



# St. Matthew Lutheran Church

1505 Dover Street, Worthington, MN 56187

(507) 376-6168

Website - [www.stmatthewworthington.com](http://www.stmatthewworthington.com)

## April 26<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday of Easter

Scripture Readings: Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
1 Peter 1:17-25  
Luke 24:13-35

We hope and pray everyone is still staying healthy. These newsletters are only posted on our website and emailed to those who wish to receive by email. **PLEASE, PLEASE help us keep ALL our members informed. If you know someone that does not have internet or Facebook, please give that person a call to check up on them and let them know our church's news.** Thank you for your help with this!

Due to the Coronavirus situation, and the orders by our Governor, **the church is always locked** to limit traffic in the building to keep our staff healthy. **However, the Church Office is available for calls from 9AM-3PM Monday through Friday.** Please feel free to call with any concerns, needs, questions, etc. If you call after these hours with an emergency, please go to Bev's voicemail for the emergency contact phone number. You may call to drop off your offerings and we will meet you at the door.

**WORSHIP SERVICES:** Traditional and Contemporary worship services continue to be recorded and uploaded to our YouTube channel. Facebook posts are done to let you know when the videos are available. The YouTube link is posted on our church's website (*address printed at top of page*) under the "News" section and in our church's App. The local Worthington Cable TV also airs our worship services at 11AM on both Sundays and Mondays. **With the latest orders from the Governor, this will be the way until May 4<sup>th</sup>** and we will see what the Governor says then. Please watch our Facebook and website for updates.

### **Bible Studies with Pastor Mark via ZOOM:**

- Sundays 9:30-10:30 a.m. = Meeting ID: 716-5937-8549 and Password: 075313
- Tuesdays 8-9 a.m. = Meeting ID: 979-018-388 and Password: 524807

*If you do not already have the app downloaded you can use any internet browser and go to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and that will take you directly to the main Zoom web page. At the top of the page click on "join a meeting" and enter the IDs and passwords above.*

### **St. Matthew's Social Media:**

- Facebook = [Facebook.com/stmattworthington](https://www.facebook.com/stmattworthington) - Pastor Mark does Facebook Lives occasionally.
- Church App = St. Matthew Worthington MN (*red background with white Missouri-Synod cross*).
- We also have a "Twitter" account.

### **Resources Available on our Website:**

- Bible Stories & Activity Sheets for your family to print out.
- Weekly Children's Bulletins to go along with our worship services.
- Adult coloring pages.
- "Pandemic Hope Family Devotional" resources.

**Please remember in your prayers:** Those with health concerns or for healing: *Donna Lee, Shirley Lerohl, Bill Smrcka, and all others.* Those battling cancer: *Tim Hansberger, Bing Lovan, Steve Rubis, Dennis Schaeckel, and all others.* We remember in our prayers all the health care workers and emergency personnel.

***A big THANK YOU to those who have mailed in or dropped off their church offerings. Also, to those who have signed up for the Automatic Giving. You are a blessing!***

Consistent offerings will help keep the St. Matthew's Ministries going during this time. If you'd like more information about Automatic Giving, please contact our Church Treasurer, Tammy Brunk, 507-360-8977, or Bev in the church office.

**Something NEW regarding your offering/tithing - You can now give your offering via an App called "Vanco GivePlus".** You can search for this App in your AppStore and download it to your phone, iPad/tablet, etc. Once the App is downloaded, you may set up an account with your E-mail and a Password, or you can do a one-time giving option with the "Give Now" button. It will also ask you to search for a church, make sure you get the St Matthews Lutheran Church that is in Worthington, MN as there are many St. Matthew's listed. The App only gives the option of using a checking or savings account for your donation. We are in the process of a "push button giving" for our church's website, which should give more options. We hope to have this up and going next week. Please watch for updates or check the website every so often.

Our church has access to an extensive, video library called **RightNow Media!** It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want – on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV. There are videos for everyone – kids, youth, parents, married couples, college students, single adults, working professionals – all aimed at helping you grow. Check out the "Overcoming Anxiety During COVID-19" study by Jonathan Pokluda. St. Matthew's has subscribed to RightNow Media for over a year now. **If you did not get signed up when we first launched RightNow Media, please contact Bev in the church office and she can send you a new invite.** We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing for you and your family!

### **From our Music & Worship Ministry:**

*"We should never be discouraged--Take it to the Lord in prayer." LSB 770 vs. 2*

Our Gospel reading for the 3rd Sunday of Easter is Luke 24:13-35. In this reading, Jesus encounters two of His followers on the road to Emmaus. Despite hearing that Jesus had risen and had been seen by others, these two followers were grieved, confused, and discouraged concerning all that had recently occurred in Jerusalem. Luke says their faces were "downcast" (vs.17). But Jesus shows up and turns their discouragement to joy. We may feel discouraged that we cannot worship together as we would like. But we can rest assured that Jesus always shows up. He will walk beside us while we worship apart, and He will rejoice with us when we can once again worship together.

Our hymns for the April 26 traditional service are:

- LSB 465 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" vs. 1 & 3
- LSB 474 "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen" vs.1,2,4
- LSB 478 "The Day of Resurrection" vs. 1,3,4

**From Roxie Leckband:** Confirmation students in 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grades, please e-mail me a weekly sermon note relating to our Sunday YouTube worship services. You should have received a text from me in relationship to this. I will add your name to the drawing as I get your notes. Please

contact me with any questions you may have. Our Human Care & Health Ministry are here to help. If you need help getting groceries or other essential items please contact me at the church or my cell, 712-260-3820. Please note there are regular delivery hours.

Attention parents, grandparents, and childcare providers: as we continue in coping with our current living situation and striving to find a new normal for our children under our care and ourselves, the demands can become very heavy. I know focusing on Christ and His love for us as we begin our day is crucial. As we go to Christ in prayer we can leave some of the stress and demands of parenting and just our day to day living with Him. Jesus is with us, His ever-present help never goes away resulting in peace, comfort, and hope. Here is a website which may prove to have useful information in helping cope with your current parenting role, [healthychildren.org](http://healthychildren.org). Look for the title, "Feeling overwhelmed with parenting demands?" and the title, "Parenting during a Pandemic." This is powered by pediatricians, trusted parents from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Please continue to check out the children's "on-line Sunday School" with the different activities available on our website and the children's bulletins to go along with our worship services each week. Please let me know if you are struggling and need someone to talk to.

**From Jenna Bents:** High School students are encouraged to attend the weekly ZOOM meetings on Mondays at 3PM and Wednesdays at 5PM (unless noted otherwise). These are great opportunities to reconnect with each other through fellowship, laughter, sharing, games, devotion, and scripture reading. I have been sending out weekly links for these sessions. There will be high school senior night on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7PM via ZOOM! There will be a "Live" 507 Event for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students on YouTube on Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7PM, "[Wgtnyouth](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWgtnyouth)" is the name to search for. There will be a place during this event that Seniors will also be honored!

**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY** has been postponed to August 30<sup>th</sup>! Please mark your calendars.

Remember we are here for you! Don't hesitate to contact us.

**“The faithful love of the LORD never ends!  
His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness;  
his mercies begin afresh each morning.”  
Lamentations 3:22-23 (NLT)**



**“GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS.”**

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