



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

1505 Dover Street, Worthington, MN 56187
(507) 376-6168

Website - www.stmatthewworthington.com

May 10th – Fifth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day

Scripture Readings: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

We are living in an unprecedented time and our entire way of living has been readjusted in the last couple months. Yet, in the middle of it all, God is ever-present with us! We continue to hope and pray everyone is 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 share this newsletter with them.** Thank you for your help with this!

From our Music & Worship Ministry:

*"You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys eternal flow." LSB 526 vs. 4*

Our Gospel reading for this Sunday is the very familiar passage from John, chapter 14:1-14. The opening verses are intended to bring comfort to Jesus' disciples prior to His crucifixion. Many of us have also been comforted by these words spoken at a loved one's funeral: *"In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me, that you also may be where I am."* (vs. 2-3) Later in the passage, beginning with verse 6, Jesus tells His disciples that He is the only way to the Father. *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."* As we continue to journey through these times of uncertainty, we can rest assured that Jesus has a place prepared for all who believe in Him as "the way, the truth, and the life."

*"You are the life; the empty tomb Proclaims Your conqu'ring arm,
And those who put their trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm." LSB 526 vs. 3*

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 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.

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

Resources Available on our Website (website address is at the top of this page):

- 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.

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. We are exploring the possibility of a "Donate Now" button on our church's website. However, that is more involved and is taking time to investigate. Please watch for updates or check the website every so often.

WORSHIP SERVICES: Traditional and Contemporary worship services continue to be recorded and uploaded to our YouTube channel. These services are recorded on Fridays and made available on YouTube by Sunday mornings. Facebook posts are done to let you know when the videos are available. The YouTube link is posted on our church's website 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. If you do not see it on channel 3, Mediacom subscribers tune to channel 117.2 and VAST subscribers can tune to channel 300. **With the latest orders from the Governor, this will be the way our worship services are done until May 18th, we will see what the Governor says then.** Please watch our Facebook and website for updates.

From Jenna Bents: High school youth group ZOOM meetings will continue weekly on Mondays at 3PM and Wednesdays at 5PM. Please let me know if your child has NOT been receiving the link to join these meetings each week. The High School Senior Breakfast & Recognition has been rescheduled to Sunday, August 2nd. This summer's Idaho mission trip has been cancelled and transferred over to the summer of 2021. We are looking for more adults/parents to be a part of the Youth Board that meets once a month, on a Wednesday at 7PM. Please let me know if you would be interested!

Have you checked out RightNow Media yet? Our church subscribes to this extensive, video library. It is 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 – all aimed at helping you grow. Some recent videos have been added relating to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Contact Bev in the church office for more information.

From Roxie Leckband: Confirmation students in 5th-7th 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.

As many of you are aware due to the Covid-19 virus affecting the JBS plant we have seen an increase in needs of our communities families. **St. Matthew's has a Love INC GAP Ministry of cleaning supplies. I am asking for donations of NEW cleaning products, money or Fareway and Hy-Vee gift cards. If you have NEW products and would like to drop them off at the church, you can call 376-6168 or my cell 712-260-3820 and someone will meet you at the door.** Check/cash donations can be mailed to the church, please indicate that it is for the "cleaning supplies." I will go and purchase supplies with the monetary donations. I want to say "thank-you" in advance as we work together in serving God's children and our brothers and sisters in Christ. Please give me a call with any questions you may have.

From Kathy Roslansky, LWML President: All LWML events are cancelled until further notice. Be safe ladies. Call me if you have any questions, 507-360-1831.

It is St. Matthew's turn to deliver Mobile Meals for the month of June. They are doing "no-contact delivery" during this pandemic time. If you have any questions or would like to help with this ministry in June, please contact Pat Arnt at 507-360-8717.

Due to the Coronavirus situation, the church is ALWAYS LOCKED to limit traffic in the building to keep our staff healthy. **However, the church office is available by phone from 9AM-3PM Monday-Friday.** Please feel free to call with any concerns, needs, questions, etc. You may also call to drop off your offerings and we will meet you at the door. If you call with a Pastoral Emergency after office hours, please go to Bev's voicemail for the emergency contact phone number.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33



**WE ARE HERE
FOR YOU -
DO NOT HESITATE
TO CALL.**