

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Sandy Hill

Worship: 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Jim Abbott

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 24, 2010

Congregation responses are in **bold**. *ELW* are hymn numbers.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

[stand]

Invocation

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

As God's beloved children, let us call to mind our sin
and our need for reconciliation with God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Strong and faithful God,
we confess that we have not lived as your holy people in the world. We have closed our hearts to your love. We have resisted your light. We have failed to proclaim your mercy. Forgive what we have done and what we have left undone, heal us with your abundant grace, and help us walk as children of the light.
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us
all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,
and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness

of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of
the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Greeting

Arise, shine; for your light has come. The grace of our Lord Jesus
Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be
with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" *ELW 886*

Prayer of the Day

Blessed Lord God,
you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

[sit]

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Children's Sermon

First Reading Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

1 all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. 2 Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. 3 He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. 5

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. 6 Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. 8 So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. 10 Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19

1 The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

2 Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

3 There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

4 yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

5 which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

9 the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

11 Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

12 But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

13 Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. 14 Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many members, yet one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; 24 whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving

the greater honor to the inferior member, 25 that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

[stand]

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The holy Gospel according to Luke the 4th Chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Luke 4:14-21

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. 16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring

good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” 20 And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

[sit]

Sermon

Silence for reflection

[stand]

Hymn

“Hark, the Glad Sound!”

ELW 239

Apostles’ Creed

Inside back cover of hymnal

Prayers of Intercession

Each portion of the prayers ends with:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The prayers end with:

Good and gracious God, we ask all these things and whatever else you see that we need with a sure and certain hope in your goodness and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share a sign of peace with fellow worshipers

[sit]

THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to God for His gifts to us.

Offering

[stand]

Hymn of Thanksgiving **“For the Fruit of All Creation”** *ELW 679*

Thanksgiving for the Word

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you make all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word, you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

**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.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Light and peace are yours through Jesus Christ. Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Amen.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn **“Arise, Your Light Has Come!”** *ELW 314*

[sit]

Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Ringing of the bell

Serving Us Today...

	St Matthew	Immanuel
Organists	Ann Sommer	Linda Schulze
Readers	Michelle Lampe	Elois Eickenhorst
Ushers	Billy Scheffer Brian Scheffer Stephen Scheffer Mark Niebuhr	Pauline Hodges Kim Hodde Wade Wellmann
Altar Flowers	Johnnie, Debbie and Trevor Eckert in honor of Michael and Marian's 1 st Anniversary	Jon and Kim Hodde
Acolyte		Raleigh Wellmann

Calendar & Upcoming Events...

Today - St Matthew Choir practice 8:00 am
Worship 8:30 am St Matthew
Sunday Schools 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am Immanuel
Immanuel General Meeting following service
Pot Luck meal following meeting
Immanuel WELCA General Meeting 1 pm
Coop confirmation 3:00 pm St John, Prairie Hill
Thurs – St Matthew WELCA Quilting & Bible Study 9am-12am
Sun Jan 31 – St Matthew Choir practice 8:00
Worship 8:30 am St Matthew
Sunday Schools @ 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am Immanuel

Congratulations to Parents

Daisy Faye, daughter born to Nathan & Mindy Wellmann on Jan. 15
 Garrett Lynn, son born to Jason & Tanya Hupe on Jan. 17

Immanuel Volunteer as a Lay Visitor

A sign up sheet is in the Parish House to sign up for this important ministry.

Immanuel General Meeting today after service Pot Luck Meal to follow
Immanuel WELCA General Meeting after meal

Special Offering

We are taking a special offering today for Lutheran World Relief – Haiti. Make check to St Matthew or Immanuel with Haiti in the memo portion.

Volunteers Serving in the Community

Lay Visitors – Immanuel – Delivering bulletins
 Please support these disciples and our shut-ins with your prayers. Nadine Rau and Dot Yawn are serving in January.
 Senior Meals - Those delivering meals for Washington County Healthy Living Association from both Immanuel and St Matthew this week are Ruth Kelling and Laura Fischer.

Bible Study

1:00 pm bible study at Immanuel will not meet. Members are invited to the home of Clint & Winnie Boriack at 6:00 to view a DVD about God's creation.

St Matthew WELCA Quilting and Bible Study

Thursday, Jan 28 9 am -12 noon
 All who are coming for bible study, please bring your bible and a dish to share.

Tri-Synodical Conference

Pastor Abbot will attend the Tri-Synodical Theological Conference in San Antonio Jan 24-26.

.Keeping in Touch

Pastor Abbott:
Call - 251-4992 - Pastor Abbott's cell phone –
E-Mail pastorabbott@earthlink.net – for Pastor Abbott
St Matthew: Call - 836-8894 – the office @ St Matthew
E-mail - smichurch@hotmail.com
Website – stmatthewbrenham.org
Immanuel: Call - 836-6780 – the office @ Immanuel.
E-mail - smichurch@hotmail.com

Members in Nursing Homes or shut in...

Margaret Heideman Lorena Randermann
Louise Bell Loesch Mary Helen Cade Bob Eccleston
Alfred Gaskamp Nelda Gaskamp Martha Clough

Those seeing doctors, continuing treatments and/or recovering from surgery...

Trenton Stewart Barbara Hollis Don Bolenbarr
Tim Wellmann Mike Hodges Betty Watson
Don Goodwin Bob Eccleston Carrie Scheffer

In our extended family...

The full prayer list is in the January newsletter. Those listed below have been added or updated in the last few weeks. If you want someone added or wish to report their improvements, please let Pastor Abbott know, 251-4992

Robert Terrian – son-in-law of Ed & Sylvia Dannhaus
Lauren Davis – friend of many
David Ryan Fuller – friend of Pam Schroeder
Doris Jankowiak – friend of many
Shawn Presnell – Barbara Hollis' daughter
Ray Goehring – Barbara Hollis's brother
Leroy Boenker – cousin of Renee Lambert
Gregory Rybarski – brother of Christie Schroeder
Michael Danford – nephew of Doris and Bob Burk
Levi Luvaas – father of Marlene Randermann
Donald Carter – son of Barbara Hollis
Ruby McLain - Aunt of Barbara Kramer & Dorothy Schulte
Jenny Sebastian – Amanda (Wellmann) Sebastian's sister in law
Katherine Kenjura - Edna Schroeder's niece
Bonnie Benkowski – friend of many
Louese Teer – Aunt of Trochelle Ray
Jocine Hanath – Friend of Stanley Sommer
Wayman Bradley – brother of Don Bradley
Jimbo Hardin – nephew of Pauline Hodges
Frank Dickschat – uncle of Renee Lambert
Butch Kevorkian - Philip Kelling's biological father
Carson Leslie – friend of Bill & Dot Yawn
Bobbie Oberhoff – son of Anita Oberhoff
Doris Meyer – mother of Bobby Meyer
Imogene Macat – grandmother of Deanna Scheffer

Thanksgiving for Improvements...

Mildred Moehlmann
Raleigh Wellmann