



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

St Matthews Service

Rev. Christopher LaBoube

April 11, 2021

"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 of Easter
11 April 2021

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Mapleton, IA
Acts 4:32–35 / Psalm 148 / 1 John 1:1—2:2 / John 20:19–31

Sermon Title: “*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.*”

Sermon Text: John 20:19-31

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

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia! Last Sunday we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. That was a glorious worship service. Last Sunday also started another season in the church year calendar—the Easter Season. The Easter Season started last week and runs fifty days through May 22nd.

Today, on this Second Sunday of the Easter Season, we’re going to look at our Gospel lesson which talks about what happened after Jesus was raised from the dead. “¹⁹ *On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’*” ²⁰ *When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.*” ²¹ *Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’*” ²² *And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.*” ²³ *If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.’*” (John 20:19-23)

Just a reminder of the situation we were in last week. Jesus and the twelve disciples met in the second-story room of a house in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover Meal. Scripture tells us that the disciples used that large room as a central location to eat meals, sleep and visit with one another.

Our text picks up right after Jesus had died and was buried in a tomb by Joseph of Arimathea. The disciples were a little nervous—a little concerned—actually Scripture says that they were afraid that some of their fellow Jews would attack them—threaten them because of the empty tomb and those disciples saying that Jesus had been raised from the dead.

While the disciples were gathered in that upper room, feeling nervous and afraid, something totally unexpected and amazing happened. “¹⁹ *On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’*” ²⁰ *When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.*” ²¹ *Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’*” ²² *And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.*” ²³ *If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.’*” (John 20:19-23)

While the disciples were trying to keep a low profile for the next several days following Jesus’

death, Jesus makes a grand entrance into that same room where he had just a couple of days earlier eaten his last meal with his disciples.

“Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’”

That would have been totally unexpected! Seeing Jesus standing there in their midst—especially since Jesus did not walk through the door—which was locked! Jesus appeared out of nowhere to his disciples. He greeted them: *‘Peace be with you.’* Then, he shows his disciples his pierced hands and feet to prove that he had been crucified a couple of days earlier.

While the disciples are still in shock, Jesus again greets them a second time: *‘Peace be with you.’*

Jesus also gives them new instructions: *²¹ Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’ ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.’”*

Here Jesus gives the command and authority for leaders in the church—specifically pastors and priests—to go into all the world to spread the Good News about this resurrected Jesus, and to encourage people to confess their sins and to receive God’s gracious forgiveness in absolution.

This is what we learn in the Small Catechism about Confession and the Office of the Keys. *“What is the Office of the Keys?* The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

“What do you believe according to these words? I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.”

So Jesus breathes on the disciples and gives them authority to preach and teach God’s Word and more importantly to encourage people to go through Confession and Absolution—to confess their sins and to receive God’s forgiveness for their sins.

“²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.’” (John 20:24-25)

John’s Gospel continues by talking about how Thomas, one of the disciples, had not been with the rest of the disciples when Jesus first appeared to them on the evening of that first day that Jesus had been resurrected from the dead.

It’s good that this part about Thomas is in the Bible. There are a lot of people in this world, who doubt things about God—who don’t believe in God—who struggle to believe what the Bible says. Of course, doubt and struggling to believe in Jesus has been part of humanity since our first parents—Adam and Eve were kicked out of the Garden of Eden.

I think it’s good that we see Thomas’ doubt here in the Bible so that we can know that even

among the disciples—the men, who walked and learned with Jesus for three years—there was occasional doubt. In our text, Thomas wants proof.

“²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.’” (John 20:24-25)

And there is nothing wrong with wanting proof that Jesus has been raised from the dead. Of course, today, we can’t see Jesus sitting with us here in church. We can’t see his nail-pierced side, hands and feet. We simply take all of this by faith. *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”* (Ephesians 2:8)

But for Thomas’ sake, Jesus comes and appears to his disciples a week later. *“²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.’ ²⁸ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ ²⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’”* (John 20:26-29)

Here Jesus appears to his disciples a second time just as he appeared to them a week earlier. Again, Jesus greets them the same way: *‘Peace be with you.’* It’s wonderful that in our Gospel lesson this morning, Jesus greets his disciples THREE TIMES with the phrase: *‘Peace be with you.’*

Jesus is, after all, the Prince of Peace. True, lasting peace only comes from Jesus. And we live in a day and age in which many of us need to experience—need to live in *“...the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”* (Philippians 4:7)

And you can experience—you can live in that peace from God—by being in his Word every day. Listening or reading the Bible every day—filling up with Jesus. When you fill up with the truth from God’s Word, you will experience God’s peace.

Now, God’s peace is not like being in a sedated situation in which your mind is totally blank. Living in God’s peace happens when you are not wound up—when you’re not weighed down—by the cares of this world. Instead, living in God’s peace happens when you move through the challenging times of our daily lives and are able to stay focused on Jesus the entire time.

So after Thomas sees Jesus standing bodily in front of him, Jesus invites Thomas to put his hand in his nail-pierced side and to believe that God the Father had raised Jesus from the dead. *²⁸ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ ²⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’”* (John 20:26-29)

I like what Jesus says AFTER Thomas’ sincere confession that Jesus IS who he says he is. Jesus IS the Messiah, who was promised from the beginning of time, to come into this world to save us from our sins. *²⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’”*

This is where you and I come into this scenario. None of us have ever seen Jesus bodily. Jesus has never appeared to any of us, and yet before Jesus ascended into heaven four days after he was raised from the dead, Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit to live in us and to teach us all that we need to

know about God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. ’’ This is where faith comes in. *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”* (Ephesians 2:8)

Jesus says in John’s Gospel, that since you believe in God our Heavenly Father, then it should be easy to also believe in Jesus, the Son of God Most High. And Jesus invites you to take all of this by FAITH. Faith is simply believing in something that you cannot see or touch.

Sadly, too many today demand tangible proof that God exists. And actually there is proof all around us—and yet, many people disregard such proof. First, you’re alive and breathing today. God woke you up and gave you breath in your lungs again this day.

Second, *“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.”* (Psalm 19:1) All around us we can see evidence that God exists. If you like to think that everything you see, touch and smell came into existence by accident, then you are not seeing God’s work.

“³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” (John 20:30-31)

John finishes this section by pointing out that Jesus did a number of miraculous signs in front of many different people, who can testify that what Jesus did. Jesus did these signs for OUR benefit—not to prove himself who he is.

We need to overcome our doubts about who Jesus is. This is why we need proof that Jesus is who he says he is. The Bible is chock full of proof of who Jesus is. Of course, if you believe that the Bible is just a fictional novel, then you’ll never see Jesus.

The Meaning of the Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed explains more about how you come to believe in God. “I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, // or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, // enlightened me with His gifts, // sanctified and kept me in the true faith.”

This is how I come to believe in God. The Holy Spirit creates faith in me, and then continues to help grow my faith. The Holy Spirit helps me grow my faith when I read or listen to the Bible regularly—when I regularly pray and confess my sins and receive God’s forgiveness.

When I read or listen to God’s Word regularly, then I am filling up with Jesus. And this is how John ends this section of his letter. *“³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”* (John 20:30-31)

God’s Word gives life. God’s Word is for you. Take it to heart—literally. Pray and ask God to teach you from the Bible so that you can grow in the grace and knowledge of what Jesus has done for you in your life through his death and resurrection. To God be the glory now and forever. Amen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"The Church will have a Congregational Voter's Meeting on 25 April. An election will be held to vote for new Board Members for several key billets on the Board of Directors. Please ensure that you exercise your right to vote and be a voice. See you on the 25th."



Camp Okoboji April 16-17: Higher Things Retreat for grades 7-12 starts at 8 p.m. Friday and ends at 2:30 p.m. Saturday. **HIGHER THINGS RETREAT** Higher Things exists to support the church in passing on the faith by teaching the next generation the Gospel of Jesus Christ: that they are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, as revealed in Scripture alone. For additional information contact Izaak Wendorff, Discipleship Director at izaak.campokoboji@gmail.com, or (712) 337-3325 or go to www.campokoboji.org; Program Resources; Camp Schedule: Higher Things Retreat.

Camp Okoboji are in need of additional Summer Staff for 2021 Are there high school juniors, seniors and college age youth that are looking for summer employment and an opportunity to serve others? The Camp is offering payroll plus full room and board for the summer. Please contact Izaak Wendorff Discipleship Director or Kirk Warnke, Executive Director at (712) 337-3325 or izaak.campokoboji@gmail.com or kirk.campokoboji@gmail.com

APRIL 17TH, 2021 Bingo Mapleton Community Building Meal served from 4:30 pm –6:30 pm Staley's Chicken Dinner. 2 pc chicken,, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn and a cookie. Minimum \$10,00 donation per meal. To go and dine in available. Drive through available in the alley. Enter in

		NEEDED /WEEK	\$3,225.02
		Sunday Giving 04-04-21	\$3,275.00
		Easter Breakfast	\$254.00
		Sunday attendance 04-04-21	55
		Children in Church 04-04-21	4
		Visitors 04-04-21	12
		Bible Class 04-04-21	0
		Sunday School 04-04-21	0
		Maundy Thursday Giving 04-01-21	\$625.00
		Maundy Thursday attendance 04-01-21	25
		Good Friday Giving 04-02-21	\$955.00
		Good Friday attendance 04-02-21	20
<u>Week of Schedule 04-12 to 04-18</u>			
Mon (12)	Pastor's Family Day		
Tue (13)	Board of Directors 7 pm Circuit Pastor Meet 8 am to 12 N		
Wed (14)	Confirmation Class 6 pm to 7 pm Helping Hands, at 1:00 to 4 pm		
Sun (18)	3rd Sunday of Easter Services 9:30 am w/ Holy Communion Bible Class 10:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am		



Lord and Giver of Life

THE APOSTLES' CREED—THE THIRD ARTICLE

I believe in the Holy Spirit, ...

What does this mean? I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:3)

FOR SHARING

1. "The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God'" (Psalm 14:1). What reasons do people give for *not* believing in God?
2. "You were dead in your transgressions and sins" (Ephesians 2:1). What do St. Paul's words convey about the human condition apart from Christ? What evidence do you see of "spiritual death" in the world?
3. The Holy Spirit, Luther notes, *calls* and *enlightens* people by the Gospel. What comfort do you have in knowing your salvation and conversion are God's work from start to finish?
4. The Holy Spirit, Jesus promised, "will testify about Me" (John 15:26). What has the Spirit brought you to know and believe about Jesus and His plan for your life?
5. The Holy Spirit is not a one-time gift from God, but rather a gift that keeps on giving: He sanctifies and keeps us in the true faith. Tell about the work of the Spirit in your life today.

PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,
and kindle in them the fire of Your love.

Thank You for calling me to Christ by the Gospel. Keep me in the salvation my Lord has given to me. Bless me with Your presence and grant me a deep trust in my Savior day by day. Help me to share this gift of faith with all people. In Jesus' name. Amen.



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!

White

White is the color of purity and completeness. The theme for the "great fifty days" of Easter is supported by the use of white. This color, used primarily during these Sundays, assists in bearing the message that "though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow." Christ's triumph from the grave on Resurrection day is the cause for our rejoicing. His purity before his Father becomes our purity. White reinforces that message of joy.

In addition to its use during Eastertide, white is the appointed color for such festive Sundays as Christmas and its twelve days; Epiphany (Jan. 6) and the first Sunday following it, observed as the Baptism of Our Lord; the Last Sunday after the Epiphany, also known as Transfiguration Sunday; Holy Trinity Sunday; and twenty-one minor festivals and occasions listed on the church year calendar in *Lutheran Service Book*. In all, white serves as the best festive color for the church year.

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAY

Andre	Wanda	Apr 02, 1950
Bruhn	Hadley	Apr 08, 2018
Bruhn	Cooper	Apr 14, 2013
Dose	Elnora	Apr 17, 1949
Elmquist	Kay	Apr 03, 1938
Goslar	Maverick	Apr 10, 2011
Krusen	Jeff	Apr 06, 1958
Laboube	Rose	Apr 12, 2020
Lafrentz	Rita	Apr 15, 1945
Muckey	Dennis	Apr 16, 1950
Phillips	Marlene	Apr 05, 1936
Scott	Lin	Apr 21, 1946
Scott	Kolby	Apr 03, 2005
Scott	Darrell	Apr 21, 1946



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
Brown	Brian	Apr 05, 1962
Chandler	Joan	Apr 30, 1944
Goslar	Jennifer	Apr 17, 1975
Goslar	Les	Apr 18, 1948
Goslar	Darren	Apr 27, 1983
Kafton	Zola	Apr 02, 1943
Kafton	Wayne	Apr 27, 1942
Scheer	Weston	Apr 22, 2015
Scott	Darrell	Apr 16, 1945
Wunschel	Kathy	Apr 27, 1958

God's Blessings 80 +yr. Birthdays

Conyers	Robert	Apr 24, 1936	85
Dose	Darlene	Apr 24, 1934	87
Means	Freda	Apr 03, 1927	94
Thies	Maxine	Apr 28, 1937	84

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

God's Blessings



Jeff and Karen Krusen	Apr 06, 1979	42
Gary and Maxine Thies	Apr 18, 1980	41

New Confirmation Class

Will be Confirmed on

May 2, 2021

1. Trista Ohlmeier
2. Chelsey Paulsen
3. Marley Scott

First Name	Last Name	Age	Confirmation
Melvin	Schrader	94	May 12, 1940
Phyllis	Fick	92	Apr. 27, 1941
Freda	Means	93	May 27, 1942
Deloris	Livermore	91	Apr. 25, 1943
Ferne	Jacobson	90	Apr. 05, 1944
George	Koithan	88	May 20, 1945
Ruth	Bruhn	88	Apr. 21, 1946
John	Fick	88	May 19, 1946

*They Stood firm in their faith 75 yrs.
and counting*

Faith Step: Write today's tasks on a piece of paper. At the end of the list, add a short prayer. Commit your day to Jesus and ask Him to direct every part of it.

Morning with Jesus by Rick Hamlin

<u>Give the office a call or the Pastor...</u>		
Before going to hospital	Need a ride to a Dr's appt	Need of a visit
Private communion	Address or name changes	Birth of your baby
Desire to serve your Lord through the Church	Entering armed services	Making wedding plans
	Death in the family	

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	Carol Dose	Selma Schrader	Alan Bruhn
Lavonne Witzel	Myrna Gosch	Mavis Skow	

Family / Friends of Members with Special Needs and Concerns

Sheri Heilman— Sue Oberg's sister; **Ron Kraffle** friend of Marla & Joe Hogan; **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; ; **Cheri Moe**, niece of Dorothy Wessling. **Alan Nielsen** friend of Marilyn & Duane Hamann

Those who serve in the military

Triston Twedt (great-grandson of Alice and the late Keith Miller) serving with the Army @ Ft. Lewis, WA

Ryan Trucke (son of Beth & Ed Trucke, Grandson of Kay and Richard Johnson) serving with U.S. Air Force @ FE Warren AFB in Wyoming.

Jackie Cardwell (niece of Jeff & Karen Krusen) serving U.S. Airforce @ Shepard Air Force Base, Burkburnett TX

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

** indicates a new address

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

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

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

Carol Dose 86 yrs. Jan. 22, 1934
Sunrise Ave.
Maple Heights Nursing Home 51034

****Delores Boysen** 81 yrs. Mar. 5, 1939
3903 S.W. Hollowbrook St.
Bentonville, AR 72712

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

Those on our prayer list:

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

Selma Schrader
21 Ohm Drive
Mapleton, IA 51034

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

Tammy Bramley
42715 210th St.
Ute, IA 51060

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

Alan Bruhn
14535 Walnut Ave
Mapleton, IA 51034

Mavis Skow
102 North 6th Apt #1
Mapleton, IA 51034 10

Spread the Fruits of the Spirit:

*Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Gentleness,
Kindness, Self-Control, Goodness, and
Faithfulness.*

You will be rewarded





St Matthew Lutheran Church
504 Walnut Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

This is the Day that I have made. Rejoice and be glad in it. I understand human frailty, and I know that you can bear the weight of only one day at a time. Do not worry about tomorrow or get stuck in the past. There is abundant Life in My Presence today.

Young, Sarah, 1946, Jesus Calling

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 am 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.



Dear Lord God,
 You loved this world so much that you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too. Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter Sunday, everyday. Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice. Let us have eyes that look upon your grace and rejoice in our salvation. Help us to walk in that mighty grace and tell your good news to the world. All for your glory do we pray, Lord, Amen.