

*Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
St. Robert, MO*



*Christian Funeral
James Worthy Matthews
March 19, 1929 – November 15, 2020*



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St. Robert, Missouri 65584

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

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§ *A Heartfelt Welcome To Our Guests* §

Welcome to Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church (FELC). We're pleased you've come to receive the blessings our Lord gives in the Divine Service. Please help us get to know you and record your attendance by signing the red record of fellowship book as it is passed down the pew and/or the guest book in the narthex. Most Sundays we host refreshments after the service. Please join us downstairs in the Parish Fellowship. This is a great way to get to know the members of the family of FELC.

Those Serving today

Presiding Minister	John Perling	Asst. Minister	Dennis Engstrom
Organist	Ben Schumacher	Prelude	Rev. Ben Schumacher

Pre-Service Music based on Selected Hymns

Rev. Ben Schumacher

537 Beautiful Savior



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
 flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
 God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
 ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

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649 Blest Be the Tie That Binds



1 Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love;
 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne We pour our ar - dent prayers;
 3 We share our mu - tual woes, Our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
 4 When here our path - ways part, We suf - fer bit - ter pain;
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free



The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.
 Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com - forts and our cares.
 And of - ten for each oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, We hope to meet a - gain.
 And per - fect love and friend - ship reign Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text and tune: Public domain

Please rise

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

The casket may be covered with a funeral pall.

Remembrance of Baptism

- P** In Holy Baptism James Worthy Matthews was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all his sin. St. Paul says: "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?"
- C** **We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His.**

662 Onward, Christian Soldiers



1 On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, March - ing as to war,
2 Like a might - y ar - my Moves the Church of God;
3 Crowns and thrones may per - ish, King - doms rise and wane,
4 On - ward, then, ye faith - ful, Join our hap - py throng,



With the cross of Je - sus Go - ing on be - fore.
Broth - ers, we are tread - ing Where the saints have trod.
But the Church of Je - sus Con - stant will re - main.
Blend with ours your voic - es In the tri - umph song:



Christ, the roy - al mas - ter, Leads a - gainst the foe;
We are not di - vid - ed, All one bod - y we,
Gates of hell can nev - er 'Gainst that Church pre - vail;
Glo - ry, laud, and hon - or Un - to Christ, the king;



For - ward in - to bat - tle See His ban - ners go!
One in hope and doc - trine, One in char - i - ty.
We have Christ's own prom - ise, And that can - not fail.
This through count - less a - ges Men and an - gels sing.



On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, March - ing as to war,



With the cross of Je - sus Go - ing on be - fore.

Text and tune: Public domain

Psalm

Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

²**Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.**

³There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

⁴**Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.**

In them he has set a tent for the sun, ⁵which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

⁶**Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

⁸**the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;**

the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

⁹**the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;**

the just decrees of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;**

sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹**Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.**

¹²Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

¹³**Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.**

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Kyrie

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.
- C** **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray. O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to James Worthy Matthews and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 25:6–9

- ⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.
- ⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.
- ⁸He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
- ⁹It will be said on that day,
“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 23

- ¹**The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.**
- ²**He makes me lie down in green pastures.**
He leads me beside still waters.
- ³**He restores my soul.**
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

**⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Epistle

Ephesians 6:10–20

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise

Verse

- P** Alleluia, alleluia. Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;
- C** **to Him be glory and power forever. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 7:1–10 and John 5:24–29

- P** The Holy Gospel readings according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter and St. John, the fifth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹After [Jesus] had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. ²Now a centurion had a servant who was sick and at the point of death, who was highly valued by him. ³When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent to him elders of the Jews, asking him to come and heal his servant. ⁴And when they came to Jesus, they pleaded with him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy to have you do this for him, ⁵for he loves our nation, and he is the one who built us our synagogue." ⁶And Jesus went with them. When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. ⁷Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed. ⁸For I too am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me: and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." ⁹When Jesus heard these things, he marveled at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." ¹⁰And when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the servant well.

And from the Gospel of according to John. Chapter 5...

[Jesus said] ²⁴Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

²⁵"Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. ²⁶For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. ²⁷And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. ²⁸Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

sts. 1-4



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Gods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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Sermon

741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense



1 Je - sus Christ, my sure de - fense And my Sav - ior, now is
 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, lives; Like - wise I to life shall
 3 No, too close - ly I am bound By my hope to Christ for -
 4 I am flesh and must re - turn To the dust, whence I am



liv - ing! Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence
 wak - en. He will bring me where He is;
 ev - er; Faith's strong hand the Rock has found,
 tak - en; But by faith I now dis - cern



Rests up - on the hope here giv - en, Though the
 Shall my cour - age then be shak - en? Shall I
 Grasped it, and will leave it nev - er; E - ven
 That from death I shall a - wak - en With my



night of death be fraught Still with man - y an anx - ious thought.
 fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His mem - bers dead?
 death now can - not part From its Lord the trust - ing heart.
 Sav - ior to a - bide In His glo - ry, at His side.

5 Glorified, I shall anew
 With this flesh then be enshrouded;
 In this body I shall view
 God, my Lord, with eyes unclouded;
 In this flesh I then shall see
 Jesus Christ eternally.

6 Then take comfort and rejoice,
 For His members Christ will cherish.
 Fear not, they will hear His voice;
 Dying, they will never perish;
 For the very grave is stirred
 When the trumpet's blast is heard.

7 Laugh to scorn the gloomy grave
 And at death no longer tremble;
 He, the Lord, who came to save
 Will at last His own assemble.
 They will go their Lord to meet,
 Treading death beneath their feet.

8 O, then, draw away your hearts
 From all pleasures base and hollow;
 Strive to share what He imparts
 While you here His footsteps follow.
 As you now still wait to rise,
 Fix your hearts beyond the skies!

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Please rise

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.
- A** Almighty God, You have knit Your chosen people together into one communion in the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give to Your whole Church in heaven and on earth Your light and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Grant that all who have been nourished by the holy body and blood of Your Son may be raised to immortality and incorruption to be seated with Him at Your heavenly banquet. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Give to the family of James Worthy Matthews and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Give courage and faith to the bereaved, that within the communion of Your Church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Receive our thanks for James Worthy Matthews and for all the blessings You bestowed on him in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with him we may see You face to face in the joys of paradise. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence that because He lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come will be able to separate us from Your love, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- C** **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Nunc Dimittis

- A** "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."
- C** **Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;
Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation
which You have prepared in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal You to the nations
and the glory of Your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- A** "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

Concluding Collect

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.
Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

The Committal Service will be conducted at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery (FLW), Waynesville.

- P** Let us go forth in peace,
C **in the name of the Lord. Amen.**

801 How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing, Sent Him to
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
 gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;
 ra - tion And there pro - claim: "My God, how great Thou art!"



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee, How great Thou



art! How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

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Acknowledgments

Funeral Service from Lutheran Service Book

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James W. Matthews



James Worthy Matthews was given life by his creator and was born on March 19, 1929 in New Castle, Pennsylvania. He was the youngest of four children born to the union of the late James Stephen Matthews and Mary Elizabeth (Janscar) Matthews. In June, 1929, at Saint Mary's in New Castle, PA, he received the gift of Holy Baptism and became a child of God. In 1942, at Bethany Lutheran Church in New Castle, PA, he publicly professed his faith and was confirmed. He received the precious gift of the Lord's life-giving body and blood.

At the age of 12, James quit school to help provide for his family when his father passed away (later in life, he earned his high school diploma through a GED). At the age of 15, he worked at a dynamite plant and then did odd jobs until he was drafted into the United States Army at the age of 18. He was immediately sent to Japan with the 1/24th Infantry Battalion, a group of 600 soldiers and only 100 of them survived. James saw the destruction of Hiroshima and was within 30 days of discharge when they were sent home. For his faithful service, James received the World War II Victory Medal and the Army of Occupation Medal-Japan.

James returned to Pennsylvania where he was reunited with Marie Reno, having met his beloved future wife when they were only 11. On November 20, 1948 they were united in marriage at Bethany Lutheran Church in New Castle, PA. Jim and Marie shared over 71 years of marriage together and were blessed with four sons, James, David, Bill, and Rick.

Work was difficult to find, so James, along with his family, drove a Packard to California where he got a job as an assembly man with the Chrysler Company. He saved his money and later moved the family to Oxnard, California where he got a job with the United States Postal Service. He spent the next 32 years with the postal service and retired in 1988.

James and Marie came to Missouri where their son was stationed, so they could help care for their granddaughter.

God blessed James' life with many special people as he served God in his vocation at home, church, and work, and in the community. In his spare time, James enjoyed woodworking, especially working with a lathe and he also enjoyed gold prospecting when they still lived in California. He was a charter member of the VFW Post 470 of Plato, Missouri.

Finally, on November 15, 2020 God blessed James with a holy death and took him home to rest in the arms of Jesus to await the resurrection of the dead. He will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered by all those that knew and loved him.

James leaves to cherish his memory, his wife Marie; two sons, David Matthews (Anita) of Plato, MO, and Bill Matthews (Gloria) of Oklahoma City, OK; nine grandchildren and several great-grandchildren; a number of nieces and nephews; as well as a host of other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, James was preceded in death by three sisters and two sons.

The Lord gives and the Lord takes away: blessed be the name of the Lord. We give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for our brother James.