



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

1505 Dover Street, Worthington, MN 56187

(507) 376-6168

Website - www.stmatthewworthington.com

May 3rd – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Scripture Readings: Acts 2:42-47

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

May 3rd was our scheduled Confirmation Sunday – which has been postponed to August 30th. 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 let them know our church's news.** Thank you for your help with this!

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.

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.

From our Music & Worship Ministry:

"Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need Your tender care" (LSB 711 vs.1)

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." Our Gospel reading is always from the 10th chapter of John, in which Jesus calls himself the "Good Shepherd" (vs. 11). In this Sunday's Gospel, John 10:1-10, Jesus says that He calls His own sheep by name (vs. 3). His sheep follow Him because they know His voice (vs. 4). Our opening hymn, "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us," is found in nearly every Christian hymnal. The words are attributed to Englishwoman Dorothy A. Thrupp, and first appears in one of her hymn books for children around 1830. Later the words were set to the hymn tune we all know by hymn writer William A. Bradbury. The original words were intended for children, so Bradbury revised the text to include the entire congregation. May our Good Shepherd Sunday services remind you that Jesus is your Good Shepherd, He calls each of you by name, and that you can trust Him to care for you.

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.

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 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.

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 18th,** and we will see what the Governor says then. Please watch our Facebook and website for updates.

From Jenna Bents: High School ZOOM meetings will continue for the next couple of weeks. We are meeting on Mondays at 3PM and Wednesdays at 5PM. Please let me know if you have NOT been receiving the links via text message to join. There will be NO youth group zoom on Wednesday, May 6th because of the 507 Event Live on YouTube at 7PM. Please encourage your kids to watch this online, here is the direct link to use, <https://youtu.be/z13M8Uadk7Yis>. There will be an 8th grade ZOOM on Tuesday, May 6th at 3:30PM. Jenna will be sending out this link to parents and 8th grade students. The 8th-12th grade Retreat scheduled for May 22-23 at Camp Shetek has been cancelled. The 2020 Mission Trip to Shoshone, Idaho is also cancelled. Our group will be going the summer of 2021 around the 2nd week of July. This year's seniors are welcome to come back and attend! We are still waiting to hear word from Urban Plunge on the status of that trip June 26-28. Senior Breakfast & Recognition has been postponed to a later date. We are looking at the beginning of August but will keep families and seniors updated on information. We are looking for more adults to be on our Youth Board that meets once a month, especially adult males. Please contact me if you would be interested!

Our church subscribes to an extensive, video library called **RightNow Media!** 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 – kids, youth, parents, married couples, college students, single adults, working professionals – all aimed at helping you grow. Contact Bev in the church office for more information.

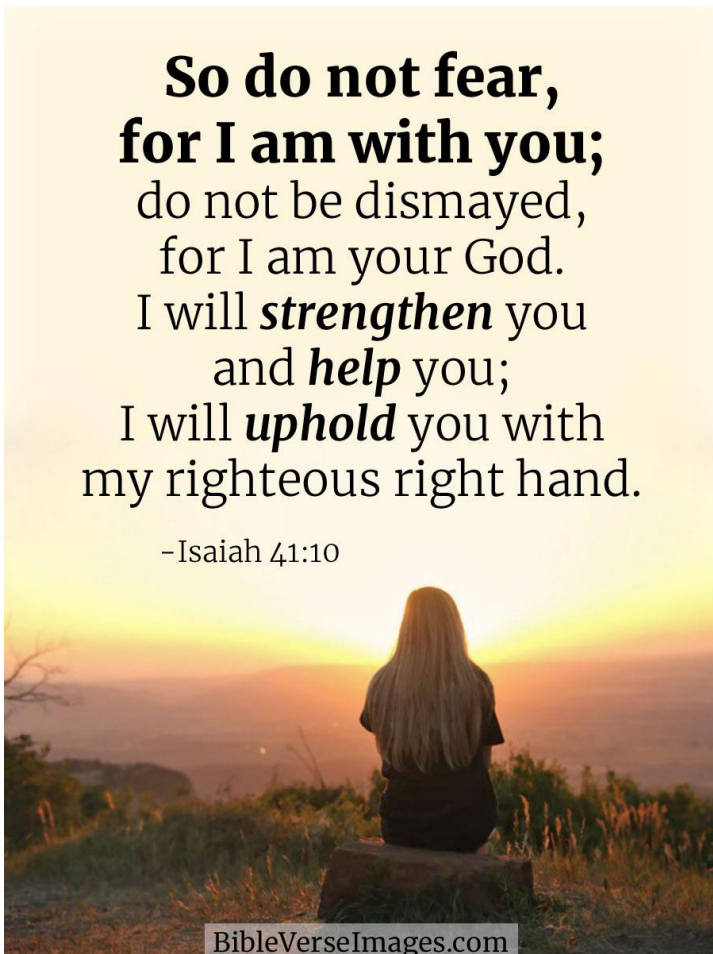
From Roxie Leckband: Confirmation students in 5th-7th grades, please e-mail me a weekly sermon note relating to our Sunday YouTube worship services. You should have received a text from me in relationship to this. I will add your name to the drawing as I get your notes. Please contact me with any questions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

**So do not fear,
for I am with you;
do not be dismayed,
for I am your God.
I will *strengthen* you
and *help* you;
I will *uphold* you with
my righteous right hand.**

-Isaiah 41:10



BibleVerseImages.com

Due to the Coronavirus situation, the church is LOCKED AT ALL TIMES to limit traffic in the building to keep our staff healthy.

However, the church office is available by phone Monday-Friday from 9AM-3PM. 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.

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