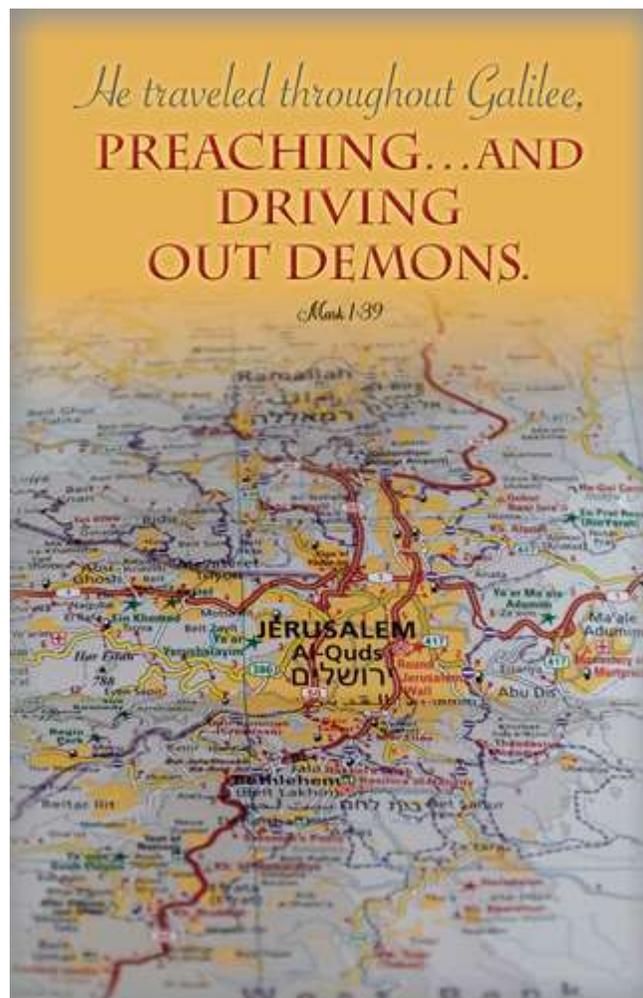




FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY



FEBRUARY 7, 2021

St. Matthew's Danube, St. John's Renville, and St. Matthew Flora Twp. MN (WELS)

St. Matthew Flora Twp. - St. Matthew's Danube - St. John's Renville (WELS)

www.stmatthewsdanube.org | Pastor Mike Kuschel | home: 320-826-2280 | cell: 320-522-2428

Little Lambs Learning Center: 100 Main St. Danube, MN | office: 320-826-2340

Prayer Before Worship: Almighty God, you sent your one and only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us to believe what the Scriptures proclaim about him. Lead us to such a trust in our Savior that we bring our prayers and petitions to him who is our Help and Salvation. Amen.

Opening Hymn "Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me" - CW # 439

[1] Lord, take my hand and lead me

Upon life's way;

Direct, protect, and feed me

From day to day.

Without your grace and favor

I go astray;

So take my hand, O Savior,

and lead the way.

[2] Lord, when the tempest rages,

I need not fear;

For you, the Rock of Ages,

Are always near.

Close by your side abiding,

I fear no foe,

For when your hand is guiding,

In peace I go.

[3] Lord, when the shadows lengthen

And night has come,

I know that you will strengthen

My steps toward home,

And nothing can impede me,

O blessed Friend!

So take my hand and lead me

Unto the end.

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SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT – CW page 26

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

C: **Amen**

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy.**

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: **Christ, have mercy**

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy**

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C: **Amen**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God, you sent your one and only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us to believe what the Scriptures proclaim about him and do the things that are pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON - *Job 7:1-7*

“Does not man have hard service on earth? Are not his days like those of a hired man? ² Like a slave longing for the evening shadows, or a hired man waiting eagerly for his wages, ³ so I have been allotted months of futility, and nights of misery have been assigned to me. ⁴ When I lie down I think, ‘How long before I get up?’ The night drags on, and I toss till dawn. ⁵ My body is clothed with worms and scabs, my skin is broken and festering. ⁶ “My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle, and they come to an end without hope. ⁷ Remember, O God, that my life is but a breath; my eyes will never see happiness again.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” Alleluia. (John 8:12 cf. NIV)

SECOND LESSON - *Romans 8:28-30*

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Alleluia Response:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL - *Mark 1:29-39*

²⁹ As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰ Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her. ³¹ So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. ³² That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³ The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴ and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. ³⁵ Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. ³⁶ Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷ and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!” ³⁸ Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.” ³⁹ So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

Hymn “Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul” CW # 238

Congregation Sings Stanzas 1 & 3

Pastor Sings Stanza 2

[1] Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

Let all within me join

And aid my tongue to bless his name

Whose favors are divine.

[2] Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

Nor let his mercies lie

Forgotten in unthankfulness

And without praises die.

[3] 'Tis he forgives my sins;

'Tis he relieves my pain;

'Tis he that heals my sicknesses

And makes me young again.

Sermon Text: Mark 1:29-39

Sermon: Each Day is a Gift

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 fully 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.

Offering:

Please mail in your offering as we continue to support the work of spreading the gospel throughout our community and the world. Thank you for your continued support!

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

O Father in heaven, we thank you for the revelation of Jesus as Lord and Christ, and as King forevermore. We pray that his rule may be established from sea to sea, and from the rising to the setting of the sun. May your kingdom come to the multitudes of the earth. Let all the earth see that in Christ alone is there healing and salvation.

May your kingdom come in new power and strength to us also, O Lord. May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts in thankfulness and praise. By the Word of the cross teach us to trust in him who is our salvation. For his sake give us grace to be merciful and kind, to be humble in mind and lowly in spirit. In his sufferings, death and resurrection grant that we, redeemed in body and soul, may be dead to sin and alive to righteousness. And by the inspiration of Christian fellowship in worship and faith, lead us to rejoice in your grace and give thanks for your mercy.

For your Church on earth, we pray, O God. Save her from weakness and error, from unfaithful shepherds and false prophets. Defend her against the threats of Satan and the terrors of the godless. Teach your people to be patient in hope, steadfast in faith, and constant in prayer. Give comfort to those who mourn, patience to the sick, peace to the anxious, strength to the weak, and abundance to the needy.

Special prayers of thanksgiving or intercession may be spoken here

Finally, bestow your mercy on us all, and teach us ever to set our affection on things above, where Christ our Lord ever reigns to help us. In his most holy, precious and glorious name we pray. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you**

M: Lift up your hearts

C: **We lift them up to the Lord**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory, You are my God, and I will exalt you. I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: 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 body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

M: Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my 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."

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (spoken by all):

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us and grant us your peace.

THE BLESSING

M: 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.

C: Amen

Distribution:

*Please note that communion will be distributed as you are dismissed.
Please approach the designated table at the direction of the usher and after you have received communion you may depart in peace.*

Announcements - *View our website and like us on Facebook for updated announcements.*

Thank you for your continued support

We thank you for your continued support of our efforts to share the good news of Jesus with our community and the world. Thank you for your mailing your offerings into the church the office.

*St. Matthew's Danube
PO Box 67
Danube, MN 56230*

*St. John's Renville
209 Bryant Ave NE
PO Box 416 - Renville, MN 56284*

*St. Matthew Flora Twp.
PO Box 67
Danube, MN 56230*

Please contact or write to us with any questions, concerns, words of encouragement or prayer requests. God be with you, and God willing we will be able to meet together in God's house soon. If you are in need of pastoral care and would like to have a visit over the phone please contact me. You can reach me either through my home number 826-2280 or cell phone 320-522-2428.

Stay Connected Wherever You Are:

We realize that not everyone will be ready or ought to return to public worship as our congregations reopen. We would like to encourage all those who are unable to come to worship or unsure if they ought to come to continue to make use of local radio, television, and online ministries. Below is a listing of different ministries available on different forms of media.

Television: Watch *Time of Grace* at 10:30am on Kare 11 on Sunday mornings - visit timeofgrace.org to learn more about Pastor Mike Novotny and other WELS pastors that contribute to Time of Grace and their varied resources.

Radio: Listen to St. John's Lutheran Church of Redwood Falls on 97.7 KLGR FM @ 8:00am Sunday mornings
Tune in to Lutheran Chapel Services on KNUJ 97.3 FM or 860 AM @ 7:45 am Sunday mornings

Online: Join us for worship online in one of several ways: visit www.stmatthewsdanube.org or Search for St. Matthews Danube on YouTube for recorded services and livestreaming or follow us on Facebook.

Other Online Resources: wels.net, timeofgrace.org, nph.net forwardinchrist.net & *Meditations online at nph.net*

Share this information with neighbors, friends, relatives, and fellow members of our congregation as we put our hope and trust in the living God and make his name known among the nations and our communities.

Sunday School Resumes in-person instruction

In-person instruction for Sunday School is now available at St. John's and St. Matthew's.

Sunday School at St. John's Renville @ 10:00 am

Sunday School at St. Matthew's Danube @ 10:30 am

We invite our parents to make use of either in-person instruction or the online resources. Online Sunday School lessons and materials will continue to be shared throughout the winter and spring months. For more information contact Beth Kuschel (320) 522-2428.

Catechism Class: Catechism Class has returned to in-person instruction. We will meet at St. Matthew's Danube from 4:45-5:30pm. We will continue to make use of online tools as well. Class videos will be produced to supplement the lessons taught in person and ZOOM links will be available for those who are unable to attend in person. We will be discussing a possible change to Tuesdays during Lent.

Bible Information Classes:

If you would like to join us for Bible Information Class we will be meeting on Sunday afternoons at 3pm starting February 21. Bible information class serve as a membership class as well as a good refresher of biblical doctrine for our current members.

Tuesday Bible Class Returns

Tuesday Bible Class will resume on February 9 at 1:00pm. We will continue to include both an in-person and online option so that you can come to St. Matthew's in Danube for class or participate live using Zoom. You may also tune in and watch class on Facebook live. We are so grateful for those who have participated in person and online and we look for to our continued study of God's Faithfulness. Email Pastor Kuschel (pastorkuschel@yahoo.com) if you are interested in participating online.

Upcoming Meetings: St. Matthew's Danube Annual Meeting – February 7 at 1:30pm. As we consider and review the challenges and blessings of the year gone by, we pray that God would bless and direct our efforts to share the good news of Jesus with our members, our community, and the world. Please, contact Pastor Kuschel if you have any questions or corrections concerning our posted schedule of services, classes, events, and meetings. May God continue to bless us for many years to come with the good news of Jesus Christ, who came to drive away the darkness of sin and hell and to bless us with his light.

Midweek Lenten Services are Coming - Starting February 17

Below is the schedule for Midweek Lenten Services. Please make note of the pairings that have created in order to allow for a rotation of pastors as we look to help Pastor Peter Sulzle of St. John Redwood Falls with some preaching assistance this Lenten Season.

St. Matthew's Danube - 5:30pm & Zion Olivia - 7:00pm

St. Matthew Flora Twp - 5:30pm & St. John's Renville - 7:00pm

St. John Redwood Falls - 4:00pm & 6:30pm

Ash Wednesday is on February 17. Ash Wednesday service will include communion

Your Prayers are Requested: Please pray for Mark & Michell Harder and their family as they mourn the loss of Mark's daughter Remington. Please pray for Donna Ibsch (Beth Kuschel's mother) as she faces surgery and cancer treatment.

Worship Schedule/12-6-20: St. Matthew Flora Twp – 8:00 am St. Matthew's Danube - 9:30 am St. John's Renville - 11:00am