

"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**)

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CHRISTIANS

Together

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OUTREACH

&

Nurture



## St. Matthew Lutheran Church

504 Walnut Mapleton, Iowa 51034

Church Office: 881-2243 Fax: 881-1163 Email: office@stmatthewmapleton.org

websites www.stmatthewmapleton.org

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### Rev. Christopher LaBoube (Pastor)

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### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter 18 April 2021

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Mapleton, IA Acts 3:11–21 / Psalm 4 / 1 John 3:1–7 / Luke 24:36–49

Sermon Title: "...[Jesus] opened their minds to understand the Scriptures..."

Sermon Text: Luke 24:36-49

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

Two Sundays past we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. We are now in the Easter Season of the Church Year. We have five more weeks of the Easter Season. Today, we're going to look at our Gospel lesson from Luke which talks about how Jesus appeared to the disciples AFTER he was raised from the dead.

A few details to set the stage for our Gospel lesson. After Jesus was raised from the dead, he met two men, who were heading back home to a town called Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. Jesus talked with these two men as they walked home. Because it was getting dark, these two men invited Jesus to stay with them for the night.

The three of these men sit down to enjoy the evening meal together. "When [Jesus] was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight." (Luke 24:30-31)

Then, these two men hurried back to Jerusalem even though it was dark. "Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread." (Luke 24:35) This is where our Gospel lesson picks up.

"<sup>36</sup> As [the two men and the rest of the believers] were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, 'Peace to you!' <sup>37</sup> But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. <sup>38</sup> And he said to them, 'Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup> See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' <sup>40</sup> And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet." (Luke 24:36-40)

Think about this for a minute. You and a friend were having supper with a visitor. That visitor turned out to be Jesus, who had been raised from the dead. As the meal begins, Jesus disappears. So, you hurry back to Jerusalem, where the rest of the believers were staying, and you excitedly tell them what you just saw and experienced with Jesus.

Then, while you're telling the other believers what you just experienced, Jesus appears again to the large group of believers. Naturally, people would have been afraid wondering what was happening. It was natural for them to conclude that they were seeing a ghost. But they weren't. They were seeing Jesus.

This is why Jesus says: "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?

<sup>39</sup> See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' <sup>40</sup> And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet." (Luke 24:38-40)

Jesus points out his nail-pierced hands and feet to show them that he had indeed been nailed to that cross. Then Jesus points out one thing that differentiates him from a ghost. "Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup> And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet."

Ghosts don't have flesh and blood. Jesus does. Ghosts generally want to scare people. Jesus does not. Remember, the believers would still be experiencing some tension and concern. The believers would have been worried that some Jews might still harass them or do worse to them, all because the tomb was empty and Jesus' body was nowhere to be found.

First, Jesus appears to the believers while they were gathered in Jerusalem. He tried to convince them that he was not a ghost, because ghosts don't have flesh and blood. So, then Jesus goes one step further to prove to them who he is.

### \*\* NEXT SLIDE \*\*

"<sup>41</sup> And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate before them. <sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.'" (Luke 24:41-44)

I like this part of this event, because this is a second practical thing that Jesus does to prove who he is. First, he reminds these believers that ghosts don't have flesh and blood as Jesus does. Second, he asks for some food. <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate before them.

By eating some broiled fish, Jesus proves to these believers that he is the Messiah standing there in front of them. Jesus eats some food to prove that he is NOT a ghost. Ghosts don't eat food. Jesus does, because he has been bodily raised from the dead.

After he finishes eating, Jesus points the believers—and us—back to the Scriptures that are written down for our learning and instruction. <sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.'"

When Jesus says "...everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled" he is talking about the entire Old Testament. This is what Paul says years later in Romans: "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope." (Romans 15:4)

Without Jesus we have no hope. Without the on-going teaching and nurturing of the Holy Spirit in our lives, we have no hope. Without the Scriptures, we know nothing, which means that we are no different than everyone else around us, who doesn't believe in Jesus.

Thanks be to God, though, that God the Father exists. Thanks be to God that the Holy Spirit lives in you to teach you all that you need to know about Jesus. And thanks be to God that we have the opportunity every day to read or listen to the truths of God's Word.

### \*\* NEXT SLIDE \*\*

Jesus brought the believers back to the Scriptures to remind them of what has been written down in the Old Testament. "<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem." (Luke 24:45-47)

I like this part of the text, too, because here we have the Incarnate Word of God teaching the disciples the truths of God's Word. "<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem." (Luke 24:45-47)

Now, none of us has the opportunity for Jesus to sit down with us and lead a Bible study. But Jesus gives us his written Word to learn and grow in our understanding of who God is, what he has done for us and what God desires for our lives.

### \*\* NEXT SLIDE \*\*

"Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 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)

So right here Jesus tells us how important it is to read or listen to the Bible on a regular basis. Before you read or listen to a passage, pray and ask God to help you understand what you're going to read or listen to.

After Jesus teaches the believers, after "...he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures..." Jesus tells them: "You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." (Luke 24:48-49)

Jesus is preparing these men and women to go out and spread the Good News about Jesus to many more people. Going out to spread the Good News is an opportunity given to every single Christian. We're all given the opportunity to find situations and events in which we can share the hope we have in Jesus with someone else.

Too often, Christians get wrapped up with the notion that they can't share their faith with others. But sharing your faith is a command that God gives to all of us—not just the pastor—not just the elders—but every member of a Christian congregation.

Pray and ask God to help you to share your faith. Pray and ask God to lead you to opportunities to share the hope you have in Jesus with someone else. Then keep your eyes open to see who God is leading across your path. Amen

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

# How to Pray: A 6-Step Guide to Prayer https://blog.youversion.com/2021/04/how-to-pray-a-6-step-guide-to-prayer/ 2021-04-06



"Prayer." When you see that word, what thoughts or images come to mind? Does talking to God come easy to you? Or do you struggle to pray? Knowing what to say to God doesn't always feel easy, and sometimes, prayer gets weighed down by our misconceptions about what a conversation with God should look like.

"Pray then like this..." 2,000 years ago, Jesus taught His disciples to "<sup>9</sup> Pray then like this: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. <sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread, <sup>12</sup> and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. <sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." (Matthew 6:9-13)

This is now a famous example on how to pray. But how do we apply it to our everyday 21st-century lives? First, we need to understand how not to pray. Before teaching the Lord's Prayer, Jesus told His disciples, "when you pray, pray to your Father in private..." and, "do not heap up empty phrases...for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him."

If God already knows what we need, then prayer isn't simply about the words we say. If we're praying to impress people, or if we're treating prayer like a box to check, then we're missing out on the power of prayer.

Prayer is, and always will be, a dynamic conversation with God. When we realize this, the Lord's Prayer becomes a freeing framework that helps us talk to God every day. Here's a 6-step guide to prayer that can help:

Refocus on God: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.'

Inhale deeply and focus on these words: "Our Father in heaven." Slowly exhale as you say: "Holy is Your name." Repeat this several times, and pay attention to any aspects of God's character that come to mind. Spend this time focusing on how great God is.

Realign your will: 'Your kingdom come ...'

God has always been in the process of carrying out His will on earth. So right now, reflect on this: when you align your will with God's will, you are actively seeking His Kingdom. Quiet any noise around you, and ask God to show you how you can take part in doing His will today.

Release your concerns: 'Give us this day our daily bread...'

Imagine holding your hands out in front of you, as if you want God to put something in them. As you give God your concerns, what does He give you in return? List your concerns, and say them one at a time. Each time you voice a concern, try asking God to, "give us this day our daily bread." Sit with this exercise for as long as you need.

Repent and respond: 'And forgive us ... as we forgive ...'

What are you holding onto that you need to lay down? Is there anything you need to confess right now? Maybe it's a hurt you can't let go of, a behavior you're struggling to change, an addiction

you haven't conquered, or a mistake you keep making. God invites you to come as you are, and respond to Him. Tell him whatever is on your mind, then create space to hear from Him.

Request God's protection: '... deliver us from evil ...'

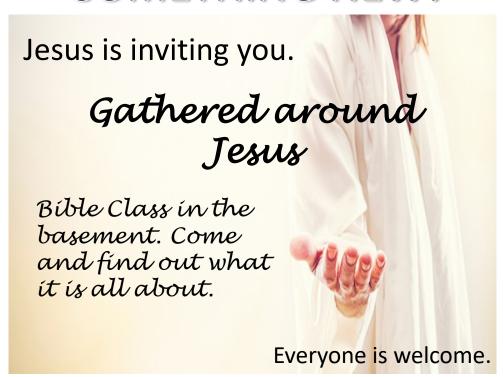
We've all been rescued from something. What has God rescued you from? Thank Him for His faithfulness, and let Him know where you need help. Consider praying on behalf of other people who may also need protection. Remember that even when situations seem hopeless, there is nothing God cannot do.

### Rejoice and reflect.

Celebrate what God has done in your life, and look for ways to worship Him throughout your day. Then, spend a few minutes reflecting on this time with God. What has He shown you? Consider adding anything that stands out to your prayer list.

When we start to pray like Jesus did, we will start to experience intimacy with God like Jesus did. And when we let prayer shape the way we live, we start to realize that we can approach God at all times with confidence, vulnerability, and trust.

# **SOMETHING NEW!**



<u>Gathered Around Jesus</u> come and find out what this is all about. The Bible Class will be in the basement. All are welcome. Join in the fellowship and learn about Jesus, the one who saves us!

### **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."



**Quilters** will be meeting this week (April 22) Thursday instead of Wednesday. This week only. Come and help us quilt at 1:00 and celebrate Alice Master's 80th birthday at breaktime, 2:30 pm.

The Open Cupboard and Food Bank Siouxland, Inc. Mobile Food Pantry distribution will be Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at the Mapleton Community Center, 513 Main Street in Mapleton, Iowa. The Open Cupboard distributes the food on the third Wednesday of the month. The truck will arrive at 10:00 a.m. to unload, so we can only have 15 volunteers in the Community Center to help unload the truck. Distribution will be in the alley at the rear of the Community Center beginning at 1:00 p.m. You will need to drive to the East end of the alley and sign-in by telling a volunteer your name, town, and how many are in your family-adults and children. Someone will then put boxes and bags into your vehicle. Please open your trunk prior to sign-in.

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?



<u>Camp Okoboji April 22-24</u>: <u>Wittenberg Academy Retreat</u> Wittenberg Academy is a completely online Lutheran School and LCMS Recognized Service Organization. For additional information go to www.wittenbergacadermy.org; Retreat; Logos: 2021 Volunteer Weekend is a great time to enjoy Camp Okoboji and share your time and talents. Help prepare Camp Okoboji for the upcoming summer season. Room

and board will be provided for volunteers. Our first omelet brunch of 2021 will be Sunday morning May 2. Please make plans to assist your camp by working at Volunteer Days and/ or serving at the Omelet Brunch. For room and board accommodations, pleas call the office a (712) 337-3325!

	Week of Schedule 04-19 to 04-25	
Mon (19)	Pastor's Family Day	
Wed (21)	Confirmation Class 6 pm to 7 pm	
Thur		
(22)	Helping Hands, at 1:00 to 4 pm	
Sun (25)	4th Sunday of Easter Services 9:30 am w/ Holy Communion Bible Class 10:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am	

NEEDED /WEEK	\$3,225.02
Sunday Giving 04-11-21	\$2,010.00
Sunday attendance 04-11-21	44
Children in Church 04-11-21	5
Visitors 04-11-21	5
Bible Class 04-11-21	55
Sunday School 04-11-21	3

# Community of Saints





## THE APOSTLES' CREED—THE THIRD ARTICLE

I believe in ... the holy Christian church, the communion of saints.

What does this mean? In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 1:7)

### FOR SHARING

- 1. "She's a saint!" From the world's perspective, what makes a person a saint? In what ways does "saint" have a negative connotation today?
- 2. The church is the communion of saints—people set apart by God in Christ through the Gospel. In what sense is the church an "invisible community"? A "visible community"?
- 3. We are, Luther notes, "at the same time saint and sinner." How are we a saint? In what way are we still a sinner?
- 4. Sainthood is a pure gift from God made possible only through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. What difference has the gift of forgiveness and salvation in Christ made in your life?
- 5. "Be alert," St. Paul writes, "and always keep on praying for all the saints" (Ephesians 6:18). What specifically can you pray for God's church—His saints—today?

PRAYER Heavenly Father, I thank You that You have made me a saint through Your Son, Jesus Christ, my Lord. I ask that You continue to bless me with Your Spirit so that I might lead a life worthy of Your calling. Encourage me to share this gift of sainthood with my friends, relatives, and all other people that I meet. 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**

Dill Hellin ID Dillillo			
Wanda	Apr 02, 1950		
Hadley	Apr 08, 2018		
Cooper	Apr 14, 2013		
Elnora	Apr 17, 1949		
Kay	Apr 03, 1938		
Maverick	Apr 10, 2011		
Jeff	Apr 06, 1958		
Rose	Apr 12, 2020		
Rita	Apr 15, 1945		
Dennis	Apr 16, 1950		
Marlene	Apr 05, 1936		
Lin	Apr 21, 1946		
Kolby	Apr 03, 2005		
Darrell	Apr 21, 1946		
	Hadley Cooper Elnora Kay Maverick Jeff Rose Rita Dennis Marlene Lin Kolby		



We are listing

Baptismal birthdays

to remember and celebrate the day we were

adopted into the family of God through the washing

Holy Spirit.

of the

### **BIRTHDAYS**

DIKITIDATS			
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	<b>85</b>
Dose	Darlene	Apr 24, 1934	<b>8</b> 7
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

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

New Confirmation Class		
Will be Confirmed on		
May 2, 2021		
1. Trista Ohlmeier		
2. Chelsey Paulsen		
3. Marley Scott		

In His Footsteps: When we bring pleasure to another human heart, we are following in God's footsteps and serving Him.

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

Selma Schrader Carol Dose Alan Bruhn Nazaria Kaderabek

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.

### Those who serve in the military

TristonTwedt (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

George Koithan 88 yrs. Sept. 2,

1932

1726 Marcella Heights

Carroll, IA 51040

\*\*Delores Boysen 81 yrs. Mar. 5,

1939

3903 S.W. Hollowbrook St. Bentonville, AR 72712

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 51034

Myrna Gosch 79 yrs. Jan 9,1941

Pleasant View Care Center 200 Shannon Dr. Rm #108

Whiting, IA 51063

Spread the Fruits of the Spirit:

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

You will be rewarded



### Those on our prayer list:

GOD

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

Alan Bruhn 14535 Walnut Ave Mapleton, IA 51034

Mavis Skow 102 North 6th Apt #1 Mapleton, IA 51034 <sub>11</sub>



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 e very 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: wwwlofsiowa.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

May the glory and the promise of this joyous time of year bring peace and happiness to  $\mathcal{O}_{ur}$  you and those you hold most dear, and may Christ, Our Risen Savior, always be there by yer your side to bless you and be your loving guide. Amen