

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

November 21 & 24, 2024

Live With Your Eyes On The Skies

Opening Hymn511, “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

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

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in 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 (*On Insert*).....Psalm 95C vv. 1-2

SECOND READING

Gospel Acclamation Page 161

Gospel Acclamation Verse: *Therefore */ keep watch,
because you do not know on what day your */ Lord will come.*

GOSPEL

Hymn of the Day488, “The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”

SERMON..... “**Watch!**” Mark 13:32-37

Offering Hymn729 v. 3, “Son of God, Eternal Savior”

Apostles’ Creed Page 163

Hymn 813, “He Will Hold Me Fast”

Closing Liturgy Page 171

Closing Hymn543, “O Jesus, King Most Wonderful”

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:4-6

The Lord encourages his people to live in joyful expectation of salvation, with eyes lifted up to the skies.

Pay attention to me, O my people. My nation, listen to me! For the law will go out from me, and I will establish my justice as a light to the peoples. My righteousness is near. My salvation goes forth, and my arms will bring justice to the peoples. The seacoasts will wait for me. They will have confidence in my arm. Lift up your eyes to the heavens. Look closely at the earth beneath, because the heavens will vanish like smoke, and the earth will wear out like a garment, and its inhabitants will die like gnats. But my salvation will remain forever, and my righteousness will never be abolished.

SECOND READING: Jude 20-25

St. Jude explains how we live in anticipation of Jesus’ return—by doing the things that build up our faith and by showing mercy to our neighbor.

But you, dear friends, continue to build yourselves up in your most holy faith as you keep praying in the Holy Spirit. Keep yourselves in God’s love as you continue to wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, which results in eternal life. Show mercy to those who are wavering. Save others by snatching them out of the fire. Show mercy to still others with fear, hating even the clothing that is stained by the flesh.

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you faultless in the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, be glory, majesty, power, and authority through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all time, now, and to all eternity. Amen.

GOSPEL: Mark 13:26-37

You do not know when Jesus will come again. So be alert, with your eyes on the skies.

Then you will see the Son of Man coming on clouds with great power and glory. At that time he will send out his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of the sky.

“Learn from this illustration of the fig tree: Whenever its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves, you know that summer is near. So also when you see these things happening, you will know that he is near—at the doors! Amen I tell you: This generation will certainly not pass away until all these things happen. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Watch! Be alert and pray, because you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going away on a journey. When he left his home, he put his servants in charge and assigned what each one was to do. He also commanded the doorkeeper to keep watch. Therefore keep watch, because you do not know when the owner of the house is coming: whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or early in the morning. If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to everyone: Keep watch!”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEAD USHERS: Ross Schultz/Wayne Schultz; next Sunday: Dean Ebert/Rob Stern

ORGANISTS: The **December** 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!

CALL MEETING: As you may have heard, Pastor Jesse Knox returned our pastoral call. Because of this, we have scheduled a new call meeting for **Sunday, December 1**. This meeting will begin at approximately **10:30 AM** as we will have our circuit representative in attendance and need to accommodate his time schedule. All voting members are encouraged to participate!

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY - RESCHEDULED: Because no one signed up to host November's fellowship hour, we have postponed this fellowship until our Church Re-Dedication Service which is set for **Sunday, December 8**. A special fellowship hour will follow that Sunday's 9:00 AM worship service. Please watch for more details.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE: A special Thanksgiving Day worship service will be held on **Thursday, November 28, at 9:00 AM**. Because of this service, **NO** Thursday evening worship service will be held that night. Our Thanksgiving Day offerings have been designated as follows: **100%** to the **Church Refurbishment Fund**.

AREA ADVENT SERVICE & CHILI SUPPER: Bethany Lutheran Church in Hustisford will be hosting an Advent service of lessons and carols on **Wednesday, December 4**, for our area WELS congregations. There will be a chili supper from **5:30-6:15 PM**, and the service will start at **7:00 PM**. If anyone would like to bring something for the meal, a dessert to share would be welcome. Bethany is located at 269 N. Lake Street in Hustisford. They hope to see you there!

POINSETTIAS will be purchased and placed in church for the Advent and Christmas season services. If you wish to order a poinsettia (or two) to be placed in church for these services, be sure to sign up on the sheet posted on the church bulletin board. You can take your poinsettia(s) home after the Christmas Day service on **Wednesday, December 25**, or leave it in church for the next Sunday service or until Christmas decorations are taken down. The cost is **\$10.00** per plant. Please contact **Wayne** or **Bonnie Schultz** if you have questions.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Boxes of Christmas cards are available for purchase from the "Greeting Card Corner" display in the church basement. Just pick out the boxes that you wish to purchase, complete a payment envelope, and give it to **Diane Koch** or place it in her church mail slot.

CHURCH DECORATING: Please join us on **Saturday, December 7**, beginning at **11:00 AM** to help decorate the church for the Christmas season. Those in attendance and helping with the decorating will be welcome to take part in a pizza party that day as well. If you plan on attending, we ask that you sign up on the sheet located on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board. Please include your name and the number of people in your family who will be participating. This will help us in deciding how many pizzas need to be ordered. Thank you!

SCRIP: If you are still looking for some Christmas gift ideas, check out our scrip (gift card) program. There are various ways to place your order and to obtain your cards. Please direct any questions you may have to **Holly Daley**, our scrip coordinator. There are just **TWO** ordering deadlines left before Christmas—**Tuesday, November 26** -and- **Thursday, December 12**. **No** orders will be taken after those two dates until January.

FLOWER CHART: The 2025 flower chart is now hanging in the school hallway. If you wish to provide flowers for the altar during the coming year, please sign up under the appropriate date(s).

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Thursday: 23; Sunday: 132

Offerings: \$7,673.00

Tuition: \$2,650.00; **4K Tuition:** \$780.25

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

Special Funds: Debt Retirement: \$30.00; Church Refurbishment: \$25.00;
Christmas Trees: \$200.00

Memorials: In Memory of Ruth Schultz: \$25.00 *(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 plates located on the tables at the back of church, or you may scan the QR code to give electronically.

OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday: Worship Service 9:00 AM

Tuesday: ***Scrip Orders Due!!***

Wed. – Fri.: **NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING BREAK**

Thursday: Thanksgiving Day Worship Service 9:00 AM
NO Thursday Evening Worship Service

Sunday: Communion Worship Service 9:00 AM
Sunday School 10:15 AM
***Call Meeting* 10:30 AM**
NO Adult & Teen Bible Class

95C Come, Let Us Praise the LORD Psalm 95C sts. 1-2



1 Come, let us praise the LORD, with joy our God ac -
2 Our God of match-less worth, our King be - yond com -



claim, his great - ness tell a - broad and bless his
pare, the deep - est bounds of earth, the hills, are



sav - ing name. Lift high your songs be -
in his care. He all de - crees, who



fore his throne to whom a - lone all praise be - longs.
by his hand pre - pared the land and formed the seas.

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