejoice in your salvation, serve you with cheerful hearts, confess your name in this community, and finally praise you together with your whole Church when your Son returns and bestows on us the crown of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

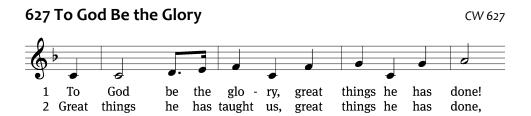
The Lord bless you and keep you.

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.

Stand





Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915, abr., alt. Tune: William H. Doane, 1832–1915 Text and tune: Public domain



CHILDREN'S C H U R C H

CHILDREN'S CHURCH RETURNS TO ST. MATTHEW'S WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

What is Children's Church?

- a presentation of a Bible story lesson
- an activity connected to the Bible story lesson

When is Children's Church?

- offered the 2nd and 4th Sunday(s) of each month
- offered during the pastor's sermon
- offered for children Pre-K (able to separate) through 3rd/4th grade Children's Church is:
- optional / decision whether or not to participate left entirely to the family
- ♥ not intended to replace Kids for Christ

As you go on your way, may God go with you.

May he go before you to show you the way.

May he go behind you to encourage you.

May he go beside you to befriend you;

Above you to watch over you;

Within you to give you

peace.

Announcements

September 13 & 14

Worship Leader - Sat-Pastor Schroeder

Sun-Pastor Adam Lambrecht

Organist - Tamara Koenig

Councilmen on Duty this Weekend

Saturday 5PM – Dean Rupprecht

Sunday 9AM – Ryan Brink

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

Ushers on Duty this Weekend

Saturday 5PM – Matt Rupprecht Sunday 9AM – Jay Bade group

Altar Committee – Carol Gerdes & Brenda Cross **Last Week Attendance**: Saturday – 65; Sunday – 141

This Week – Sept 14-21

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Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship/Communion/Children's Church
	11:00 AM	Worship Service Radio KAGE 1380AM or 101.5FM
Monday		Finance #3
	6:30 PM	Women's Fellowship meeting
Tuesday	9:00 AM	Worship Committee
	1:30 PM	Sugar Loaf Manor Service
	6:30 PM	Bible Information Class @ Trinity, Wilson
Wednesday	5:30 PM	PTO meeting
	6:00 PM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Senior Choir
	7:00 PM	Worship Service broadcasted on HBC Channel 20
Thursday	7:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
	11:30 AM	Women's Bible Study @ Beno's
Friday		
Next Saturday	5:00 PM	Worship
Next Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship
	10:15 AM	Pancake Breakfast
	11:00 AM	Worship Service Radio KAGE 1380AM or 101.5FM
	11:45 AM	Lunch & Cards

Financial News

Weekly Budget for Envelope Offerings: \$8,173.08 Offerings received September 6 & 7: \$10,045.00

Boiler Fund Goal: \$722,225

Boiler Fund Total Received: \$689,468 (up \$22,375 wk/wk)

Matching Grant up \$7,355 wk/wk (\$20,420 total) We made the match!

Boiler Fund Pledges Outstanding: \$2,447 Boiler Payment final: \$25,000 due Dec 1

Boiler Fund Contributions: Please either write separate checks for the boiler fund or clearly mark on your envelope how much is to be contributed to the Boiler Fund.

Church Announcements:

On Wednesday, Sept. 10th we extended a pastoral call to Pastor Jay Bickelhaupt. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. His contact information: phone - 406-656-7141 and email - PastorJayB@gmail.com

Heating System Project Update / Challenge

We're grateful to share that our **Heating System Project** is **nearing completion**, bringing renewed comfort and care to our church home.

Our matching campaign was completed this week with a total of \$20,420; therefore we also received \$15,000 of matching funds for this campaign. Thank you to the donor and all who made this happen.

Though the system will soon be in place, we will continue to welcome donations to help retire the loans that made this project possible. We thank you for your faithful support and stewardship.

Women's Fellowship News:

LWMS 'Mite Box' door offering will be received on the weekends of September 21st and 28th. Your offerings will be sent to the Winona Circuit which will then be sent to the National LWMS to combine with all LWMS circuit's offerings. At this past June's National Convention, \$130,000.00+ in mite box offerings were given to support Home and World missions. God accomplishes great things through your generosity!

Upcoming dates to remember:

- September 15 meeting @ 6:30pm
- September 23 Red Cross Blood Drive, 12-6pm
- October 18 Fall Rally hosted by St. Matthew's, Winona

Lunch & Cards: It is time again for our monthly card games. This month, since we had no one volunteer to prepare the meal, we are trying a potluck. The sign-up sheet will be in the back of church for the next two weekends with space for your name and what you will be bringing for the potluck. Tableware and drinks will be provided. We will only collect \$2.00 from each person. Hope you can join us.

Ways to Serve

Share The Harvest: Fall is almost upon us. Gardens are growing. Anyone wanting to share their garden harvest with St. Matthews congregation please bring into the entryway of the church before church services. Feel free to help yourself to the summer/fall harvest.



Greeters-- Please check the schedule to sign up for any openings. Thank you from Dalene Metzler

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: **Sept. 28, Oct.5, 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.** 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.



Church Library Update: You might have noticed that the church library looks a little different since shelves and books have been moved around. People's Bible books have been moved to the revolving rack along with some Bibles as well as the DVDs and CDs. Shelves are arranged with the books grouped and labeled by types. The devotional books are also divided by groups they are aimed at: families, parenting various ages, marriage, those going through

difficult periods in life, and seasons of the church year. All of these are written to help handle our needs with comfort and information from God's word. The historical section provides information about the growth of our synod, including our mission endeavors and the growth of our congregation. Outreach books guide us in reaching out to others with the Good News of salvation. There are books written giving information on people in the Bible and a large selection of Christian novels set in various locations and periods in history.

This would not be complete without giving thanks to Linda Berg, who has cared for the library for many years as well as adding interesting and informative books for our benefit.

School News

PTO meeting has been moved to Wednesday Sept. 17th at 5:30 pm.

Scrip News: For the month of September all Kwik Trip cards have larger discounts! For September only gas cards are 10% and Grocery only cards are 20%!!! Stock up now! See Lindsey in the office to place larger orders! Help our school earn some extra money!



WELS News

Martin Luther College is accepting applications for a full-time Director of Marketing & Communications and a part-time Men's Assistant Basketball Coach. **Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.**

To help celebrate the 175 Anniversary of your WELS synod, a special thank offering opportunity is presented in a black and gold brochure that you will find in the church entrance.

Interested in traveling with a group of like-minded believers? The OWLS (WELS Seniors) is partnering with Father's World Tours to offer a New Year's (Dec 31-Jan 13) trip to sunny Southern

California (Rose Parade, Reagan Library, San Diego, Palm Springs, Joshua Tree NP) that also includes a 7-night Princess cruise to the Mexican Riviera. All tours involve daily devotions and WELS weekend worship. The tour is open to W/ELS members of all ages. Registration closes on October 1 (earlier if all spots are sold). Visit www.fathersworldtours.com or contact us (steve@fathersworldtours.com, 507-217-1731) to learn more.

I CAN IDENTIFY WITH THIS "DRUG PROBLEM"

My generation just might have been fortunate. I had a drug problem when I was young, but I turned out all right.

I was "drug" to church for Sunday School, worship, weddings and funerals.

I was "drug" to church, school and family reunions no matter the weather.

I was "drug" to the bus stop to go to school every weekday.

I was "drug" to visit the sick, lonely and elderly.

I was "drug" to give rather than to receive.

I was "drug" by my hands away from bad entertainment and TV.

I was "drug" by example to follow Jesus.

I was "drug" to help those in need with deeds of kindness.

I was "drug" by my ears when I was disrespectful to adults and teachers.

I was "drug" to the woodshed when I disobeyed my parents.

Those drugs are still in my veins; and they affect my behavior in everything I do, say and think. They are stronger than cocaine, crack, or heroin, and if today's children had this kind of drug problem, America might be a better place.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES!



BIBLE BASICS!

What is the Bible all about? What does a WELS church teach that is different from other churches? What do I/or a friend need to know to be a member of St. Matthew's? If you or someone you know has these questions we have the answer. We are having a Bible Study on the basics of God's Word Tuesdays at 6:30pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wilson MN, led by Pastor Jason Threlkeld. The class will be

an hour long and will be once a week. Come and bring a Friend! This is a great way to review and to bring Jesus to friends and family!

A New Bible Study will start this Wednesday evening @ 6:00pm led by Pastor Schroeder.

College to 30's Bible Study meets on Mondays @5:45 – 7:30 at Shannon & Amy Bohme's home: 27385 Ruslynn Dr. When using Google Maps... Hwy 14 is open, Seminary Drive is closed. Continue on Hwy 14 to Quarry Hill and turn right. Carpooling is recommended.



Men's Bible Study will be held on Thursday **September 18**th at 7am at Perkins. All men are invited.

Women's Bible Study meets on Thursdays @ 11:30am at Beno's. We are using the book Taboo for our study. All are welcome!

There is a new 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

Have a blessed week and



thankyou

to Pastor Lambrecht, John Byus and the musicians from Luther High School for leading and participating in our service today.

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Bonnie LaGrow in honor of the beginning of the new year of Jesus Cares

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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