



FIRST LUTHERAN

CHURCH AND SCHOOL



St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

WELCOME



St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

September 21, 2025

Today, we celebrate the minor festival that falls on September 21st, "St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist." We focus on Jesus' calling of Matthew to follow him, which he did by leaving everything else behind (Luke 5:28).

Matthew, as an apostle and one of the four gospel writers (an evangelist), has often been depicted in church art. When shown as an apostle, rather than one of the four evangelists, St. Matthew's symbol shows three money bags, referring to his original calling as a tax collector. Symbols of the four evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, can be traced as far back as the 3rd century and were in widespread use by the 5th and 6th centuries. The most frequently used symbols are that of four creatures: a winged man, winged lion, winged ox, and eagle (see the front cover of the bulletin). The basis for these symbols comes from the winged creatures mentioned in Ezekiel 1 and Revelation 4. They are almost always shown with merely their head and wings. A nimbus around their head is also used in nearly every instance, both ancient and modern.

Since medieval times, Christianity has ordered the symbols like this: Matthew, the winged man; Mark, the winged lion; Luke, the winged ox; John, the eagle.

The typical explanation of these symbols is this:

Matthew is the winged man because he begins by tracing the human lineage of Christ. Mark is the winged lion because he opens his Gospel with the voice crying in the wilderness, John the Baptist. Luke is the winged ox because of his detailed account of the sacrificial death of our Lord. John is the eagle because, from John 1 to the end of Revelation, he carries us on eagle's wings to the throne of heaven.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Presiding Minister: Pastor Derek Bartelt

Organist: Ben Warmuth | **Elder:** David Bachman & David Thurow

Altar Guild: Kelly Schwartz | **Projectionist:** Gail Michnay

Opening Hymn 577 Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love



1 Mag - ni - fi - cent, mar - vel - ous, match - less love; too
 2 Cre - a - tion is brim - ming with thank - ful - ness, the
 3 What grace, that you en - tered our bro - ken - ness; you



vast and as - tound - ing to tell, for - ev - er ex - ist - ing in
 moun - tains, ex - ult - ant they stand; the sea - sons re - joice in your
 came in the full - ness of time. How far we had fall - en from



worlds a - bove, now of - fered and giv - en to all.
 faith - ful - ness, all life is sus - tained by your hand.
 right - eous - ness, but not from the mer - cies of Christ.



O foun - tain of beau - ty e - ter - nal, the Fa - ther, the Spir - it, the
 You crown ev - 'ry mead - ow with col - or, you paint ev - 'ry shade in the
 Your cross is our door to re - demp - tion; your death is our full - ness of
Bridge U - nit - ed in your res - ur - rec - tion, you lift us to in - fi - nite



Son. Suf - fi - cient and end - less - ly gen - er - ous:
 sky; each day the dawn wakes as an en - core of
 life. That day, how for - give - ness flowed as a flood:
 heights. Could an - y - thing sev - er or take us from



mag - ni - fi - cent, mar - vel - ous, match - less love.
 mag - ni - fi - cent, mar - vel - ous, match - less love.
 mag - ni - fi - cent, mar - vel - ous, match - less love.
 mag - ni - fi - cent, mar - vel - ous, match - less love. *Refrain*

v. 2

Refrain

Refrain

Refrain

Refrain

How great, how sure; his love en - dures for - ev - er - more.
 How great, how sure; his love en - dures for - ev - er - more.
 How great, how sure; his love en - dures for - ev - er - more.

2

Mag - ni - fi-cent, mar - vel-ous, match-less love. *v. 3*
 Mag - ni - fi-cent, mar - vel-ous, match-less love. *Bridge*
 Mag - ni - fi-cent, mar - vel-ous, match-less love. *Refrain*

Text: Aaron Keyes, b. 1978; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974; Luke Brown, b. 1978; Matt Papa, b. 1983
 Tune: Aaron Keyes, b. 1978; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974; Luke Brown, b. 1978; Matt Papa, b. 1983
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In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

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.

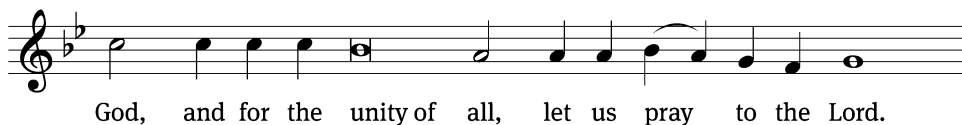
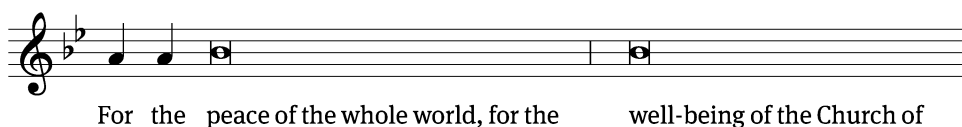
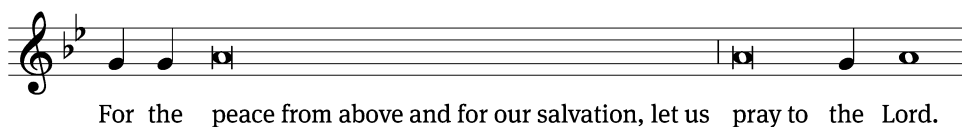
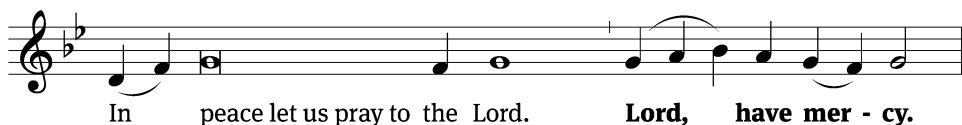
Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should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

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.

Lord, Have Mercy



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and
 praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**
 Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men.

Tune: Marty Haugen
 Tune: © 1984, 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712282

Glory to God in the Highest

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
 peo - ple on earth. Lord God,
 heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
 glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth.
 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the
 right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
 peo - ple on earth. For you a -

lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ,

with the Ho-ly Spir-it in the glo-ry of

God the Fa-ther. A-men. A-men.

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his

peo-ple on earth.

Tune: Marty Haugen
 Tune: © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712282

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son, our Savior, called a despised collector of taxes to become his apostle. Help us, like Matthew, to forsake all covetous desires and love of riches and so follow our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

First Reading

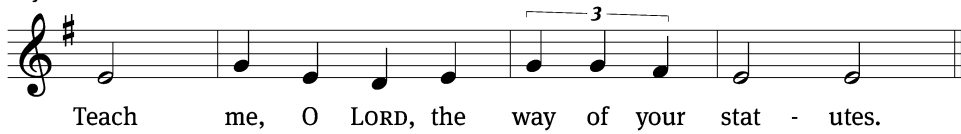
Ezekiel 2:8—3:11

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 119B

Refrain



Tone



Teach me, LORD, the way of / your decrees,
that I may follow it / to the end.
Give me understanding, so that I may / keep your law
and obey it with / all my heart.
Direct me in the path of / your commands,
for there I / find delight. *Refrain*

Turn my eyes away from / worthless things;
preserve my life according / to your word.
Fulfill your promise to your / servant,
so that you / may be feared.
How I long for your / precepts!
In your righteousness pre- / serve my life.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Tune: Thomas Pavlechko
Setting: Thomas Pavlechko
Music: © 2004, 2012 Thomas Pavlechko, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712282

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:4–10

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 28:19,20



Refrain

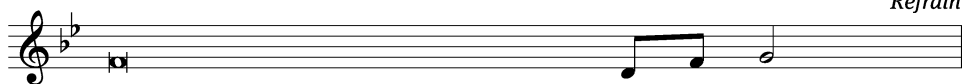


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



Go and make disciples of all na - tions.



Refrain

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

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Gospel

Matthew 9:9–13

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

807 All Depends on Our Possessing



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
 2 He who to this day has fed me and to man - y
 3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting o - ver tri - fles
 4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope a - new my



grace and bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
 joys has led me is and ev - er shall be mine.
 and in get - ting things that have no sol - id ground.
 heart will quick - en; all my long - ing shall be stilled.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en in their God are
 He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, he who dai - ly
 I shall strive to win a trea - sure that will bring me
 To his lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der soul and bod - y



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.
 guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.
 last - ing plea - sure and that now is sel - dom found.
 I sur - ren - der, for on God a - lone I build.

- 5 Well he knows what best to grant me;
 all the longing hopes that haunt me,
 joy and sorrow, have their day.
 I shall doubt his wisdom never;
 as God wills, so be it ever;
 I commit to him my way.
- 6 If my days on earth he lengthen,
 he my weary soul will strengthen;
 all my trust in him I place.
 Earthly wealth is not abiding,
 like a stream away is gliding;
 safe I anchor in his grace.

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, Nürnberg, 1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645–1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

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.

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Hymn

892 By All Your Saints Still Striving



1 By all your saints still striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,
 2 Praise, Lord, for him whose Gos - pel your hu - man life de - clared,
 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther and wor - ship God the Son



your ho - ly name, O Je - sus, for - ev - er - more be blessed.
 who, world - ly gain for - sak - ing, your path of suf - f'ring shared.
 and sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One,



You rose, our King vic - to - rious, that they might wear the crown
 From wealth that dulls and chains us, O raise our eyes a - new,
 till all the ran - sored num - ber who stand be - fore the throne



and ev - er shine in splen - dor re - flect - ed from your throne.
 that we, what - e'er our call - ing, may rise and fol - low you.
 as - cribe all pow'r and glo - ry and praise to God a - lone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823-1913, alt.
 Tune: Finnish
 Text and tune: Public domain

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 ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

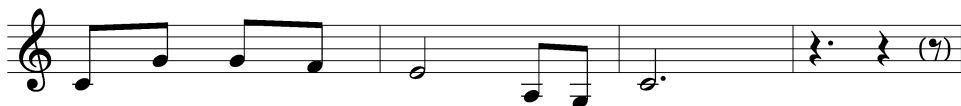
753 My Worth Is Not in What I Own



1 My worth is not in what I own, not
 2 My worth is not in skill or name, in
 3 As sum - mer flow'rs we fade and die; fame,



in the strength of flesh and bone, but in the
 win or lose, in pride or shame, but in the
 youth, and beau - ty hur - ry by. But life e -



cost - ly wounds of love at the cross. v. 2
 blood of Christ that flowed at the cross. Refrain
 ter - nal calls to us at the cross. v. 4

Refrain



I re-joyce in my Re - deem - er— great - est trea - sure,



well-spring of my soul. I will trust in him, no oth - er; my



soul is sat - is - fied in him a - lone.

4 I will not boast in wealth or might,
 or human wisdom's fleeting light.
 But I will boast in knowing Christ
 at the cross. (Refrain)

5 Two wonders here that I confess:
 my worth and my unworthiness.
 My value fixed—my ransom paid
 at the cross. (Refrain)