

Compelled by the love of Christ, St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School seek to reach out to our families, community and world, using Law and Gospel to make disciples, growing and nurturing them in their Christian faith and life.

*Second Sunday of Easter  
April 11 & April 12, 2010*

**We Welcome You!** — Visitors, we extend our sincere greeting and to those who seek a church home, we offer fellowship with the living Savior. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Schultz, Pastor Schmidt and to others. We ask that everyone please sign our attendance record found in each pew during the offering. Please take a moment to greet one another and worship with us again soon.



**We celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper today.** In his Word, God makes it clear that Holy Communion is to be shared by people of a common proclamation of faith (1 Corinthians 11:26; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). So without judging anyone's hearts, we invite those who share in our confession by their membership in our congregation or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) and who are properly prepared (1 Corinthians 11:27-29) to receive the Sacrament. See the front of the Hymnal, page 156, for a guide for preparation.

Guests, we would love to have you attend. Please speak with one of the pastors about instruction in our Christian faith and this Sacrament so you will be ready to partake of this wonderful meal in full unity with us after that instruction. Thank you for respecting the way we celebrate the Lord's Supper in our congregations.

**Distribution** Choir loft goes to the back of church and up the left side of the center aisle. Balcony communicants go up the left of the center aisle. South pews go to the back of church and up the right side of the center aisle. Communicants proceed to the front down the center aisle, receive the host, then turn towards the side aisle, taking a cup from the tray or receiving the common cup from the pastor. Non-alcoholic wine, light in color, is in the center of the tray. Please reserve it for those who will be using it for health reasons.

**Focus of Worship** — On Easter evening the glorified Jesus appeared to His disciples and announced peace to them. When Thomas refused to believe, Jesus appeared a week later to convince him of the resurrection. In love God gives us His word that we might believe and have life in His name. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed!"

**Musical Prelude** — As we prepare to worship, the prelude helps us direct our thoughts to God and makes the sanctuary a place of meditation and prayer.

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**Our Order of Worship**

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**Opening Hymn 152 v. 1 - 4 "I Know that My Redeemer Lives"**

**Service of Word and Sacrament** (Page 26, front of Hymnal)

**Order of Holy Baptism (10:30 a.m.)** (Front of Hymnal, p. 12)

We rejoice as Sophia Madeline Bessert receives the washing of rebirth in Christian baptism today. May our Savior keep her in His grace unto life everlasting.

**Prayer and Praise** (Page 28, front of Hymnal)

**The First Lesson**

**Acts 5:12,17-32**

The apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade. Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people the full message of this new life." At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people. When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles. But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they went back and reported, "We found the jail securely locked, with the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside." On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests were puzzled, wondering what would come of this. Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people." At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them. Having brought the apostles, they made them appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood." Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey

God rather than men! The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead—whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." NIV

**Psalm 16** (Page 68, front of Hymnal)

### **The Second Lesson**

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty." I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea." I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lamp stands, and among the lamp stands was someone "like a son of man," dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. NIV

**Response** (Page 30, front of Hymnal) **"Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"**

### **Revelation 1:4-18**

### **The Gospel**

**John 20:19-31**

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. NIV

**Response** **"Praise be to you, O Christ!"**

**Hymn of the Day 152 v. 5 - 8 "I Know that My Redeemer Lives"**

#### **Message from God's Word: John 29:19-31**

##### **We Have Life in the Living Savior's Name**

#### **1) He strengthens our faith.**

- a. On Easter Sunday night the disciples still lived in fear.  
*What fears keep you huddled behind locked doors?*
- b. Jesus appeared to the disciples to rebuild their faith.  
*The living Savior strengthens our faith by the gospel.*

#### **2) He brings us peace and joy.**

- a. We were at war with God.
- b. Christ made peace with God for us by His life & death.  
*In our life's conflicts Jesus comes to bring us peace.*

#### **3) Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit's power.**

- a. Jesus imparted the Holy Spirit to His disciples to strengthen them.
- b. Jesus gives His disciples the authority to forgive/refuse to forgive.  
*Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit into our hearts by His Word. He sends us to glorify the Savior and witness His Name.*

**The Confession of Faith** Nicene Creed (Page 31, front of Hymnal)

**The Offering & Friendship Registers**

**Prayers and Lord's Prayer**

**The Sacrament** (Pages 33 – 35, front of Hymnal)

**The Distribution of the Lord's Supper** (Please note the information for our guests and instructions for those who will commune on page one of our worship folder).

**Distribution Hymn 165 "O Sons and Daughters of the King"**

**The Thanksgiving** (Pages 36 – 37, front of Hymnal)

**Closing Hymn 162 "He Is Arisen! Glorious Word"**

***Serving God and Us Today***

**Worship Leader and Preacher:** Pastor Schultz

**Organist:** Deb Schramm

**Usher Captains:** (8:00 a.m.) Joel Watson (10:30 a.m.) Eric Ziel  
(Monday) Jerry Wendt

**Communion Assistant:** James Schneider

**Greeters:** (8:00 a.m.) Don and Kris Weltzien  
(10:30 a.m.) Dennis and Caroline Otto

**Upcoming Usher Teams:**

**Sunday, April 18, 2010** (8:00 a.m.) Michael Bouche' (10:30 a.m.) James Bence

**Monday, April 19, 2010** (7:00 p.m.) Rick Jorgenson

**Bible Hour Helpers** Each Bible Hour Helper is asked to bring 5 dozen cookies and one gallon of juice. These items should be dropped off in the church kitchenette upstairs before 7:30 a.m. Sunday morning. Bible Hour Helpers are not responsible for making the coffee, serving or clean up. We already have scheduled various groups to serve throughout the year. A free willing offering will be taken to cover the cost of coffee, plates, napkins and cups. If you would like to provide refreshments please stop in the church office to sign-up for a particular Sunday. Thank you to everyone who has so *graciously* agreed to supply us

with these refreshments and to the groups that serve during our fellowship hour. If you have any questions please contact Amy Bence at [abence@smls.org](mailto:abence@smls.org) or 262-567-2418, ext. 32.

**Bible Hour Helpers**

**April**

April 18, 2010 – Chelsie Rennie, Deb Kuklinski, Lucille Knoelke

April 25, 2010 – Angie Molquentin, Karen Klug, Bev Fulmer

**May**

May 2, 2010 – Kathy Rusch, Jeanne Ward, Melinda Reichert

May 9, 2010 – Janet Sandvold, Liz Schmidt, Deb Schramm

May 16, 2010 – Laura Lai, Amy Bence, Shelley Myers

May 23, 2010 – Betty Reul, Scott Surges, Amber Terry

May 30, 2010 – Mary Thiele

**St. Matthew's Groups Serving Fellowship Hour**

**April -** Active Christian Teens Serving

**May -** Board of Stewardship

**June -** Board of Outreach

**July -** Board of Education

**August -** Board of Elders

**September –** Parent Teacher League

**October –** Ladies' Guild

**November –** Lutheran Girl Pioneers

**December –** Lutheran Elementary School

**Bible Study Opportunities**

**Sunday Bible Study 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.**

**Adult and Teen Study – Fellowship Center: Dead Sea Scrolls Bible Study – This morning!** Retired seminary Professor Jeske will be our guest presenter today at our Bible study on the Dead Sea Scrolls. He had been to Jerusalem to see the Dead Sea Scrolls during his seminary teaching days. Professor Jeske was one of the Old Testament translators of the NIV and has vast knowledge of the importance of the Dead Sea Scrolls, so he'll give a very fitting presentation during our Bible class. Our study today will also help prepare us for our trip to the Milwaukee Museum next Sunday afternoon to view the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit.

**Bible Information Class** will not meet today. Pastor Schmidt is away on vacation. We'll resume our Bible Information Class next Sunday.

**Sunday Bible School (ages 3 year olds through 7th Grade) 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.** We'll meet in the school gym for an opening devotion and then go to our classrooms for our study of God's Word.

**Monday Bible Study** is offered on Mondays, 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. for those who are unable to attend on Sundays. We'll repeat the study from Sunday morning.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study** meets in the Fireside Room at 6:30 a.m. Come and join us!

**Women in the Word Bible Study** continues this Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. We invite all our women to join us for spiritual growth, fellowship, and a time of intercessory prayer.

**Eastern Religions Bible Study** *NEW TIME!* Defend Your Faith Series on ***Eastern Religions*** continues starting one hour earlier on Tuesday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. We will be finishing up Sikhism and delving into Hare Krishna, one of the first Eastern Religions to pioneer into the West and our culture.

**Bible Information Class:** Classes are in session now on Sundays and Saturdays, but we're always thankful to begin new classes when people express an interest. Contact the Church office (262-567-2418) for further information or to register for an up-coming class.

***Guests or Inquirers*** – it's a great chance to learn the truths God revealed through His sacred writers – and ultimately revealed through His Son Jesus, without obligation to join our congregation, but with the opportunity to become a communing member when the classes are finished. Whether learning for the first time or reviewing for the 100th, we're always blessed when we study, discuss, and apply these core foundational teachings to our faith and life.

***Members*** – this is a great chance to review the main teachings of God's Word (and invite an unchurched friend to learn with you so they too understand the reason for your joy and hope in Christ).

**Forward in Christ Magazine** - If you would like to be included in the congregation's blanket subscription (\$10.50 per year instead of \$16 per year individually) beginning in June, please fill out the form that can be found in the back of church on the credenza. Mail or drop off the form with payment to the church office. Past subscribers must also renew to be included in the next subscription! Please make checks payable to St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church. The magazine will be mailed to the subscriber's home. **Deadline to signup is April 25th.** Since this will be mailed directly to the subscriber's home address you can sign up your

family and friends at this special blanket subscription price. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

**Examination Sunday and Fellowship welcome for this year's confirmands – April 25th.**

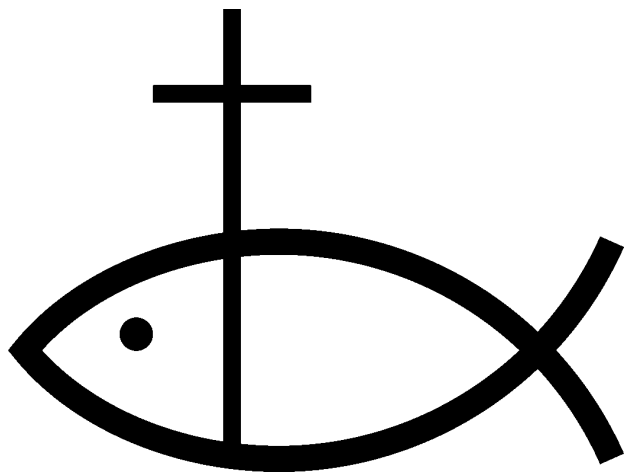
On this examination Sunday our confirmands will have opportunity to express the faith and knowledge of God's Word the Lord has given them during their catechism studies. During Bible Hour we'll welcome them and our council members will review the joys, privileges, and responsibilities of membership in Christ's church and our congregation. Join us for the welcome in the Fellowship Center during Bible hour.

**Open Forum (to discuss communion distribution) – April 18th** during Bible hour. We'll begin the Bible study on April 18th with a scriptural review of the Lord's Supper as Christ established it, its power, its blessings, and how we receive it for our blessing. We'll also review briefly how the elements of the Sacrament have been distributed in various ways throughout the years according to the Christian liberty the Lord has given His New Testament Church. Then we'll give members an opportunity to express their thoughts regarding the pilot testing of the continuous distribution. Please note the insert for any comments you would like to express using that form. God be with us as we hold to His Word and receive His blessings through the Gospel in Word and Sacrament. What a miracle of grace that we know our Savior Jesus and He comes to us in Word and Sacrament to sustain our saving faith by the miraculous power of His love!

**Congregational Meeting** will be held on Thursday, April 22, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. *Please join us!*



*Worship Folder*  
*April 11, 2010*



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Pastor Daniel R. Schmidt (262) 567-2418, Ext. 29; Home (920) 262-2328

Dennis R. Fletcher, Staff Minister (262) 567-2418, Ext. 30; Home (262) 567-1475

St. Matthew's Lutheran School: 3K-Eighth Grade

School Office 567-5396 Residence: Principal Eric Ziel (262) 490-9382

Church and School Web Site - [www.smls.org](http://www.smls.org)

**St. Matthew's is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod**

