

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 12 & 15, 2022

Selfless Love Marches Victorious Over Self-Glorification

Opening Hymn 813, “He Will Hold Me Fast”

Order of Service Setting One, Page 154

Prayer of the Day: O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING

Psalm of the Day (See Insert)..... Psalm 145B

SECOND READING

Gospel Acclamation Page 161

Gospel Acclamation Verse: *Praise God for a living hope: Christ is risen from the dead! (Sung – See Pg. 161)*

GOSPEL

Hymn of the Day 707, “Cling Tightly to the Word of God”

SERMON “Keep Your Eyes Fixed on Jesus” Hebrews 12:2

Nicene Creed..... Pages 162-163

(Sunday): RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Communion Liturgy Page 165

Communion Hymn 670, “I Come, O Savior, to Your Table”

Closing Liturgy..... Page 170

Closing Hymn 924 vv. 1 & 6, “Abide, O Dearest Jesus”

FIRST READING: Acts 11:1-18

God overcomes Peter’s self-glorification by teaching Peter that God does not show favoritism but rather selfless love to both Jew and Gentile.

The apostles and brothers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. When Peter went up to Jerusalem, those who insisted on circumcision criticized him, saying, “You went to visit men who were uncircumcised and ate with them!” So Peter began to explain everything to them, point by point. He said, “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision in which an object like a large sheet was let down from heaven by its four

corners. It came right to me. When I inspected it very carefully, I saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice telling me, ‘Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!’ “But I replied, ‘Certainly not, Lord, for nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ “A voice spoke from heaven a second time: ‘What God has made clean, you must not continue to call unclean.’ This happened three times, and then everything was pulled up into heaven again. “At that very moment, three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them without any hesitation. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. He told us how he saw an angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and call for Simon, the one called Peter. He will speak words to you by which you and all your household will be saved.’ “As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came down on them, just as he came down on us at the beginning. Then I remembered how the Lord had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ So if God gave them the same gift as he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to try to stand in God’s way?” When they heard these things, they had no further objections, and they praised God, saying, “So then, God has granted repentance that results in life also to the Gentiles!”

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If anything is the defining mark of Christians, it is not the spiritual gifts that they possess. It is the love at work as they put those gifts into practice.

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and know all the mysteries and have all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away everything I own, and if I give up my body that I may be burned but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient. Love is kind. Love does not envy. It does not brag. It is not arrogant. It does not behave indecently. It is not selfish. It is not irritable. It does not keep a record of wrongs. It does not rejoice over unrighteousness but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never comes to an end. But if there are prophetic gifts, they will be done away with; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be done away with. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, but when that which is complete has come, that which is partial will be done away with. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put away childish things. Now we see indirectly using a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I was fully known. So now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.

GOSPEL: John 13:31-35

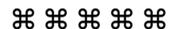
The Father has glorified the Son. Christ shares that glory with us and commands us to show others the same selfless love he has shown us.

After Judas left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify the Son in himself and will glorify him at once.”

“Dear children, I am going to be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. “A new commandment I give you: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you are to love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

SERMON TEXT: Hebrews 12:2

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNION: Because of the confessional nature of the Lord’s Supper which is offered today, we invite forward those who are members of a WELS or ELS congregation. If you have questions about the Lord’s Supper, please speak to the pastor.

HEAD USHERS THIS WEEK: Don Koch/Doug Schulz; next Sunday: Ross Schultz/Wayne Schultz

CONFIRMATION: After studying the Christian faith for the past two years, our 2022 confirmation class will affirm their baptisms. This year’s confirmands are: Dietrich Johnson, Christian Neu, Braxton Reible, Logan Robenhorst, and Lucas Wald. We congratulate and pledge our support to this fine group of young men.

ALTAR OFFERING: The money received in today’s Altar Offering has been designated as follows: 100% to the parking lot repair/replacement project.

ORGANISTS!! The **June** schedule is hanging on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board. Please look at your calendars in the near future and sign up for the date(s) you are willing to play for us. There are also still a couple open slots for **May**. Would you please look to see if you can fill those as well? Thank you!

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY: No one has signed up to host the fellowship hour which would take place immediately following the worship service on **Sunday, May 29**. If this is something you or a group of you would be willing to do, please sign up on the sheet hanging on the church bulletin board or speak with Pastor Mose today. Thank you!

WE WANT YOUR OPINION! In your mail slots in the school hallway you will find a survey to gauge your interest in a few church-related matters. While we have placed just one copy of the survey in each mail slot, we are inviting and encouraging **ALL CONFIRMED** members of our congregation to complete this survey, so additional copies of it can be found on the table at the back of church should others in your household choose to respond. Please return your completed surveys to the designated basket on the table at the back of church by **Friday, July 1**. Thank you!

PLANT EXCHANGE: This year’s plant exchange will take place on **Sunday, May 22**. We are handling this event a little differently than in the past. Please check out the sign-up sheet located on the church bulletin board for more information and instructions. If you wish to “exchange” plants on a different date than May 22, please feel free to make alternate arrangements with any parties involved. If you have any questions about the exchange, please direct them to **Wayne Schultz** or **Diane Koch**.

GRADUATION/ASCENSION/RECOGNITION NIGHT: The graduation of St. Matthew’s eighth grade class will be held on **Thursday, May 26**, at the **7:00 PM** worship service. Please also note that Ascension Day falls on this same date. Immediately following the Graduation/Ascension Day Service, Recognition Night festivities will take place in the gym. It should also be noted that the service and sermon will be the same for both Thursday (5/26) evening and Sunday (5/29) morning.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar this week are given to the glory of God by this year’s confirmation class.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way with the WALL softball tournament which we will be hosting/hosted this weekend. Thanks also for the many donations we received for the concessions stand! This is a big event which wouldn’t be possible without all your efforts!

WE THANK the adult choir for beautifying our Sunday’s worship service with their song!

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Thursday: 19; Sunday: 124

Offerings: \$3,920.36

(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$6,661.00)

Special Funds: Debt Retirement: \$25.00; Altar Offering: \$10.00

OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW’S

Sunday: Communion Worship Service (**Confirmation**).....9:00 AM
ALTAR OFFERING

Thursday: Worship Service7:00 PM
Adult Choir Practice & End-of-Season Pizza
Party.....8:00 PM

Sunday: Worship Service9:00 AM
***Plant Exchange – Immediately following worship
Service (in parking lot)***

145B I Will Praise Your Name Forever

Psalm 145B

Refrain



I will praise your name for - ev - er, my King and my God.

Great is the LORD and most wor- / thy of praise;
his greatness no one can / fathom.

One generation commends your works to an- / other;
they tell of your / mighty acts.

The LORD upholds / all who fall
and lifts up all who are / bowed down. *Refrain*

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the / proper time.

You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every / living thing.

The LORD is near to all who / call on him,
to all who call on / him in truth.

He fulfills the desires of those who / fear him;
he hears their cry and / saves them.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Text: Lectionary for Mass

Tune: Lynn Trapp

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