

A Home for Every Heart

Sunday, September 13, 2020 Rev. Kory Janneke, Pastor

Welcome to St. Matthew Lutheran Church! Thank you for joining us for this morning's outdoor service. If you will be participating from your vehicle, please tune your radio to 93.5 FM. If you have any questions, prayer requests or other needs this morning, please speak with Pastor Kory. After the service, you are welcome to stay for fellowship, a lite meal, and the opening of St. Matthew's time capsule.

Our summer-long journey through the book of Romans concludes today. Pastor's sermon will focus on the message that "we are the Lord's" (Romans 14:8), a truth which impacts not only our relationship with God but with one another as His people.

# We Sing "Your Grace is Enough"

1 Great is Your faithfulness, O God. You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart. You lead us by still waters into mercy, And nothing can keep us apart

> Chorus: So remember Your people, Remember Your children, Remember Your promise, O God.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough for me.

2 Great is Your love and justice, God of Jacob. You use the weak to lead the strong. You lead us in the song of Your salvation, And all Your people sing along.

Chorus: So remember Your people, Remember Your children, Remember Your promise, O God.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough for me.

Ending: Your grace is enough, Heaven reaches down to us. Your grace is enough for me.

God, I see Your grace is enough,
I'm covered in Your love.
Your grace is enough for me, for me.
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#### Invocation

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

#### **Confession and Absolution**

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

#### Psalm: Psalm 103:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

<sup>2</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

<sup>3</sup>who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

<sup>4</sup>who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

<sup>5</sup>who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

<sup>7</sup>He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

8The LORD is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup>He will not always chide,

nor will he keep his anger forever.

<sup>10</sup>He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

<sup>11</sup>For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

<sup>12</sup>as far as the east is from the west,

so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

## Prayer of the Day

- P Gracious Lord, You have rescued us from our bondage to sin and given us a new life and identity in Baptism. Grant us Your grace that we live in peace with all people and show to those around us the same forgiveness that You have shown to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

### Children's Message

## We Sing "Thy Word"

Refrain: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path. Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid,
Think I've lost my way,
Still you're there right beside me,
And nothing will I fear
As long as you are near.
Please be near be to the end. Refrain

I will not forget Your love for me, and yet My heart forever is wandering. Jesus, be my guide, And hold me to your side, And I will love you to the end. Refrain

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# Old Testament Reading: (Joseph reassures his brothers of his forgiveness) Genesis 50:15-21

<sup>15</sup>When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." <sup>16</sup>So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. <sup>21</sup>So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

# Epistle Reading: (We are the Lord's)

Romans 14:1-12

<sup>1</sup>As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. <sup>2</sup>One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for

God has welcomed him. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

<sup>5</sup>One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup>The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. <sup>7</sup>For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; <sup>11</sup>for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

<sup>12</sup>So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

## Gospel Reading: (Jesus shares a parable about forgiveness)

*Matthew 18:21–35* 

<sup>21</sup>Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

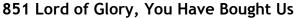
<sup>23</sup>"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup>And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup>So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup>He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup>So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

We Confess the Christian Faith: The Apostles' Creed
C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

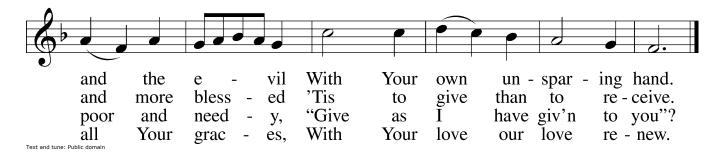
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the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

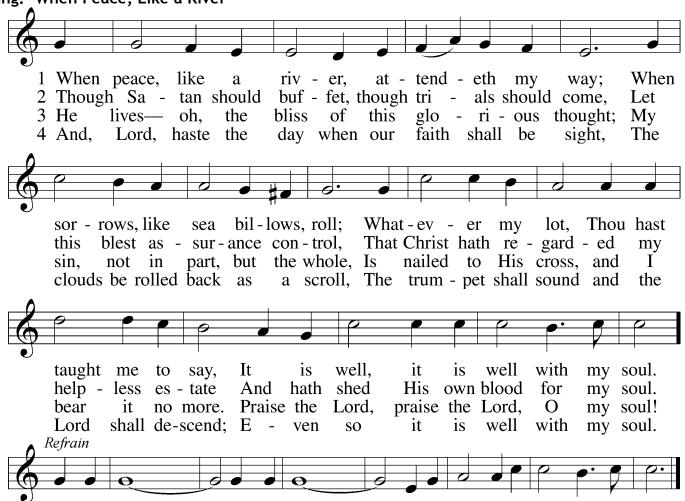






Sermon: "We are the Lord's" (Romans 14:8)





It is well, it is well with my soul.

with my soul,

## Prayer for our Neighbors & Ourselves

is

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#### Lord's Prayer

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

well

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.

## **Closing Prayer**

- P Good Shepherd, thank You for gathering with Your flock as we worship You. Cause the good Word we have heard to take root in our hearts and bear fruit in our lives. Guide us in paths of righteousness, that our words and actions might lead others to glorify You.
- C Amen.

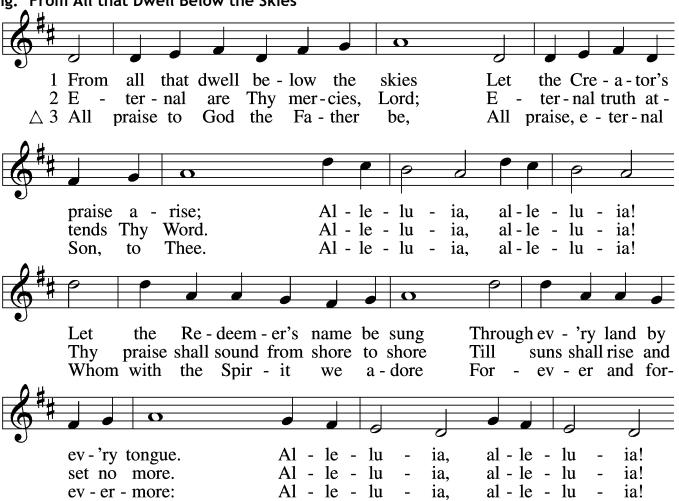
#### **Benediction**

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.

  The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

  The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C Amen.







## Sending

- P Go in peace to grow in Christ.
- C Thanks be to God!

# Offering

(collected at the north end of the parking lot)

## Opening of St. Matthew's Time Capsule

## Acknowledgments - Do Not Remove

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