

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Warrens, WI  
6:30 PM Devotional Service via Facebook  
Wednesday, May 6, 2020**

**Pre-Service Music & Introduction**

**Opening Verses:** (Psalm 118:24; Psalm 113:3)

This is the day which the Lord has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;  
**I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.  
**Teach me Your paths.**

Sanctify us in Your truth.  
**Your Word is truth.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

**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.**

**We Sing: "Softly and Tenderly"**

**Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
Calling for you and for me;  
See, on the portals He's waiting and watching,  
Watching for you and for me.  
Come home, come home,  
You who are weary come home;  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling –  
Calling, "O sinner, come home!"**

**Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
Pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,  
Mercies for you and for me?  
Come home, come home,  
You who are weary come home;  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling –  
Calling, "O sinner, come home!"**

**Oh, for the wonderful love He has promised,  
Promised for you and for me;  
Though we have sinned He has mercy and pardon,  
Pardon for you and for me ...**

**Come home, come home,  
You who are weary come home;  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling –  
Calling, “O sinner, come home!”**

**Opening Prayer** (led by pastor)

**First Reading: *Psalm 27:1-7, 13-14***

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?  
<sup>2</sup> When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who  
stumble and fall.  
<sup>3</sup> Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against  
me, yet I will be confident.  
<sup>4</sup> One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.  
<sup>5</sup> For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;  
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.  
<sup>6</sup> And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,  
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make melody to the Lord.  
<sup>7</sup> Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!  
<sup>13</sup> I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!  
<sup>14</sup> Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

**New Testament Reading: *Philippians 2:14-30***

<sup>14</sup> Do all things without grumbling or disputing, <sup>15</sup> that you may be blameless and  
innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted  
generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup> holding fast to the word of life,  
so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. <sup>17</sup> Even  
if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am  
glad and rejoice with you all. <sup>18</sup> Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

<sup>19</sup> I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by  
news of you. <sup>20</sup> For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your  
welfare. <sup>21</sup> For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup> But you know  
Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. <sup>23</sup> I  
hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, <sup>24</sup> and I trust in the  
Lord that shortly I myself will come also.

<sup>25</sup> I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker  
and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, <sup>26</sup> for he has been  
longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. <sup>27</sup> Indeed  
he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also,  
lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. <sup>28</sup> I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that  
you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. <sup>29</sup> So receive him in

the Lord with all joy, and honor such men,<sup>30</sup> for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**We Sing: “Shine, Jesus, Shine”**

**Lord, the light of Your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness shining.  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;  
Set us free by the truth You now bring us.**

***Refrain:* Shine on me, Shine on me.  
Shine, Jesus, shine! Fill this land with the Father’s glory.  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze! Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow! Flood the nations with grace and mercy.  
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!**

**Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into Your radiance.  
By the blood I may enter Your brightness;  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness. *Refrain***

**As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,  
So our faces display Your likeness.  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirrored here, may our lives tell Your story. *Refrain***

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**Devotion: “You Shine as Lights”** (based on Phil. 2)

**We Confess the Christian Faith: *The Apostles’ Creed***

**All: 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.**

**Prayers of the Church** (based on the Lord’s Prayer)

**Evening Prayer** (see next page)

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

**Benediction:**

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **Amen.**

**We Sing: "Children of the Heavenly Father"**

Children of the heav'nly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge e'er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish;  
In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them;  
In His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth,  
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

Though He giveth or He taketh,  
God His children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.

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**Sending:**

Go in peace to grow in Christ.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## **Announcements:**

***Bible Study on Philippians – Thursday, May 7 at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom Meeting (The link and password were emailed to St. Matthew members today.)***

***National Day of Prayer – Thursday, May 7 at 12:00 Noon (Pastor will lead a time of prayer on Facebook Live.)***

***Drive-In & Live-Streamed Service – Sunday, May 10 at 9:15 a.m. (Facebook)***

***Bible Study: Our Fears and God's Promises – Sunday, May 10 at 10:30 a.m. (Facebook)***