

Saint Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

New Milford, New Jersey

A Congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

www.smelcnewmilford.org

Pentecost 8

Sunday

August 7, 2011



This Weekend at Saint Matthew's

We thank everyone who helped with our church services this weekend:

Sunday Lector:

Adamson Wong

If you are interested in being a reader here at St. Matthew's, please speak with either Adam Wong, Warren Born, or Pastor Iovine

Altar Guild for July:

Doris and Kim Onderdonk

Elder:

Robert Hille

Celebrations

Birthdays

Linda Rose Napoli - August 1st

Ryan Williams - August 9th

Anniversaries:

Kathleen and Greg Levitzki - August 9th

Flowers on the Altar

Flowers this week are dedicated to the Glory of God.

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congregation of the Lutheran
Church -
Missouri Synod



225 Center Street
New Milford, NJ 07646

www.smelcnewmilford.org

stmatthewsnj@gmail.com

(201) 262-5092

Pastor Anthony J. Iovine

Phone: (201) 338-0049

ajiovine@gmail.com

Twitter: reviovine

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ajiovine

Blog: www.reviovine.com

The Pastor's Blog:

www.stmatthewsnj.org/blog



Lee Bigbee

Voters Body President

Edwin Geiger

**Voters' Body Vice-
President**

Deborah Bigbee

Scott Helming

Robert Hille

Channing Wilson

Board of Elders

Warren Born

Minister of Music

Christina Rottinger

Secretary

Saint Matthew's Mission Statement

We are a congregation of Christians who worship, pray, hear the Word of God, receive the sacraments, give thanks, grow through Christian education, serve others, and witness to God's love because God has commanded it and we believe this. We attempt to follow this commandment at all times and in all aspects of our lives, especially in church where the fellowship of believers is reinforced. We rely on the work of the Holy Spirit to guide our thoughts, words, and deeds in our daily relationships; and to lead us in the use of our time, talent, and treasure.



As We Gather This Sunday

What Can You Do With a Little Faith?

God can walk on water. Of course! No question! God can do anything. But can God make you walk on water? Don't think so? Neither did the apostle Peter. But he did---for a moment, anyway. The point isn't the miracle, however. The point is what God can do with a person's faith and what God can do with you through your faith in Christ. To call faith "little" or "great" is to look the wrong way. For faith, whether great or small, looks to Jesus and receives the Lord's protection, strength, and heavenly goal---the salvation of our souls.

Our Worship Service This Week: Blended Worship from the Lutheran Service Book

Words of Welcome

At this time, Pastor Iovine will outline some parish news and information. For further information on these announcements, please look in the "Saint Matthew's Matters" insert in your bulletin AND on our church's website, www.smelcnewmilford.org and click "Announcements" under the "About Us" tab.

Prelude - Pre-Service Prayer & Meditation

"Open My Eyes That I May See," arr. Albin Whitworth

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope for everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Taken from the Lutheran Service Book

Service of Preparation

↑ Opening Hymn

Congregational Selection

Throughout the summer, the congregation selects either the opening or closing hymn.

Invocation and Opening Versicles

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: In my distress I called upon the LORD;

C: **to my God I cried for help.** Psalm 18:6a

P: If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead,

C: **you will be saved.** Romans 10:9

Kyrie

Lord, Have Mercy

Sung to the melody "Amazing Grace" or "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Look down in mercy on us, Lord,
Receive our prayers and praise,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word,
For Your amazing grace.

Gloria

Sung to the melody "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Angels, sing, and earth, reply:
"Glory be to God on high!"
God who flung the stars in space,
God who formed the human race,
God the mind and God the cause,
God the source of nature's laws,
God of wisdom, power, and love,
God of gods, all gods above.
Angels, sing, and earth, reply:
"Glory be to God on high!"

Angels, sing, and earth, reply:
"Glory be to God on high!"
God who saw your creatures fall,
Loved them still, and loved them all,
Gave Your only Son to prove
What is mercy, what is love;
And the Spirit, given free,
Recreates Your family.
Angels, sing, and earth, reply:
"Glory be to God on high!"

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God,

A: **preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You would have us do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

↓ Old Testament

Job 38:4-18

(Only God is able to save.)

L: The Old Testament Reading for the 8th Sunday after Pentecost is taken from Job, Chapter 38:

“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?
Tell me, if you have understanding.
Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?
On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone,
when the morning stars sang together
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

“Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb,
when I made clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling band,
and prescribed limits for it
and set bars and doors,
and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?

“Have you commanded the morning since your days began,
and caused the dawn to know its place,
that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,
and the wicked be shaken out of it?
It is changed like clay under the seal,
and its features stand out like a garment.
From the wicked their light is withheld,
and their uplifted arm is broken.

“Have you entered into the springs of the sea,
or walked in the recesses of the deep?
Have the gates of death been revealed to you,
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?
Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?
Declare, if you know all this.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Romans 10:5-17

(Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.)

L: The Epistle Reading is taken from Romans, Chapter 10:

For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

↑ Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

(Jesus strengthens His disciples' faith.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 14th Chapter:

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

Immediately (Jesus) made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried

out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

↓ Hymn of the Day

"Love in Christ is Strong and Living," Lutheran Worship #376

Love in Christ is strong and living, Binding faithful hearts in one;
Love in Christ is True and giving, May His will in us be done.

Love is patient and forbearing, Clothed in Christ's humility,
Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring, Reaching out in charity.

Love in Christ abides forever, Fainting not when ills attend,
Love, forgiving and forgiven, Shall endure until life's end.

Text: Dorothy Schultz, b. 1934
Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, b. 1932

Sermon

↑ Creed

Sung to the Melody "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Great God, our Creator, from whom all receive
Their being and blessing, in You we believe.
Almighty, all-knowing, all-gracious, all true,
Provider and Father, our trust is in You.

And You, Jesus Christ, we affirm as our Lord,
True Son of the Father, by angels adored;
Redeemer incarnate, You paid for our sins,
And, joined in Your rising, our new life begins.

Free Spirit of wisdom, of power and love,
On us, as on Christ, You descend from above;
You call us, You cleanse us, You open our eyes,
You keep us in peace, You restore paradise.

Offering

Voluntary

"Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful," arr. Martha Sobaje

Prayer of the Church

Our prayers this evening are responsive. Following each petition, the officiant will say "Lord, in Your mercy," to which the congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."

P In the storms of our lives, we walk to You, Lord, praying that we may not fall. Hear the prayers of Your people and grant us grace sufficient for every need.

E Once Job cried out to You and You invited Him to trust in Your mercy and not in his own understanding. Give us such faith that in every need and adversity we may be consoled not by explanations but by Your all sufficient grace in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Bless Your Church and those who serve us in Your name that they may bring Your Word to us with faithful and fervent preaching, teaching, and devotion to Your means of grace. Raise up men who will hear and heed Your call to service, and bless the seminaries of our Church where these men are formed in their pastoral vocation, that Your people may be strengthened in faith and those who do not know You may hear the good news of the Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

E Raise up faithful leaders in this and every land, that everywhere people may enjoy the freedom to worship You, justice to protect them, and protection from violence and oppression. Guide our local officials on the path to pursue truth and uphold the good of society, asking for blessings upon our Governor, Chris Christie, our State Legislature, our Mayor, Ann Subrizi, our borough council, and all leaders in the communities around New Milford. Most especially, bless especially the men and women of our armed forces as they serve the cause of peace throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Speak peace to the hearts and minds of the troubled. Give us patience and equal dedication to care for those with mental illness as we do for those with physical afflictions. Grant healing and relief to all the sick, the suffering, the grieving, and the dying. According to Your will, grant them every aid and comfort in their need and restore them by Your grace in Christ. And Father, we ask on behalf of those in Somalia in Africa today to turn the hearts of the evil to peace; may their hardness of their hearts be softened to allow aid agencies into the villages and camps to help provide nourishment to those starving in a horrific famine impacting that nation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

E You supported Peter in his doubts and fears. Keep us from sinking into despair when we suffer the troubles and trials of this mortal life. Grant us Your Spirit that our hearts may not waver, and keep us in the grasp of Your grace that we may not lose our way or be overcome by weariness and struggle. We have so much that we call our own. Remind us that all good gifts come from Your giving love. Teach us to use wisely, faithfully, and for Your glory all that You have entrusted to our care. Even now we pray You to receive the tithes and offerings we bring as part of our worship and symbols of our faith and trust. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Prepare us that we who come to Your Table may receive with faith all that is given to us in the communion of Your body and blood. Bring us to the true unity of Your Word, that we may be united in confession even as we are one at the table of our Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

E All things are Yours, O Lord, and yet You graciously have given us all things in Christ. Grant us trusting hearts, that what we have prayed with our lips we may show forth in our lives. Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Lord, we confess the meagerness of our faith.
C: **Many times it is hard to believe.**

P: Our sins make us blind to Your care.
C: **Lord, save me!**

P: Reach out Your saving hand and lift us out of trouble.
C: **You are the Son of God.**

P: As Saint Matthew reminds us today, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."
Matthew 14:27

Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the same, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Sung to the melody "Holy, Holy, Holy"

"Holy, Holy, Holy!" All the saints in glory
Fill Your temple with their song around Your golden throne;
"Holy, Holy, Holy!" With them we adore You;
God in three Persons, all in Christ as one.

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

P: Father, we acknowledge Your greatness: all Your actions show Your wisdom and love. You formed man in Your own likeness and set him over the whole world to serve You, his creator, and to rule over all creatures. Even when he disobeyed you and lost Your friendship you did not abandon him to the power of death. Again and again you offered a covenant to man, and through the prophets taught him to hope for salvation.

Father, You so loved the world that in the fullness of time You sent Your only Son to be our Savior. He was conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary, a man like us in all things but sin. To the poor He proclaimed the good news of salvation, to prisoners, freedom, and to those in sorrow, joy. In

fulfillment of Your will He gave Himself up to death; but by rising from the dead, He destroyed death and restored life. And that we might live no longer for ourselves but for Him, He sent the Holy Spirit from you, Father, as His first gift to those who believe, to bring us the fullness of grace.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Matthew 26: 26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

P: This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

C: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, Remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

A: 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.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us greet one another with a sign of peace.

Agnus Dei

Sung to the melody "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Meek, slaughtered Lamb of God,
You bore the sinners' load
To buy our peace:
Now risen and enthroned,
With life and glory crowned,
To all the lost and found
Please grant Your peace.

↓ Communion Distribution

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow,” arr. Albin Whitworth

The Lord’s Supper will be distributed from the altar rail this morning.

↑ Prayer of Thanksgiving

E: Let us pray: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled to serve You constantly; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

Closing Hymn

“Praise and Thanks and Adoration,” Lutheran Service Book #387

Praise and thanks and adoration, Son of God, to you we give,
For you chose to serve creation, Died that Adam’s heirs might live.
Dear Lord Jesus, guide my way, Faithful let me day by day
Follow where your steps are leading, Find adventure, joys exceeding!

Hold me ever in your keeping, Comfort me in pain and strife;
Through my laughter and my weeping Lift me to a nobler life,
Draw my fervent love to you; Constant faith and hope renew
In you birth, your life and Passion, In your death and resurrection

Text: Thomas J. Kingo, 1634-1703| tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Tune Trente quatre pseumes de Deavid, *Geneva*, 1551

Musical Benediction

“God Be With You,” William Tower

Dismissal

Postlude

"Faith of Our Fathers," arr. Albin Whitworth

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