

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 1 & 4, 2025

We Can See Things Clearly

Opening Hymn451, "See, What A Morning"

Order of Service..... Setting One, Page 154

Prayer of the Day: O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; 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 (*On Insert*)..... Psalm 140B vv. 1-2

SECOND READING

Gospel Acclamation Page 161

Gospel Acclamation Verse: *Christ Jesus has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.*

Hymn of the Day606, "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

SERMON..... "Singing the Lamb's Victory Song" Revelation 5:11-14

Offering Hymn.....717 v. 2, "What Is the World to Me"

Nicene CreedPages 162-163

Communion Liturgy..... Page 165

Communion Hymn..... 668, "Jesus Comes Today with Healing"

Closing Liturgy Page 170

Closing Hymn885, "There Is a Higher Throne"

FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-22

To get his attention, Jesus struck Saul blind. Then he not only restored Saul's physical sight but also gave Saul spiritual sight. Saul was given faith in the One who had risen from the dead.

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the disciples of the Lord. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any men or women belonging to the Way, he might bring them to Jerusalem as prisoners.

As he went on his way and was approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" He replied, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you need to do."

The men traveling with him stood there speechless. They heard the voice but did not see anyone. They raised Saul up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes, he could not see anything. They took him by the hand and led him into Damascus. For three days he could not see, and he did not eat or drink.

There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias!" He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord told him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. In fact, at this very moment he is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he can regain his sight." Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many people about this man and how much harm he did to your saints in Jerusalem. And he has authority here from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name." The Lord said to him, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the people of Israel. Indeed, I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

Ananias left and entered the house. Laying his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, whom you saw on your way here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. And after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. Immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

All who heard him were amazed and said, "Isn't this the one who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? Didn't he come here for this very purpose: to bring them as prisoners to the chief priests?" But Saul continued to get stronger and kept confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ.

SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-14

While in exile on the island of Patmos, St. John was given special sight, the ability to see the sacrificial Lamb who is worthy of our worship and praise.

And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels who were around the throne and around the living creatures and the elders. Their number was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands upon thousands. With a loud voice they were saying: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

I also heard every creature that is in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever.

The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders bowed down and worshipped.

GOSPEL: John 21:1-14

Many of the disciples first met Jesus while fishing near the Sea of Galilee. At the time they were spiritually blind, not realizing who Jesus was. The resurrected Jesus now appears again to these disciples while they are fishing, and this time they see him clearly through eyes of faith.

After this, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how he showed himself: Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I'm going fishing." They replied, "We'll go with you."

They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus was standing on the shore, but the disciples did not know it was Jesus. Jesus called to them, "Boys, don't you have any fish?" "No!" they answered. He told them, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." So they cast the net out. Then they were not able to haul it in because of the large number of fish.

The disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard, "It is the Lord!" he tied his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the little boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about one hundred yards.

When they stepped out on land, they saw some bread and a charcoal fire with fish on it. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught." So Simon Peter climbed aboard and hauled the net to land, full of large fish, 153 of them. Yet even with so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come, eat breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them, and also the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Thursday: 10; Sunday: 123

Offerings: \$4,214.25

(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$7,355.00)

Special Funds: Debt Retirement: \$120.00; Christian Aid & Relief: \$485.00; Church Refurbishment: \$12,040.00

Memorials: In Memory of Elmira Schaefer: \$40.00 (*Church Refurbishment*)



We invite you to support this ministry through financial offerings out of thanksgiving for the Gospel you have received here. Offerings may be placed in the plate located on the table at the back of church, or you may scan the QR code to give electronically

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: Dean Ebert/Rob Stern; next Sunday: Lyle Moldenhauer/Chris Zwygart

ORGANISTS: The **May** 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. Thank you!

ADULT CONFIRMATION: After studying the Christian faith with Pastor Mose this past year, Jeremy and Alison Pecha will profess (professed) their faith in Jesus Christ and will be (were) confirmed in a private service following Thursday's (tonight's) worship service. Jeremy and Alison have two children, Justin and Amanda, who currently attend our school. Justin is in Gr. 7, and Amanda is in Gr. 5. Justin and Amanda were recently baptized at our church on April 3, 2025. We pray for their continued spiritual grace. Congratulations to our newest church members! Please take whatever opportunity you may have to meet and welcome them!

PASTOR SCHULTE'S INSTALLATION is scheduled for **Sunday (TODAY), May 4, at 2:00 PM.** Following the service there will be a catered meal which all are invited to attend. We hope many of you will plan to participate in this special service marking the beginning of an exciting and blessed new era for St. Matthew's.

SCHULTE BABY SHOWER: All women of our congregation are reminded that they are invited to attend a Baby Shower for the Schultes. This will be a brunch event and is scheduled for **Saturday, May 10, beginning at 10:00 AM.** If you plan to participate, please RSVP to **Brenda Moldenhauer (262-224-0680)** or **Cheri Youngbeck (920-296-1028).** Additional information about the shower is available on the flyer which was placed in your church mail slots.

THE EXAMINATION of this year's confirmation class will take place next **Sunday, May 11.** They will be confirmed at the **Sunday, May 18,** worship service. This year's confirmands are: Keegan Daley, Roland Johnson, Breelynn Lang, Cole Manning, Aubrey Moldenhauer, and Charles Stern.

In addition, Drew Bingen will also be confirmed at the May 18 worship service. Drew has studied the Christian faith with Pastors Kesting and Mose through classes at St. Paul's, Neosho, and will be examined at St. Paul's, Neosho.

ALTAR OFFERING: This year's altar offering will be taken on **Thursday, May 15,** and **Sunday, May 18.** The money received has been designated as follows: 100% to the Church Refurbishment Fund. Please look for the special envelope marked **Altar Offering** in your envelope packets.

WALL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT: Our school will be hosting this year's WALL Softball Tournament on **Friday-Saturday, May 16-17,** at the Iron Ridge Firemen's Park. All are invited and encouraged to come down and cheer our teams on as well as enjoy the concessions which will be served throughout the tournament. If you would be willing to help in any way (i.e. concessions, grilling, providing donations, setting up, cleaning up), please speak with **Kevin Lorge** as soon as possible. We need all the help we can get with this big of an endeavor! There will be 11-12 teams involved and all their families in attendance!

WELS NIGHT AT THE BREWERS: Back for another year, WELS Night at the Brewers is returning on **Friday, July 11!** Plan to join thousands of WELS members for an evening at the ballpark to watch the Brewers take on the Nationals. Tickets for all WELS members and guests continue to receive a discount of up to 50% and are reserved together in all three seating levels. Ticket prices are **\$22** (Field Outfield Box), **\$15** (Loge Outfield Box), and **\$8** (Terrace Reserved Infield). Individual tickets and parking are available **NOW** and can be purchased online at **brewers.com/wels.**

OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday: Communion Worship Service.....9:00 AM
 Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School 10:15 AM
Pastor Schulte's Installation Service2:00 PM
(Catered meal to follow)

Thursday: Worship Service.....7:00 PM
 Adult Choir8:00 PM

Saturday: **Schulte Baby Shower & Brunch 10:00 AM**

Sunday: Worship Service (Examination Sunday)9:00 AM
MOTHER'S DAY

140B Deliver Me from Evil.....Psalm 140B sts. 1-2



1 De - liv - er me from e - vil; de - fend me, LORD, from wrong.
 2 O LORD, I have con - fessed you to be my God a - lone.



The vi - o - lent have gath - ered, with poi - son on their tongue.
 Now hear my cry for mer - cy and make your pow - er known.



From those who plot to hurt me or catch me in their snare,
 O sov - 'reign LORD and Sav - ior, my ar - mor in the strife,



pro - tect me, LORD, and keep me safe - guard - ed in your care.
 let not the wick - ed tri - umph who wish to take my life.

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