

# St Matthews Service

Rev. Christopher LaBoube

*July 05, 2020*

*5th Sunday after Pentecost*

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



## **St. Matthew Lutheran Church**

504 Walnut Mapleton, Iowa 51034

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FB page: [St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton](https://www.facebook.com/St.MatthewLutheran-Mapleton)

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Pastor

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5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

5 July 2020

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Mapleton, IA

Zechariah 9:9–12 / Psalm 145:1–14 / Romans 7:14–25a / Matthew 11:25–30

Sermon Title: Wisdom and Comfort from Jesus

Sermon Text: Matthew 11:25-30

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

*<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus declared, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; <sup>26</sup> yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.’ (Matthew 11:25-26)*

In our Gospel lesson for today, Jesus thanks his Father in heaven—and our Father in heaven—for revealing the truths of the Scripture *“to little children.”* Now, in this case, Jesus isn’t just talking about actual children—Jesus is also talking about people, who receive the Gospel with a simple, child-like faith.

Sometimes as Christians, we like to make things really difficult and complicated. Instead of making the truths of God’s Word complicated, we should just receive the truth of God’s Word like a child does—as a matter of fact.

When Jesus was looking for disciples, he didn’t go to the chief priests, the scribes or the Pharisees to see if they would follow him. Instead, Jesus asks 12 average blue-collar workers to follow him. Men, who would not be considered of great importance.

So now in his prayer in Matthew chapter 11 Jesus thanks God the Father for revealing the truth of the Gospel to those, who have a child-like faith—who don’t make things complicated—they just accept the truth as the truth.

Now, it’s true that all of Jesus’ disciples struggled at different times to believe. And that’s okay. Because Jesus never says—you have to believe this long list of rules—otherwise, you’re out! Instead, Jesus wants you to simply trust him—to believe that he knows what is best for your life—and that he will never lead you astray.

Throughout history we read about people, who claimed that you had to figure out the Scriptures from man’s point of view. That will never lead you to the truth. When you rely on man’s wisdom—you’ll never understand the truth from God’s Word.

This is where the Holy Spirit works in your life. The Holy Spirit will teach you all that Jesus wants you to know. The Holy Spirit gives you God’s Wisdom—not man’s wisdom—to understand the truths from the Bible.

The Prophet Isaiah talks about man’s wisdom verses God’s Wisdom: *“...and the wisdom of the wise men shall perish, and the discernment of the discerning men shall be hidden.”* (Isaiah 29:14)

And Paul talks about man’s wisdom compared to God’s Wisdom in First Corinthians: *“For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, ‘He catches the wise in their craftiness,’ and again, ‘The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile.’”* (1 Corinthians 3:19-20)

And, *“For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom,<sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,<sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.<sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.”* (1 Corinthians 1:22-25)

All throughout history we can read about people, who don’t believe in God. Instead, some people, who are recorded in the Book of Ephesians, spent all their time focusing on the things that could be proved by human standards. If an idea couldn’t be proven by human standards, then it wasn’t true.

That’s pretty limiting, if you think about it. God is so much greater than anything you and me could ever come up with. God created this world with so much detail that no human could ever come up with things like our DNA—like the way that our skin and body heals after it’s cut—or the way some plants propagate.

From Psalm 19: *“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.”* (Psalm 19:1-4)

Jesus continues praying in our Gospel lesson from Matthew 11: *“<sup>27</sup> All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.”* (Matthew 11:25-27)

Here Jesus prays and thanks God the Father in Heaven that the truth of His Word has been given initially to people, who have a child-like faith. Then, Jesus prays and thanks God that God the Father has given him all authority in heaven and on earth.

Of course, the authority of Jesus has been questioned by many people throughout history. Some people have trouble believing that Jesus is the source of EVERYTHING—including life! And yet, those same people want to accept that human beings came into existence by evolving from a single-cell organism? Talk about a fantastic fictional story!

In this prayer in Matthew 11, Jesus also prays and thanks God the Father that people only get to heaven through himself. When you know the Son then you will know the Father. It’s that simple. There is no other way to get to heaven than by believing in Jesus. And when you know Jesus then you know God your Heavenly Father.

Then, Jesus concludes his pray with an invitation: *“<sup>28</sup> Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.<sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.<sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”* (Matthew 11:28-30)

As we continue living with Covid-19, life can seem draining and exhausting, but thanks be to God that we don’t have to live life alone. Instead, Jesus promised that after he ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father, he would send the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit comforts us when we are hurting or sad. The Holy Spirit reminds us of the promises in the Bible that Jesus is with us ALWAYS. The Holy Spirit teaches us what the Bible says about all kinds of things that relate to our daily life.

Jesus invites you to come to him. Come and you will find rest in Jesus. Jesus gives you rest that the world cannot give. Jesus also gives you peace with surpassing all understanding. Jesus also gives you joy that fills you up so that you can share that joy with someone else, who needs a little joy from Jesus. 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.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
504 Walnut St., Mapleton, IA 51034

Sunday, July 5, 2020

Dear Members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church,

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus! How are you? I know that some of you have told me that you're doing well overall, but feeling a little bored at home. I can relate. This past week, I offered Holy Communion to 16 people here at church. I set up a small table with chairs in the narthex (the entrance) of the church building and led different people through the Holy Communion Service. It was a great time to reconnect with some of the members.

On Sunday, June 28 we had our Confirmation Worship Service here at church with Holy Communion. That, too, was a real blessing. There were four girls being confirmed, and they were joined by family and friends, to support them as they wrapped up Confirmation.

And then today, we resumed regular worship services at 9:30 a.m. with Holy Communion being offered on the first and third Sunday of the month. It is great that we can get back to church, to gather with fellow Christians to receive from God all that he wants to give us.

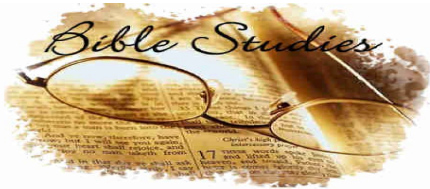
At this time, we still aren't having the adult Bible class. The leaders will continue to evaluate things as we learn to live with Covid-19 and how the rest of our church activities will be affected. I plan to continue to post the video sermon on the church's Facebook page for the next couple of weeks. We will also send out the weekly sermon and prayer list for the next couple of weeks.

The Board of Directors wants to encourage you to continue support our church with your offerings. You can mail your offering to the church office. You can also drop your offering off at First State Bank in Mapleton in the "night deposit box." Mark your offering "For St. Matthew Lutheran Church."

I've told people that I'm looking forward to many of you joining us for worship, but I want you to make that decision for yourself. If you don't feel comfortable coming back right now, that's okay. If you do feel comfortable joining us for worship, please wear a facemask, observe social distancing rules, and be conscientious about fellow church members, who are trying to follow CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines.

Sincerely,

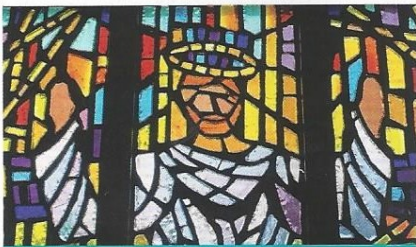
Pastor Chris LaBoube



by Herbert C. Mueller Jr.

## Who Are We in Christ?

Soon delegates will be gathering in Tampa for the 2019 convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Lay people, commissioned ministers and pastors, sent by their respective circuits and districts, will hear reports, study God's Word, receive Christ's gifts in worship and make decisions that will guide the future of our work together. As they — and we — prepare for this momentous event in the life of our church body, it's worth taking time to ponder and remember who we truly are in Christ.



**Who are we?** We are forgiven sinners and justified saints, baptized into the name of the Triune God. We belong to Christ and are united in Him. We share one confession of faith and receive the same eternal destiny.

Who we are in Christ shapes how we see one another, what we say about one another and how we deal with one another, not only from gavel to gavel in Tampa, but also throughout the whole Church on earth — now, and in the years to come. **LW**



The Rev. Dr. Herbert C. Mueller Jr. is First Vice-President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.



1. Read Col. 2:9–14. What defines a Christian's identity?  
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2. Read 2 Cor. 5:14–17. How does our identity in Christ shape the way we view and relate to one another?  
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3. Read 1 Cor. 1:9–10 and Eph. 4:1–6, 25–32. As forgiven sinners who have been “called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,” how shall we walk with one another?  
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4. Read Phil. 4:1–9, noting especially the movement from conflict to peace in this joy-filled passage. How does the fact that your name and mine are “written in the book of life” impact our interactions and decisions within the Church?  
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# CELEBRATIONS

Evelyn Christiansen will be celebrating her 100th birthday on July 4, 2020, at the home of her son and his family, Bruce and Merry Christiansen. Please help her celebrate this major milestone with a card, letter, pictures, and/or memories sent to:

Evelyn Christiansen  
% Merry Christiansen  
P. O. Box 856  
Rogersville, MO. 66742

God Blessed  
100<sup>+</sup> years



I'm submitting information for members who might want to send a retirement greeting to Pastor Charlie Adams who served at St. Matthew's from 1990-1997. He will be retiring as of August 1, 2020 after 34 years in the ministry.

The congregation that he serves- Faith Lutheran in Ottawa, KS would like to put memory stories/retirement greetings into a scrap book for Laura's husband! St. Matthew members can send a greeting in email form to the church secretary here and they will be printed off for Charlie. He will appreciate these personal messages so much. Put the words: "project for pastor" in the subject line and she will know what the message is for! [secretary@faith-lutheran.net](mailto:secretary@faith-lutheran.net) If a regular card is preferred the address is:

Faith Lutheran Church  
1320 W. 15th Street  
Ottawa, KS

## BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

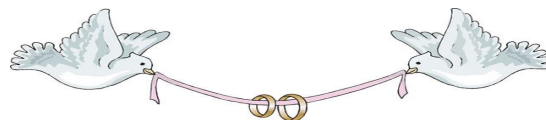
Albers	Jerry	Jul 24, 1938
Arndt	Herman	Jul 4, 1960
Brodersen	Nathan	Jul 19, 1981
Brown	Brenda	Jul 14, 1963
Bruhn	Jared	Jul 13, 1986
Bumsted	Barbara	Jul 14, 1955
Fick	Phyllis	Jul 6, 1928
Hamann	Kerensa	Jul 5, 2014
Hamann	Katelynn	Jul 23, 2000
Kaderabek	Nazaria	Jul 14, 2019
Kelm	Raylyn	Jul 18, 2010
Kelm	Lyle	Jul 1, 2018
Kelm	Henry	Jul 12, 2015
Kueny	Karen	Jul 11, 1948
LaBoube	Christina	Jul 23, 1989
Marsh	Durene	Jul 21, 1960
Meseck	Randi	Jul 22, 1948
Meseck	MaKenna	Jul 16, 2006
Pope	Sharon	Jul 21, 1940
Schauer	Bert	Jul 11, 1957
Skow	Mavis	Jul 28, 1953
Wessling	Dorothy	Jul 26, 1942
Witzel	Hans	Jul 7, 1935



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

Albers	Jerry	Jul 24, 1938	<b>81</b>
Bridgeman	Tasha	Jul 4, 1987	
Brodersen	Autumn	Jul 27, 2006	
Christiansen	Evelyn	Jul 4, 1920	<b>99</b>
Dale	Kristi	Jul 21, 1961	
Goslar	Sarah	Jul 20, 1983	
Hamann	Marilyn	Jul 14, 1945	
Hamann	Harold	Jul 8, 1944	
Hogan	Marla	Jul 18, 1960	
Ingram	Kay	Jul 12, 1939	<b>80</b>
Kaderabek	Nazaria	Jul 2, 1963	
Kiepe	Arlene	Jul 29, 1917	<b>102</b>
McBride	Bernie	Jul 13, 1935	<b>84</b>
Namanny	Dennis	Jul 24, 1944	
Schauer	Bert	Jul 25, 1956	
Scheer	Caden	Jul 28, 2009	
Scoles	Shirley	Jul 30, 1943	
Scott	Kolby	Jul 9, 2004	
Weber	Benjamin	Jul 6, 1995	



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Roger and Kay Ingram	Jul 12, 1957
Dennis and Ann Livermore	Jul 31, 1970

If your birthday or baptism birthday or the birthday or baptism birthday of any church member you know doesn't appear on the list – it is because we don't have it on file. Please contact the church office so this information can be added to our information data.

It is important that all information on our church members be kept updated – including birthday, baptism, confirmation, marriage, children and change of address. Please keep the office updated

### Give the office a call or the Pastor...

Before going to hospital  
Private communion  
Making wedding plans  
Death in the family

Address or name changes  
Birth of your baby  
Entering armed services  
Desire to serve you Lord through the Church



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 needing our prayers.** Please call the church office if you want to be added to this list for any reason, thank you.

Nazaria Kaderabek	Bud Dose	Kevin Dose	Selma Schrader	Elnora Dose
Robert Banks	Arlene Kiepe	Carol Dose	Joyce Kruse	Sue Oberg
Peg Jacobson	Charlotte Miller	Marla Hogan	Sue Kruse	

**Bonnie Banks**— a prayer for concerns for her husband. (not being able to be with him)

**Family / Friends of Members with Special Needs and Concerns**

**Sheri Heilman**— Sue Oberg's sister; **Ron Kraffle** friend of Marla & Joe Hogan; **Kirby Reitz** son of Don & Carolyn former members their address: 7214 South Bitterroot Court Sioux falls SD 57108. ; **Steve Ashley**, (former member's address: Intensive care unit rm 4 Unity Point Health 2720 Stone Park Blvd Sioux City, IA 51104); **Kim Whitton** (Marilyn & Duane Hamann daughter)

**Leona Schmidt** grandmother of Kurt Schmidt; Was called to her eternal home on 06-30-20 to be with Jesus. A prayer for her family for comfort and reassurance in: John 11: 25 *"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."*

**THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY** Triston Twedt, Ryan Trucke, Jackie Cardwell

*Please drop them a line or two, they love getting mail and they would love*

**Bob Banks** 92 yrs. Aug 7, 1928

Maple Heights Nursing Home

Sunrise Ave

Mapleton, IA 51034

Wedding ann. Nov. 12, 1955

**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

**Delbert Kroll** 87 yrs. Jun. 1, 1933

Ring Street

Mapleton IA 51034

**Myrna Gosch** 79 yrs. Jan 9, 1941

Prime Living Apartments

725 Pearl St. Apt. 218

Sioux City, IA

**Delores Boysen** 81 yrs. Mar. 5, 1939

31153 Juinter Ave

Hinton, IA 51024

**Elnora Dose** 85 yrs. May 11, 1935

Embassy Rehab & Care Center

206 Port Neal Rd

Sergeant Bluff, IA 51054

**Arlene Kiepe** 103 yr. July 29, 1917

Maple Heights Nursing Home

Sunrise Ave

Mapleton, IA 51034

**Phyllis Fick** 92 yrs. Jun 3, 1928

Willow Dale Care—Assisted Living

404 1st St.

Battle Creek, IA 51006

**Evelyn Christiansen** 100 yrs. Jul 4, 1920

4204 SE. 29th Ave.

Amarillo, TX 79103 % Joan Valdez

*Spread the Fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Gentleness, Kindness, Self-Control, Goodness, and Faithfulness. You will be rewarded*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Letter from your sister in Christ:

**COVID-19 pandemic** concerns you. Please take this COVID-19 pandemic seriously! It is not over by a long shot, and the more careless you become thinking it will not affect you, the longer it is going to be before I can see my husband of nearly 65 years who is in the nursing home.

It has been over three months now, and it is getting harder every day to be separated. He is 92 years old and blind, so there's not a lot he can do to pass the time. The days are long for both of us, and I know the other families with loved ones in the nursing home feel the same way.

We have been informed that no visitors will be allowed in the nursing home until the cases of COVID-19 in Monona County level off and/or come down in numbers. That is not happening right now so please wear a mask (they are awful and I don't like them either), but if it means the spread of the virus will slow down, it will be well worth it.

Wash your hands a lot and stay away from large crowds of people for the time being. The life you save may be mine or one of your loved ones.

Bonnie Banks.

An announcement from a fellow sister in Christ:

**HELPING HANDS:** Quilters are getting back to work! We will begin on Tuesday, July 7 from 1-4. Anyone is welcome. Will try to social distance—but will wear face masks for extra safety. We have lots to do. Come join us for fun and fellowship. Zola Kafton.



504 Walnut  
Mapleton, IA 51034

#### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO CONTINUE TO FILL UP WITH JESUS BY READING AND LISTENING TO THE BIBLE:**

Facebook page: St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton— Our services at 9 am every Sunday

website: [www.stmatthewmapleton.org](http://www.stmatthewmapleton.org) — Our services posted weekly

**WEB SITES:** Iowa District West—[www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org) Camp Okoboji – [www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org)

**“THY STRONG WORD”** is a daily devotion airing at 6:25 am Monday through Saturday on KDSN (107.1FM)

**“THE LUTHERAN HOUR”** can be heard every Sunday on radio station—KDSN-FM (107,1) 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](http://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: 8am Fort Dodge-KVFD 1400 AM; 8 am Sioux City—KSCJ 1360 AM; 10:30 am Storm Lake—KAYL 101.5 FM

**Main Street 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.



*I asked the Lord to bless you as I prayed for you today. To guide you and protect you as you go along your way...His love is always with you, His promises are true. And when we give Him all our cares, you know He will see us through.*