

TODAY'S BULLETIN

As We Gather: The Jesus Club?

Everyone is trying to figure out who they are, to identify themselves to everyone around them, and to promote that identity. Our Lord knows exactly who He is and what He has come to accomplish. He opens our eyes so that we may come to know and define ourselves not according to the whims of time or the dictates of emotion but in Him. Sin must give way to His forgiveness, unrighteousness to His righteousness, and death to His life. We are not competing with the world for a reward but serving others as Christ has served us. Our identity in Christ will not be taken from us and as long as we live in this identity, we are free. That liberty is primarily shown by our willingness to serve.

SAINT MATTHEW'S CHINESE NEW YEAR DINNER:

On Saturday, February 17th beginning at 5:45 pm, Saint Matthew's will hold its annual Chinese New Year Dinner. Tickets are \$20 per person. All profit this year will be donated to the Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center. For more information or how to purchase tickets, please speak with Pastor Iovine or Ed Geiger after church. Thank you.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK: Our verse is taken from Mark 1:35

And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.

THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS: Starting this Thursday, we will begin to review the coming weekend's Lectionary Readings. For the next several weeks, we will take a look at the Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel readings we will hear in church for the coming weekend. We will get more background and information on why those readings are important. Please join us at noon in the Upper Classroom.



Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church

New Milford, NJ
LCMS — New Jersey District

Sunday
February 4, 2024
Epiphany 5

**Saint Matthew's
Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Mailing Address:
POB 339
New Milford, NJ 07646

Worship Address:
225 Center Street
New Milford, NJ 07646

Contact Us:
(201) 262-5092

Rev. Anthony J. Iovine
Pastor
ajiovine@gmail.com
(201) 407-9563

OFFICERS
Edwin Geiger
Congregational President

Thomas Williams
Congregational Treasurer

Stephanie Coppola
Elder



Serving in Our Church Service This Sunday:

Fellowship Sunday

Sunday's Reader: Pastor Iovine

Serving Next Sunday: Stephanie Coppola, Elder

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

- Exodus 34:29–35 (Moses comes down the mountain with the Law in his hands and the glory of the Lord upon his face.)
- 2 Corinthians 3:12–18; 4:1–6 (We all, with unveiled face, behold the glory of God.)
- Mark 9:2–9 (With Moses and Elijah at His side, Jesus reveals His glory.)

HYMNS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

- "Beautiful Savior" - Hymn 537
- "O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair" - Hymn 413
- "Alleluia, Song of Gladness" - Hymn 417

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVICES

February 10 & 11 - Transfiguration

- At Saint Matthew's - Saturday, February 10, beginning at 5:00pm
- At Saint Matthew's - Sunday, February 11, beginning at 9:30am
- At Holy Trinity - Sunday, February 11, beginning at 11:30am
-

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE:

We do not need peanut butter & jelly, macaroni and cheese, pasta, or marinara sauce

- Packaged mashed potatoes
- Stuffing
- Crackers
- Chips & jarred or canned dip
- Hot chocolate
- Canned or jarred fruit
- Syrup
- Canned mushrooms
- Canned chicken
- Paper towels
- Iced tea mix
- Honey
- Parmesan cheese
- Small sugar packs
- Small flour

Today's Church Service: February 4, 2024

The 5th Sunday After the Epiphany

Divine Service 3 from Lutheran Service Book

Opening Hymn

"Rise, shine, You People" - Hymn 825

**Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
Our human story; God in Him is centered
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded
With grace unbounded**

**See how He sends the powers of evil reeling
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing
All men and women, who by guilt are driven
Now are forgiven**

**Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling
Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling
To all the world go out and tell the story
Of Jesus' glory.**

**Tell how the Father sent His Son to save us
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
His new creation.**

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

Music: Dale Wood, 1934–2003

Text and music: © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House; admin. Augsburg Fortress

Invocation & Confession and Absolution

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgression unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-evaluation

P: O Almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

 **Kyrie** - page 186

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

 **Gloria in Excelsis**

P: Glory be to God on high:

**C: And on earth peace, good will toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee
We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father
That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost
Art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Salutation and the Collect of the Day - pages 189-190

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Merciful Lord, You have granted us a new identity and life in Christ, our Lord. Keep us,

we pray, in this faith and life in Christ that we may know with confidence we belong to You and live secure in this knowledge both now and forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom with You and the Holy Spirit, are one God, one Lord, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Announcement of the Day

P: Today is the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany of our Lord, in the season of Christ's self-revelation through word and works. Today we hear the promise of the prophet who promises strength and healing. The Epistle speaks of the love strong enough to serve and finish the race. In the Gospel, Jesus continues to heal the sick and bring the Kingdom to them.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:21–31

(He brings us out and calls us by name.)

L: The Old Testament Reading for the 5th Sunday after the Epiphany is taken from Isaiah, Chapter 40:

Do you not know? Do you not hear?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;
who brings princes to nothing,
and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows on them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
who created these?
He who brings out their host by number,
calling them all by name;
by the greatness of his might
and because he is strong in power,
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the Lord,

and my right is disregarded by my God”?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.
Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16–27

(I do it all for the sake of the Gospel.)

L: The Epistle Reading is taken from 1st Corinthians, Chapter 9:

For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.


C: **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel Reading

Mark 1:29–39

(Everyone was looking for Jesus.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st Chapter:


 **C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. And the whole city was gathered together at the door. And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

 **C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

A: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

Hymn of the Day

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed" - Hymn 398

Hail to the Lord's anointed, Great David's greater Son!

Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free
To take away transgression, And rule in equity.

He comes with rescue speedy To those who suffer wrong
To help the poor and needy And bid the weak be strong
To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light
Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, Spring in his path to birth
Before Hi on the mountains. Shall peace, the herald, go
And righteousness in fountains From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before Him And gold and incense bring
All nations shall adore Him, His praise all people sing
To Him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend
His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious, All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever—That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532–c. 1601; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

Text and music: Public domain

Sermon

 **Offertory** - page 192

A: Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me
Cast me not away from Thy presence
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation
And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.


Prayer of the Church

The Service of the Sacrament

Preface

 P: The Lord be with you.

 C: **And with thy spirit.**

 P: Lift up your hearts.

 C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

 P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

 C: **It is meet right so to do.**

Proper Preface

P: It is our privilege and our delight to join in the angelic chorus of praise and thanksgiving to You, O Lord, mighty God, everlasting Father, for You have made known Your salvation through Your Son, Jesus Christ, who has brought healing to our afflictions and set us free to serve You and make known Your wondrous love. With the saints and angels and all the heavenly host, we sing Your praise now and to the end of the ages:

 **Sanctus** - page 195

**A: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabbaoth
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest
Blessed is He, blessed is He,
blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest**

Lord's Prayer - spoken, page 196

A: 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 Words of Our Lord - spoken, page 197

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My \pm body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My \pm

blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

Pax Domini - page 197-198

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

Agnus Dei - page 198

A: **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world
Have mercy upon us
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world
Have mercy upon us
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world
Grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

Communion Distribution

Communion Dismissal - page 198

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

C: **Amen.**

Nunc Dimittis - page 198-199

A: **Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
According to Thy word
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people
A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.**

Thanksgiving - page 200

P: O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.

C: **and His mercy endureth forever.**

P: Merciful Lord, in Your great love You have brought us from death to life, forgiven all our sins, and made us Your children. Grant to us not only the healing of the ills of this life but the perfect healing of everlasting life, which we have tasted already in this blessed Communion. Deliver us from pride and arrogance and build within us a servant's heart,

that we may love You above all things and our neighbor as You have loved us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Salutation and Benedicamus - page 202

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Bless we the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Benediction - page 202

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

 **C: Amen, amen, amen.**

Closing Hymn

“Thy Strong Word” - Hymn 578

**Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done
For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death
Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness
Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives our hopes confess
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conquering might
From the cross forever beameth, All Thy bright redeeming light
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send**

Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

**△ God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!**

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76

Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944; setting: Richard W. Hillert, 1923–2010, alt.

Text and setting: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

Tune: Public domain