

St Matthews Service

Rev. Christopher LaBoube

August 02, 2020

9th 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

Church Office: 881-2243 Fax: 881-1163

Email: office@stmatthewmapleton.org

website: www.stmatthewmapleton.org

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

Rev. Christopher LaBoube

Pastor

(712) 881-3322

(712-840-1652 cell

Karen Krusen

Office Administrator Assistant

(volunteer)

(712) 881-2243-office #

(712) 840-9059 cell



9th Sunday after Pentecost

2 August 2020

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Mapleton, IA

Isaiah 55:1–5 / Psalm 136:1–9 (23–26) / Romans 9:1–5 (6–13) / Matthew 14:13–21

Sermon Title: Hungering and Thirsting for God's Word

Sermon Text: Isaiah 55:1-5

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

Even though our Old Testament lesson this morning is just the first five verses of Isaiah chapter 55, I would like us to look at the entire chapter. It all goes together. I think it's hard sometimes to just talk about one small part of Scripture and not look at the context where you've taken that verse from.

In this Old Testament lesson this morning, the Prophet Isaiah offers encouragement to a people, who are struggling. They have been beaten by stronger people and it's easy to feel discouraged. He begins this chapter with an invitation:

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David." (Isaiah 55:1-3)

"In the Old Testament, longing for God and his wisdom is often associated with longing for water and food." (Lutheran Study Bible, note on verse 1, p. 1181) We see this same imagery in Psalm 42: *"As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?"* (Psalm 42:1-2)

The psalm writer longs for—has a deep, longing to be in God's presence—to know him personally. The psalm writer offers you words to pray when you also hunger and thirst for God and his Word. Every Sunday I pray in worship that God will create a hunger and thirst for His Word in each one of us.

This is one thing that Jesus highlights in the beginning of his Sermon on the Mount: *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."* (Matthew 5:6) Hungering and thirsting for God and His Word is a prayer that God happily answers. Hungering and thirsting for things of this world is a prayer that God might not be interested in answering.

And Jesus talks about being thirsty for Living Water in John's Gospel: *"³⁷ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."'"* (John 7:37-38)

Jesus invites you to come to him. He wants to be with you. He offers you of himself in Holy Communion—to eat and drink of his Body and Blood to strengthen your faith. And Jesus offers himself every day of your life—to come to him—to hang out with him—to learn from him so that you can grow in your own faith in the One True God. 2

The Prophet Isaiah continues his encouraging message: *“⁴ Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.”* *“⁴ Behold, I made him—that is, Jesus—a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.”* Jesus is our leader. Scriptures described Jesus as a shepherd leading and guiding the sheep—that is, all of us, who believe in God.

Who leads and guides you every day of your life? Do you follow Jesus or do you follow the world? The Prophet Isaiah tells you who you should follow. *“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;”* Again, Jesus invites you to come to him all day long—any time of the day or night. Jesus invites you to be in his presence for all eternity. You don’t have to cry out to God when something bad is happening. Cry out to God when you are happy and want to thank and praise the Lord.

⁷ let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.” God desires all people be saved from going to hell. God wants all people to repent of their sins—to confess what they have done against God and against someone else. Then, God desires to lavish on you his forgiveness for those sins.

God gave us the Ten Commandments so that we know how he wants us to live—to love God above all things and to love your neighbor as yourself. The Ten Commandments show us that we live in a fallen world—a world broken by sin—and yet God did something greater to restore our relationship with him.

“⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

God knows what we need long before we pray and ask God about it. This doesn’t mean that God gives us everything we ask for. God knows what we NEED—what will be a blessing to you and how you can bless someone else because of that blessing. This is how God takes care of all of us.

This is what we pray in the Lord’s Prayer the Fourth Petition: *“Give us this day our daily bread.”* And the Small Catechism explains: *What does this mean?* God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.”

God knows what we need and sometimes we does not answer our prayer the way we want him to answer. God’s Word is powerful and effective. *“¹⁰ “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”* (Isaiah 55:8-11)

When God’s Word is preached and taught here in worship—on the radio—on the Internet—wherever God’s Word is proclaimed—IT WORKS! God’s Word accomplishes what he wants it to. *“¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”*

God knows where and how his Word needs to go. God knows WHO needs to hear the promises of God and

WHEN that person needs to hear it. I've heard this same thing on some Christian radio stations. A listener calls the radio station and tells them how he or she was struggling with their faith and then a certain song came on the radio just when that person needed to hear that message of truth from the Bible.

The Prophet Isaiah finishes this chapter with more encouragement: ¹² *For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.* ¹³ *Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.*" (Isaiah 55:12-13)

When you fill up with Jesus, then you have something to say—something to share—with someone else, who doesn't know Jesus or has fallen away from the church. This is why the Prophet Isaiah says: ¹² *For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.*"

When you fill up with Jesus, then the Holy Spirit can work in your life to so that you'll want to praise God through a song—a dance—maybe a painting—something or some way to express the joy that is in you that you received from God Himself.

The psalms are a great source of words to say when you want to praise and thank God. Psalm 103: *"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits."* (Psalm 103:1-2) 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.



WITH HIGH DELIGHT
LET US UNITE

WE'RE OPEN AGAIN



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



Sunday, August 2, 2020

Dear Members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church,

Greetings to you on this ninth Sunday after Pentecost in the Name of Jesus! How are you? How is your family? It has been great to get back to regular worship. Not everyone has returned, and that is okay. I want members to return to worship when they feel comfortable. For the last couple of weeks, those attending worship have done a pretty good job of spreading out in the sanctuary and not sitting close to each other. Most members are wearing a face mask, which is another important point that the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) recommends.

In addition to in-person worship, you can also get spiritually fed each week by watching a Lutheran worship service on “Main Street Living” on KCAU channel 9, Sioux City on Sundays at 10 a.m. You can also listen to “The Lutheran Hour” on radio station KSCJ 94.9 FM and 1360 AM, Sioux City on Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

With low attendance each week, we’re averaging 30-40 people, giving has been down. I want to encourage you to think about how you can support your church. First, please pray for the pastor and Karen, the organist and volunteer secretary. Pray for Bob, our president, and the rest of the Board of Directors and the Board of Elders. Pray also that our congregation will slowly heal.

Another way you can support your church is by considering how you can serve on one of the boards. The Board of Directors is organizing a Nominating Committee, who will then be asking people to consider serving our church.

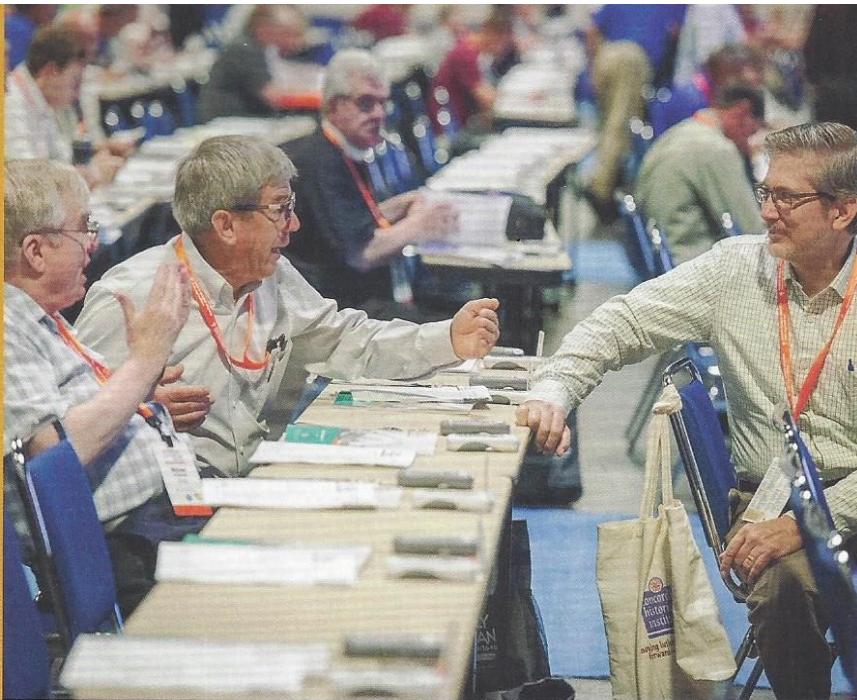
You can also support our church by regularly sending in your offering, even if you’re not ready to come back to in-person worship. You can mail your offering to the church. You can also drop your offering off at First State Bank in Mapleton in the “night deposit box.” Mark your offering “For St. Matthew Lutheran Church.”

Sincerely,
Pastor Chris LaBoube

BIBLE STUDY

Bid to rejoice ... in Christ

I write this as the 67th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod draws to a close. It's been a fine and exhausting week, full of joyful Lutherans, interesting discussions and the tedious necessity of parliamentary procedure. At any level of church life, there are necessary meetings and decisions. Reflecting on 1 Thess. 5:12–28, I offer the following questions for study, prayer and meditation before your next meeting, be it a Synod convention or the monthly voters' assembly.



by Timothy Pauls

1. How should one treat those in authority, and why? (1 THESS. 5:12–13A)

2. Imagine a contentious meeting, remembering that all who attend are sinners. What temptations tend to flare at such times? How should all treat one another, and why? (1 THESS. 5:13B–15)

3. What word does Paul repeat in verses 12, 14, 25, 26 and 27? Why?

4. Whether the meeting results in the desired outcome or not, what should one do? Why? (1 THESS. 5:16–18)

5. Who gets mentioned in 1 Thess. 5:18b–19? What comfort do you find here?

6. What should always be the goal of every church meeting (1 THESS. 5:28)?

WHEN SINNERS
MEET, THERE
IS ALWAYS
POTENTIAL FOR
DISAGREEMENT,
POOR DECISIONS
AND SIGNIFICANT
CONSEQUENCES.

One of the great challenges of the one, holy, Christian and apostolic church is that it is full of sinners! It could be no other way, for it is sinners whom Christ came to save. When sinners meet, there is always potential for disagreement, poor decisions and significant consequences. Yet Paul bids us to rejoice always, for in Christ, the Lord will work all things to your good. **LW**

The Rev. Timothy Pauls serves as pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Boise, Idaho.



News from the Board of Directors and Elders

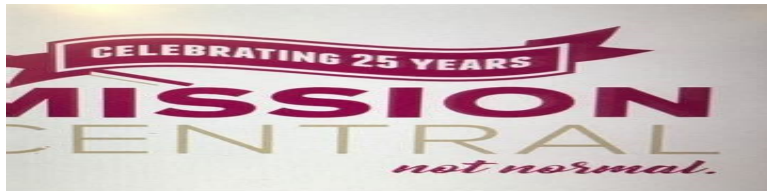
FROM BOB ANDRE, CHURCH PRESIDENT: There will be a letter forthcoming explaining the COVID-19/giving shortfall and catch up request. Moreover, the government PPP loan we received as well as a possible fund raiser or special offering to assist in covering the co-Pay incurred for birth cost of pastor's daughter. The Board of Directors and Elders

Please include in the 7-26-20 e-mail to members as well as mail to those w/o internet.

The note distributed at the end of service on 7-19-20 was not authorized or approved by the Board of Directors or Elders. There were several inaccuracies. The Pastor's salary was not cut. Adjustments were made to health benefits but they will be restored. Per Pastor Salcido's (from Oak Grove) statement at a recent informational meeting there was to be no recording devices or notes taken other than for personal reference and should not be distributed. The Elders and Board of Directors met more recently and will review support and encourage Pastor in his service at St. Matthew.

The Board of Directors and Elders.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



NEWS FROM MISSION CENTRAL

Missionary Gary Thies

ALL missionary speakers out at Mission Central have been cancelled through the end of the year. They are not allowed out of their countries nor into ours.

HELPING HANDS: Quilters are back at work! We will meet on Wednesdays at 1 pm. Anyone is welcome. We have lots to do. Come join us for fun and fellowship. Zola Kafton.



A very special **THANK YOU** from Lavone Witzel and Alice Miller for the special effort from Duane, Marilyn, (Shawn Hamann who picked the corn), Romona Weber, Marla Hogan, Lin Scott, Joan Chandler, Karen Krusen for putting up the corn for us for the winter. It was very much appreciated.

A phone call and a **THANK YOU from** JoAnn Nielsen for the cards and the corn from the above ladies and men who helped, it was very much appreciated.

What are the benefits of the Lord's Supper?

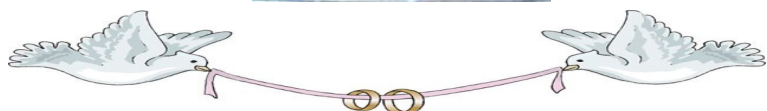
- **participation in the body and blood of Christ**
(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14: 22-24; 1 Corinthians 10:16; 1 Corinthians 11:24-25, 27)
- which connects us to Christ's work of **atonement /justification /redemption reconciliation / peace with God**
(Romans 3:25, 5:9; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:20; Hebrews 9:12)
- **remission of sins**
(Matthew 26:26; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14)
- **makes us recipients of the New Covenant/Testament**
(Matthew 26:28; Mark 14:24; Luke 22:20; 1 Corinthians 11:25)
- **communion with Christ**
(1 Corinthinains 10:16; John 6:56; 1 John 1:7)
- **communion with other believers**
(1 Corinthians 10:17; Acts 2:42, 44; 1 John 1:7)
- **eternal life**
(John 6:50, 54; Hebrews 9:12)
- **a clean conscience and strength for living**
(Hebrews 9:14)

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Brodersen	Kaylee	Aug 28, 2005
Brodersen	Betsy	Aug 28, 2005
Dale	Kristi	Aug 6, 1961
Hamann	Marilyn	Aug 12, 1945
Hogan	Marla	Aug 7, 1960
McBride	Bernie	Aug 11, 1935
Namanny	Dennis	Aug 15, 1944
Phillips	Janice	Aug 24, 1941
Riesberg	Jeannette	Aug 11, 1957
Scheer	Bryan	Aug 26, 1984
Scott	Marley	Aug 10, 2008
Witzel	Dora	Aug 6, 1944



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.



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Jerry and Darlene Albers	59 yrs.	Aug 27, 1961
--------------------------	---------	--------------

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

<u>Give the office a call or the Pastor...</u>		
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	

NEEDED /WEEK	\$3,225.02
TOTAL GIVING (SUNDAY, 07-28-20)	\$1355.00
SUNDAY ATTENDANCE 07-28-20)	40
SUNDAY HEAD COUNT	42
SUNDAY COMMUNION 07-28-20)	NA

BIRTHDAYS

Albers	Roger	Aug 23, 1941
Andre	Wanda	Aug 29, 1949
Banks	Robert	Aug 7, 1928 91
Brodersen	James	Aug 28, 1939 80
Bruhn	Presley	Aug 3, 2009
Fick	John	Aug 17, 1932 87
Hogan	Joseph	Aug 6, 1961
Kelm	Matt	Aug 9, 1986
Krueger	Kenneth	Aug 16, 1947
Lyon	Barbara	Aug 4, 1943
Phillips	Janice	Aug 3, 1941
Scheer	Bryan	Aug 11, 1984
Stoll	John	Aug 1, 1947
Thies	Gary	Aug 28, 1942
Wray	Roxie	Aug 20, 1958
Scoles	Shirley	Aug. 30, 1943

<u>Week of Schedule</u>	
<u>08-02- to 08-15-20</u>	
Mon	Pastor's Family Day
Wed	Helping hands 1 pm
Sun.	9:30 AM WORSHIP



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.

A Prayer for the family of John Fick. John’s step brother, Dennis Palm went to heaven to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus. May the family find comfort in: *John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you...Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

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	Sue Kruse	Mike Kruse	John Fick	

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; **Kim Whitton** (Marilyn & Duane Hamann daughter); **Richard Swain**, neighbor of Karen and Jeff Krusen; **Lynette Dobrovoly** neighbor of Karen and Jeff Krusen

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 hearing from their church family.

**** indicates a new address**

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

Pleasant View Care Center

200 Shannon Dr.

Whiting, IA 51063

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



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 — Our services posted weekly

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



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.