

St Matthews Service

Rev. Christopher LaBoube

January 17, 2021

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

"Trust in the Lord with all our heart, and lean not on our own understanding. In all you ways, acknowledge him and he will direct your path." **(Proverbs 3:5-6)**

ACTIVE
CHRISTIANS
TOGETHER
IN
OUTREACH
&
NURTURE



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

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2nd Sunday after the Epiphany
17 January 2021

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Mapleton, IA

1 Samuel 3:1–20 / Psalm 139:1–10 / 1 Corinthians 6:12–20 / John 1:43–51

Sermon Title: The Word of the Lord was Rare

Sermon Text: 1 Samuel 3:1-20

“Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father, and our LORD Jesus Christ.” (2 Tim. 1:2) Amen.

Today is the Second Sunday after the Epiphany. We’re going to look at our Old Testament lesson from First Samuel chapter 3. Just to help us remember, Samuel was the son of Elkanah and Hannah. They were from “Ramathaim-zophim of the hill country of Ephraim.” Ramathaim-zophim was about 22 miles north of Jerusalem. The fact that Samuel’s dad, Elkanah, was from this town, indicates that he was descended from a Levitical family.

The Levites were the men, who were set apart by God to serve him in the tabernacle in the desert and then to serve God in the temple in Jerusalem. Since Elkanah was a Levite, his son, Samuel, would also be a Levite. And, in our reading today we see how Samuel grew into his ministry as a servant of God Most High.

“Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. ² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. ³ The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.” (1 Samuel 3:1-3)

Our Old Testament lesson today features Samuel, who is considered the last judge of the Israelites. After Samuel led the people by God’s direction and Word for many years, the Israelites wanted to have a king rule and guide them—just like their heathen neighbors. Samuel told them this would be a really bad move on their part, but God agreed this was what needed to happen. So Samuel ended the line of judges, and then with God’s direction, Samuel anoints Saul, who begins the line of kings, who will rule over Israel.

The boy Samuel lived at the temple with Eli and Eli’s sons. They slept in a one of the rooms off of the main worship hall. According to God’s instruction back in Leviticus, candles were to be lit—they used olive oil to keep them burning all night long. Then, in the morning, the oil would be replenished to keep the candles burning.

Samuel was probably about 12 years old since that was the age that Israelite boys were supposed to be start learning how to participate in the Jewish festivals and traditions. Samuel was basically an apprentice—an intern—learning how to become a priest.

At the beginning of our text, it says that the Word of the Lord was rare in those days. God had previously sent prophets to preach and teach the truth of message of salvation. In the days when Eli

was the high priest, it seems that there was an unwillingness from any of the people to hear anything from God, so therefore God did not share his message with those people. They didn't want to hear from God, so God didn't share anything with them. Sad, but true.

Now maybe you think, that the fact that God didn't share his message with the people was not a problem. But it was a problem, because when the people don't know God and what he desires for them, then they will continue to live in ignorance and behave however they want—which was often contrary to what God desires.

So, when God actually calls Samuel and initiates Samuel to begin full-time pastoral ministry, Samuel doesn't recognize God's voice, because up to this point in his life he had never heard from God—nor had he seen the Priest Eli hear from God.

This text always makes me think a little bit. Is the Word of God rare today? For many people, yes, the Word of God is rare. Some people in our country have turned away from the Word of God and have refused to acknowledge God.

Other people hunger and thirst for God's Word. They gather in God's House to receive from him all that they can drink up from him. When people stop knowing God—when people refuse to know God—when people reject God—then things only go from bad to worse.

We see this all throughout the Old Testament, in particular especially in books of First and Second Kings. When one king prayed and asked God for guidance and direction, God helped them. When another king didn't care about God and looked to pagan things in this world to answer his questions, God did not help them—and sometimes God hindered them.

So, Samuel, a young pastoral intern, is serving in the temple. He's done his daily tasks—tending the candles—closing the church doors—tidying things up—and then he goes to bed. After has been asleep for a while, he hears someone call his name and he concludes that it's the Priest Eli, who is his teacher and mentor.

“⁴ Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, ‘Here I am!’⁵ and ran to Eli and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call; lie down again.’ So he went and lay down. ⁶ And the LORD called again, ‘Samuel!’ and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call, my son; lie down again.’ ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, ‘Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, “Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.”’ So Samuel went and lay down in his place.” (1 Samuel 3:4-10)

God is patient in calling Samuel, and God is patient in calling you. God desired a relationship with Samuel, and God desires a relationship with you. Have you ever been so in tune with God that the Holy Spirit would remind you of a Bible verse or the line of a song? Up to this point in his life, Samuel had no such experience, but he eventually would grow in his faith to know more about God every day, and to hear him when he called.

Has God ever brought to mind a person, who you haven't seen in years? That's the work of the Holy Spirit in you. You get to a point in which you are really in-tune to God and hear him by being immersed in God's Word.

Develop a habit and slowly immerse yourself in God's Word. Pray and ask God—help me to

know you more—help me to understand your Word more—help me to know what to pray for. God hears your prayers and he knows what’s in your heart. He wants that relationship between you and him to get stronger every day.

Samuel had no clue that God was calling him. It took God calling Samuel three times for the Priest Eli to finally realize that God wanted to talk to Samuel. Eli told him to go back to bed, and what to say if God called him again.

“¹⁰ And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant hears.’ ¹¹ Then the LORD said to Samuel, ‘Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. ¹² On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³ And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴ Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.’” (1 Samuel 3:10-14)

Samuel was a pastoral intern. He was learning everything he needed to know to keep the temple operating. That was all well and good, but one thing was missing—God’s Word. Eli had not taught Samuel God’s Word so Samuel was simply going through the motions.

Do you ever just go through the motions when it comes to church? When it comes to reading or listening to God’s Word? Sometimes we put ourselves on autopilot and we just do and say what’s expected without thinking about anything in the process.

Being on autopilot as a Christian gets you nowhere. Sure, it looks to outsiders as though you’re doing really well, when in fact you are not doing well—you’re sad—you’re frustrated—you’re discouraged—you’re disconnected.

This is where being completely immersed in God’s Word comes into play. When you eat a couple of Oreos, you feel really good. You’re enjoying them. Then you eat a couple more Oreos, and soon you’ve eaten a whole row of Oreos in the pack. Eventually, you might get full and have to quit, but you still enjoyed eating all those Oreos.

Our bodies crave certain things—fruits and vegetables—meat and beans. The same goes for your heart, soul and spirit. Your spiritual life craves things, too—namely, God’s Word. God’s Word in a printed Bible or an audio Bible. God’s Word in Christ-centered music. God’s Word in a prayer book. When you read or listen to the Bible and it satisfies you—just as eating all those Oreos satisfies you—you usually want more, and I pray that you’ll feed your heart, soul and spirit with the living and active Word of God.

Here in our Old Testament lesson, we see that Samuel—who is hearing from God for the first time—hears a terrible message—that his teacher and mentor, the Priest Eli, and his family—will not live much longer. Talk about a first-time message from God—that your teacher and his family will not live to a ripe old age! And yet, God knew what he was doing and this was the message that Samuel was to give to the Priest Eli.

“¹⁵ Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶ But Eli called Samuel and said, ‘Samuel, my son.’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ ¹⁷ And Eli said, ‘What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.’ ⁸ So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, ‘It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to

him.” (1 Samuel 3:15-18)

So, Samuel tells his mentor and teacher everything God had told him. And listen again to how Eli responds: “*And [Eli] said, ‘It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him.’*” For a priest, who neglected to discipline his sons, Eli surely sounds repentant. The Priest Eli recognizes that God is still in control—even when he has not fulfilled his responsibilities as a father. Eli acknowledges that he has sinned against God and against his sons, by not disciplining his sons, as God told him to do.

Have you ever been in that kind of situation? You were responsible for carrying out discipline on your child—or maybe even a worker—and yet you didn’t do what you were supposed to do? Maybe you didn’t discipline the child or a worker, because you thought it would hurt the other person. Maybe you thought that what actually happened didn’t deserve discipline.

And yet, that is not how God sees things. “*For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.*” (Hebrews 12:11) God disciplines us, because it is for our good—so that we can grow from what we did wrong. The same goes for disciplining your child—or an employee. The other person will not grow and learn if you never discipline.

Sadly, though, it seems too many people today think that any sort of discipline will simply squelch all life and encouragement from the child. That’s absolutely false. In fact, children love to know what the rules are—how far they can push—so that they can feel secure and comfortable in those boundaries.

⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness.” (Hebrews 12:7-10)

All throughout the Old and New Testaments, God allows his people to be disciplined so that we can grow in the grace and knowledge of what Jesus has done for you and me and all people. . “*For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.*” (Hebrews 12:11)

Samuel was initially being trained by the Priest Eli to know how to manage the temple—keeping the candles lit—opening and closing the temple doors—tending to the logistics of preparing the temple for people to come and worship God. As we see from our text, God then called Samuel into full-time pastoral ministry through this initial message for this teacher and mentor, the Priest Eli.

¹⁹And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD. ²¹And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.” (1 Samuel 3:15-21)

Our text then concludes by telling us how Samuel grew into his pastoral ministry, preaching and teaching his people God’s Word. “*¹⁹And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was*

established as a prophet of the LORD.” Everyone knew that Samuel was a prophet, who studied under the Priest Eli. After Eli passed away, everyone listened to Samuel, because the Word of the Lord was with him. Amen.

Now, may the peace of God which transcends all understanding guard and keep your hearts in Christ Jesus. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to our church for the gift of such delicious cookies that was given to myself and my son Al, it was much appreciated. Ruth Bruhn.

ATTENTION: We have coats & some winterwear at church, if you have a child or know of a child needing a coat please come and check out our coats. After 2 weeks they will be donated to Goodwill.

The ladies of St. Matthew distributed 78 plates of cookies to area people in the community and our service people. Thank you to the ladies that baked and helped in any way to this project.
Joan Chandler, Outreach Director

St Matthew Lutheran Church thank these people for their dedication of their service to their Lord this past year 2020. Please take time to thank these people because they are serving our Lord and Savior. This takes dedication and time out of their schedules. Think of a way that you can serve your church and Jesus. Zola started with those quilting from Jan. 2020 and after. Please let us know if you were left out, it was not intentional. Plus many people donated supplies to this mission. They produce a lot of warm blankets for people in need.

Alice Masters	Deloris Gosch	Donna Shaw
Fern Jacobson	Gwen Clemon	Joan Chandler
Janeal Holmes	Lin Scott	Marlene Phillips
Margo Redford	Karen Krusen	Nazaria Kaderabek
NiKay Schaeffer	Patsy Seiroe (Ute)	Ramona Weber
Shirley Scoles	Wayne Kafton	Zola Kafton

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PARAMENTS ON OUR ALTAR:

Color is everywhere. Color is God's way of filling his world with beauty and giving pleasure to those who live in this colorful world. Christians, for centuries, have used color in divine worship to emphasize the redemptive action of God through his Son. Color's Purpose However, color and its bright message can easily be taken for granted or mistaken in its purpose. The paraments, vestments, altar clothes, banners, traditionally employed each Sunday, must be seen as more than an attempt to decorate, or give accent to the chancel. That is, no doubt, the view of some. It's true; interior design and decoration are important. But a greater service is demanded of our liturgical colors than merely making the surroundings "pretty." Furthermore, when altar paraments are used year after year without much attention given to their message, as well as their care, the pastor, along with his faithful altar guild would do well to throw away the key to the sacristy and refrain from using those altar cloth "decorations." Frequent instruction about the church year and its corresponding colors must go hand in hand with its weekly use

Color, like music, plays an important role in the life of God's worshiping people. Just as music is the "handmaiden to theology," liturgical color complements the message of the seasons and occasions during the church year. Taking a familiar seat in the nave of his/her chapel preceding worship on any given Sunday, the worshiper's emotions and intellect are immediately engaged by color. Liturgical colors aid in establishing a climate in which Law and Gospel may be heard and received. Color allows us to see the Light of Life, Jesus Christ. It serves to communicate the message of salvation. And communicate it does when it reinforces a specific "colorful" chapter in the life of our Lord and his church, retold annually by the church calendar.

Symbolism of Colors It is appropriate, from time to time, to take a thoughtful and fresh look at the colors that are displayed throughout the church year. In the end, we admit, the use of paraments, vestments, altar clothes, banners is an adiaphoron. Even the symbolism behind the traditional colors is somewhat arbitrary and open to additional interpretations as generations pass. The primary source and guarantor of their meanings is tradition. However, the important thing to remember is why we retain this traditional liturgical standard. The value of the "Bg-BgsPwr" color scheme rests in their purpose: to serve God's worshiping community by assisting in communicating the holy faith from generation to generation. In every age, the beauty and symbolism of color in the church continues to serve us exceptionally well!

Green, comes next in the acronym and is by far the most common color seen during the year. *Lutheran Service Book* calls for its use during the seasons of Epiphany and Pentecost. The first Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox (March 21), also known as Easter Sunday, determines the length of these two seasons. The days of Epiphany may entail a total of, but not more than, eight Sundays. The season of Pentecost, on the other hand, can last from 22 to 28 Sundays. **Green** is the appointed color for all but a few of the Sundays during these seasons. Consequently, **green** may be used an average of six to eight months of any given liturgical year! Epiphany's message of Christ's revelation to the Gentiles along with the season's traditional emphasis on extending Christ's kingdom through missions, calls for the use of **green**—the color symbolic of growth. The Sundays following Pentecost, observed as "the time of the church," share a somewhat similar theme as that of Epiphany. Affectionately called the season of the "**green meadow**," no doubt due to the fact of **green** being the established color, these Sundays also emphasize the subject of growth. **Green** is a neutral color, but there is nothing colorless about our need to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ. That's why the "**green meadow**" time of the church year is so lengthy. Time must be given to encourage all worshipers to maintain their faith through the constant use of God's means of grace. A helpful suggestion for congregations observing summer and fall months with one neutral color, would be to invest time and effort in obtaining several sets of **green** paraments. Variety and change in shades of this color would go a long way in keeping the season fresh and "**green**." Changing the paraments every six weeks would complement the Sundays following Pentecost and their emphasis on personal faith that is living and growing.

Douglas K. Escue—pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Originally published in *Lutheran Worship Notes*, Issue 29, 1994.

The Double-Edged Sword



THE CLOSE OF THE COMMANDMENTS

What does God say of all these commandments? He says: "I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments."

What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments. (Exodus 20:5b-6)

FOR SHARING

1. G. K. Chesterton wrote, "When people cease to believe in God, they don't believe in nothing; they believe in anything." In what ways have his words come true in today's world?
2. The Close of the Commandments reminds us, as Luther notes, that the Law is a "serious matter to God." How do we often trivialize God's commandments by our words and actions?
3. "The Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword" (Hebrews 4:12). Describe how the Bible speaks to us through Law and Gospel.
4. Jesus is the "fulfillment of the Law" (Matthew 5:17-18). How does His perfect obedience and His sacrificial death comfort you in dealing with your temptations and failures?
5. Though we always preach and teach the Law, why is it important that the Gospel of forgiveness, life, and salvation predominate?

PRAYER

God's Word is our great heritage And shall be ours forever,
To spread its light from age to age Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way, In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, We keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations. Amen.

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAY

Name		Baptism
Andre	Robert	Jan 17, 1947
Bruhn	Presley	Jan 10, 2010
Bruhn	Hudson	Jan 22, 2012
Else	James	Jan 1, 1954
Holmes	Janeal	Jan 20, 1952
McGrain	Erika	Jan 29, 1994
Namanny	Melinda	Jan 22, 1989
Schmidt	Paige	Jan 22, 2006
Schmidt	Kurt	Jan 4, 1981
Schrader	Selma	Jan 26, 1930



We are listing
Baptismal birthdays
to remember and
celebrate the day we were
adopted into the family of God
through the washing of the Holy
Spirit.

BIRTHDAYS

Name		Birthday
Andre	Robert	Jan 17, 1947
Brodersen	Kaylee	Jan 31, 2005
Bruhn	Jessica	Jan 14, 1986
Dose	Florice	Jan 9, 1935 86
Dose	Carol	Jan 22, 1934 87
Gosch	Myrna	Jan 9, 1941 80
Goslar	Marshall	Jan 31, 1973
Gronwoldt	Virgil	Jan 3, 1961
Kuehl	Judy	Jan 23, 1945
Namanny	Melinda	Jan 25, 1958
Miller	Tari	Jan 7, 1994
Phillips	Marlene	Jan 17, 1936 85
Pithan	Derek	Jan 14, 2013
Pithan	Emma	Jan 8, 2009
Schmidt	Paige	Jan 11, 2006
Schmidt	Troy	Jan 27, 2009
Witzel	Lavone	Jan 31, 1938 83
Hamann	Katelynn	Jan 1, 1992



Dennis & Pam Jahn	01-05-1975	46 yrs.
Christopher & Christina LaBoube	01-10-2015	6 yrs.
Hans & Lavone Witzel	01-06-1957	64 yrs.



NEEDED /WEEK	\$3,225.02
TOTAL GIVING (01-10-21)	No Report
SUNDAY ATTENDANCE (01-10-21)	43
VISITORS (01-10-21)	19
SUNDAY COMMUNED (01-10-21)	NA
BIBLE CLASS (01-10-21)	17
SUNDAY SCHOOL (01-10-21)	0

	Week of Schedule 01-18 to 01-24
Mon (18)	Pastor's Family Day
Wed (20)	Confirmation Class 6 pm to 7 pm Helping Hands, at 1:00 to 4 pm
Sun (24)	3rd Sun. after Epiphany; Church Services 9:30 am Bible Class 10:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am

Please continue to pray for our church leaders.



"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." **Romans 12:12**

Pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

PRAYER WARRIORS— The prayer warriors desire to hear from you as to how they can pray for you. We have 14 prayer warriors. We welcome more men and women to join us. if you need prayer call **Alice Miller** phone number 712-880-2380.

Members of St. Matthew with Special Needs and Concerns

Nazaria Kaderabek
Selma Schrader
Myrna Gosch
Alan Bruhn

Bud Dose
Jerry Albers
Delores Gosch

Carol Dose
Lavonne Witzel
Kathy Trucke

Family / Friends of Members with Special Needs and Concerns

Sheri Heilman— Sue Oberg's sister; **Ron Kraffle** friend of Marla & Joe Hogan; **Richard Swain**, neighbor of Karen and Jeff Krusen; **Jim Kueny**, Karen's husband **Lynn Smith** friend of Marla and Joe Hogan; **Jazmin Mauch**, granddaughter of Marla and Joe Hogan; **Penny Mauch** friend of Marilyn & Duane Hamann; **Tammy Jean Bramley**, mother of Sam Kelm

Please drop them a line or two, they love getting mail and they would love hearing from their church family.

Bonnie Banks 86 yrs. Jun 2, 1934
Main Street Apartments
516 Main Street Apt 2
Mapleton, IA 51034

George Koithan 88 yrs. Sept. 2, 1932
1726 Marcella Heights
Carroll, IA 51040

Delores Boysen 81 yrs. Mar. 5, 1939
31153 Juinter Ave
Hinton, IA 51024

Delbert Kroll 87 yrs. Jun. 1, 1933
Ring Street
Mapleton IA 51034

Myrna Gosch 79 yrs. Jan 9, 1941
Pleasant View Care Center
200 Shannon Dr. Rm #108
Whiting, IA 51063

Phyllis Fick 92 yrs. Jun 3, 1928
Willow Dale Care—Assisted Living
404 1st St.
Battle Creek, IA 51006

Carol Dose 86 yrs. Jan. 22, 1934
Sunrise Ave.
Maple Heights Nursing Home

**** indicates a new address**

Spread the Fruits of the Spirit:

Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Gentleness, Kindness, Self-Control, Goodness, and Faithfulness. You will be rewarded

These are addresses of God's people needing prayers and we could also send them a card telling them we are thinking about them, showing them that we care. That would brighten their day.

Nazaria Kaderabek
310 S. 6th St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Selma Schrader
21 Ohm Drive
Mapleton, IA 51034

Delores Gosch
202 S. 2nd St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Sheri Heilman
(Sue Oberg's sister)
1721 Lincoln Street
Great Bend, KS 67530

Charles (Bud) Dose
302 N. 2nd Ave.
Anthon, IA 51004

Lavonne Witzel
36252 Co. Hwy E 34
Castana, IA 51010

Richard Swain
407 S. 5th Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

Jim Kueny
707 Oak St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Carol Dose
1 Sunrise Ave.
Maple Heights Nursing
Home
Mapleton, IA 51034

Myrna Gosch
Pleasant Care Center
200 Shannon Dr.
Whiting, IA 51063

Alan Bruhn
14535 Walnut Ave
Mapleton, IA 51034

Tammy Bramley
42715 210th St.
Ute, IA 51060

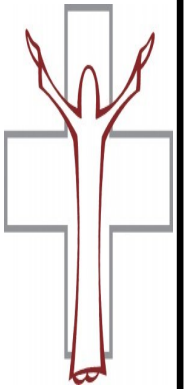
Jerry Albers
1313 Maple Street
Onawa, IA 51040

Kathy Trucke
303 S 7th Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

Lynne Smith: chose to
not publish
Jazmin Mauch: chose
to not publish
Ron Kraffle: chose to
not publish

God
is watching
over you.
I know because
I asked
Him to

Elnora Jane Dose, age 85, of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa (formerly of Mapleton, Iowa), passed away on Monday, January 11, 2021, at the Embassy Rehab & Care Center of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa. A Funeral Service will be held at 1:00 p.m., Monday, January 18, 2021, at the St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Mapleton, Iowa. Rev. Chris LaBoube will officiate. Committal Services will follow in the Mount Hope Cemetery of Mapleton, Iowa. A Visitation will be held prior to the service from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., on Monday, January 18, 2021, at the St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Mapleton, Iowa. Our Sympathies to the family of Elnora may they find comfort in John 11: 25-26 *"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."*



Give the office a call or the Pastor...

Before going to hospital

Private communion

Desire to serve your Lord through the Church

Need a ride to a Dr's appt

Address or name changes

Entering armed services

Death in the family

Need of a visit

Birth of your baby

Making wedding plans

Faith Step: Ask Jesus for opportunities this week to share His comfort and to point others toward Him.



St Matthew Lutheran Church
504 Walnut Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

LET'S STAY CONNECTED OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO CONTINUE TO FILL UP WITH JESUS BY

READING AND LISTENING TO THE BIBLE: **St. Matthew Lutheran Church Service** at 9:30 am every Sunday at the church. Facebook page-.St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton- Our services at 9:30 am every Sunday website: www.stmatthewmapleton.org – Our services posted weekly **Mission Central...** www.missioncentral.us **Lutheran Family Service:** www.lfsiowa.org **WEB SITES:** Iowa District West—www.idwlcms.org Camp Okoboji – www.campokoboji.org **“THY STRONG WORD”** is a daily devotion airing at 6:25 am Monday through Saturday on KDSN (104.9 FM) **“THE LUTHERAN HOUR”** can be heard every Sunday on radio station—KDSN -FM (104.9) at 6:30 am and 1530 at 10:30 am. It is available 24 hours a day on the internet in Real Audio. Visit www.lhm.org and click on the Lutheran Hour on the left side of the page **“THE GOOD SHEPHEARD HOUR”** airs on the following stations every Sunday: 8 am Fort Dodge-KVFD 1400 AM; 8 am Sioux City—KSCJ 1360 AM; 10:30 am Storm Lake—KAYL 101.5 FM **Lutheran Family Services:** www.lofsiowa.org **MainStreet Living**— is a Television Program that is endorsed by the Iowa West District of the LCMS This program is broadcast on KCAU, the ABC network affiliate in Sioux City on Sunday morning, starting at 10:00 AM. The first 30 minutes are remastered episode of “This is the Life” The second half of the program is a modified Lutheran worship service that features a different Pastor each week, from the area.



Lord, I set my heart on You. You are trustworthy, faithful and the Giver of the gift of peace. Please fill me this Christmas season. As others see Your peace in me, let them recognize You as Savior. In Jesus' Name, Amen.