



# Welcome Home Sunday

Week Two of Two

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

September 18, 2022



---

100 YEARS IN GOD'S GRACE  
1922 - 2022

---

# *Welcome to St. Matthew's!*

We are delighted that you have joined us for worship today! It is our prayer that God would fill you with His grace and peace as we worship our Lord and Savior Jesus. If you have questions about St. Matthew's or would like to speak to one of the pastors, please feel free to reach out to us using the contact information on the back cover.

---

## *Welcome Home!*

Read through Scripture and count the times it refers to believers as “brothers and sisters.” You will reach the triple digits quickly. The Holy Spirit is deliberate with his choice of words. If he frequently refers to the Church in those terms, there can be only one explanation. He wants us to think of each other as family.

Scripture teaches that what unites us to our spiritual family is infinitely more powerful than any biological bond. While a blood relative may be taken away from us by death, we will enjoy the companionship of our spiritual family for all eternity. In this worship series, we will look at how our Father knits us together in love and unity into a spiritual family. We will see the benefits of being part of this family. In the Church, Christ has given us a better home.

- **Young Children:** If your child becomes restless and you need a “place of retreat” feel free to use the Fireside Area. The service is broadcast on the TV in that area.
- **Restrooms** are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary.
- **Thank you** for silencing your cell phones prior to worship.
- **Large Print Service Folders** are available from an usher upon request.
- **Watch Worship on TV** View our services on Charter channel 985 on Thursdays at 12:00 PM and 7:00 PM or Sundays at 10:00 AM <http://www.watertowntv.com/playing-now.php>
- **Instagram** St. Matthew's is on Instagram. You can follow us @St.MatthewsOconomowoc.

# *The Order of Worship for Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

*September 18, 2022*

---

“Army of One” was the shortest lived recruiting slogan in US military history. It was meant to stress the strength of the individual. The Army dropped the slogan relatively quickly because they realized it was contrary to the reality that, in the army, you are completely reliant upon your team. In a stressful situation, the individual can be overwhelmed. He or she needs others. God knows this too.

The first time God looked at Creation and noticed something was off, the issue was that an individual (Adam) was isolated. “It is not good for the man to be alone” (Genesis 2:18). Humans are hardwired by God to need fellowship, not just with him, but with one another. So, God is determined to bring believers into a loving, nurturing community—the Church.

Perhaps you have been a part of this Christian family for a long time. Perhaps you once belonged to a church, but for whatever reason drifted away. Perhaps you have never belonged to a church. Whatever may be the case for you, may God bless you as you listen to his Word today. May he help us all to realize that this Christian community—this spiritual home—is something we badly need. Welcome home

**Call to Worship (Sunday)**

**Lord I Need You**

*Emily Knoelke & Megan Bode*

**Opening Hymn 814**

**Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me**

*Stand*

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

**Amen.**

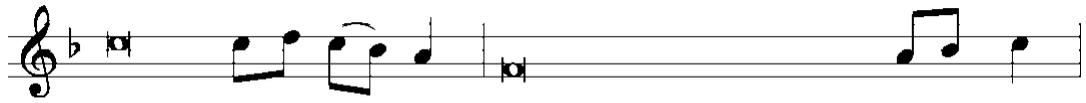




We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

# The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the family of believers with your never-failing mercy. Bind us together with the bond of your love. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Ecclesiastes 4:7-12*

*Scripture says that people are not wired to be rugged individuals. God created us to need one another. Two are better than one. Even better is having Christ as the third strand within a relationship. He provides the love and grace that keeps that bond strong.*

<sup>7</sup>Again I saw something meaningless under the sun:

<sup>8</sup>There was a man all alone; he had neither son nor brother.

There was no end to his toil, yet his eyes were not content with his wealth.

“For whom am I toiling,” he asked, “and why am I depriving myself of enjoyment?” This too is meaningless— a miserable business!

<sup>9</sup>Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor:

<sup>10</sup>If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.

But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

<sup>11</sup>Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.

But how can one keep warm alone?

<sup>12</sup>Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.

A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm of the Day 42A

# As the Deer

(Sunday sung by Emily Knoelke & Megan Bode)



1 As the deer pants\_ for the wa - ter, so my  
2 You're my friend, and\_ you're my broth - er, e - ven  
3 I want you more than gold or sil - ver, on - ly



soul longs af - ter you; you a - lone are my  
though you are a King. I love you more than  
you can sat - is - fy. You a - lone are the



heart's de - sire\_ and I long to wor - ship you.  
an - y oth - er, so much more than an - y - thing.  
real joy giv - er and the ap - ple of my eye.

## Refrain



You a - lone are my strength, my shield; to you a -



lone may my spir - it yield. You a - lone are my



heart's de - sire and I long to wor - ship you.

## Second Reading

## Hebrews 2:9-18

*Jesus became our brother so that by his suffering, death and resurrection he might unite us to himself and knit us together into a spiritual family.*

<sup>9</sup>But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

<sup>10</sup>In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. <sup>11</sup>Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>He says,

“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;  
in the assembly I will sing your praises.”

<sup>13</sup>And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again he says,

“Here am I, and the children God has given me.”

<sup>14</sup>Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— <sup>15</sup>and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. <sup>17</sup>For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Anthem

## You Have Made Us One

*Grade 8 recorded; Grade 7 sings 10:30*

*Stand*

## **Gospel (Sermon Text)**

***Matthew 11:25-30***

*Jesus wants us in his family so that he might give us rest and peace.*

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup>Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

<sup>27</sup>“All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## **Hymn 850**

**It Is Well with My Soul**

## **Sermon**

**The Weary Now Find Rest!**

*Pastor Steven Hillmer*

## **Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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.**

*Be seated*

## **Offering and Friendship Cards**

*Offerings may be placed in the basket in the entry of church either upon your entry or exit of the service. It is the joy and privilege of the members of St. Matthew's to support the Gospel outreach in the Oconomowoc area and throughout the world. If you are visiting with us, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. As God's Word moves your heart, know that your offerings will support the spread of the Gospel. We offer several options of **electronic giving**. Visit our website and click on "GIVE" or you can text CARDINALS to 73256. You may give a one-time gift or set up reoccurring gifts.*

***At this time, we will watch the Century Celebration video for the 1990's.***

## **Prayer of the Church**

O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

**We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

**Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

**Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

**Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

**Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

**Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen.**

## Closing Hymn 731

## Oh, How Good It Is

**In Our Prayers:** We rejoice with **Greg & Debbie Thurow** as they celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; may our gracious Lord comfort the family of **Elsie Gnewuch** whom the Lord called to her heavenly home Tuesday evening; God's continue blessing be with **Karla Woefel's nephew, Jacob** and **Ray Ehlers son, Scott**, as they endure treatments for cancer.

## Thank you for Serving our Savior and Us

	This Weekend	Next Weekend – September 22, 25, 26
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Thursday</b> – Rick Pantazon <b>Early</b> – Tim Taubenheim <b>Late</b> – Kyle Bode <b>Monday</b> – Jeff Andrae	<b>Thursday</b> – Kyle Bode <b>Early</b> – Ralph Schmidt <b>Late</b> – Bill Neubauer <b>Monday</b> – Ron Fortmann
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Early</b> – Myron & Darlene Sankey <b>Late</b> – Dan & Julie Degner	<b>Early</b> – Harry & Marlene Redfield <b>Late</b> –
<b>Organist</b>	Jenny Hillmer	Pastor Jon Kehren
<b>Special Music</b>	Grade 8, Grade 7, Emily Knoelke & Megan Bode	Grade 6, YOUTH Praise

<b>Altar Flowers</b>	Greg & Debbie Thurow – 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	
<b>Projectionist</b>	<b>Thursday</b> – Dan Shaw <b>Early</b> – Sam Splinter <b>Late</b> – Dylan Reimer <b>Monday</b> – Evelyn Loppnow	<b>Thursday</b> – Dan Shaw <b>Early</b> – Lily Small <b>Late</b> – Kendra Lauersdorf <b>Monday</b> – Blake Kreutzman
<b>Sound/Video</b>	<b>Early</b> – Juli Natzke <b>Late</b> – Kathy Goggins	<b>Early</b> – Kathleen Everson <b>Late</b> – Tom & Nancy Heimsch
<b>Livestream</b>	Jason Cox	Tim Taubenheim

## This Week at St. Matthew's

Thursday	8:00 am 8:30 am 6:00 pm	SCRIP Orders Due Women in the Word Worship Service
Friday	5:30 pm	Early Childhood Family Night
Sunday	8 & 10:30 am 9:15 am  1:00 pm	Worship Service Adult Bible Study Bible Adventures Felgenhauer Family presentation
Monday	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	SHINE Leadership meeting Worship Service
Tuesday	9:00 pm	Bulletin materials due
Wednesday	9:00 am 10:00 am 1:30 pm 5:00 pm 5:00 pm 6:00 pm	Preschool Power Hour Shorehaven Service Senior Ministry Public School Catechism Shine Bible study committee Shine Bible study
Thursday	8:00 am 8:30 am 6:00 pm	SCRIP Orders Due Women in the Word Communion Service
Saturday	7:30 am	Blood Drive at Brown Street campus
Sunday	8 & 10:30 am 9:15 am	Communion Service Adult Bible Study Bible Adventures

# Bible Study Opportunities

## **Paul's Letter to the Philippians**

We are studying Paul's letter to the Philippians. Join us at 9:15 on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary.

## **Sunday Morning Bible Adventures and Child Care Starting (9:15 – 10:15 a.m.)**

The Fellowship Center (lower level of the church) and the gym will be the home of our Sunday Morning Bible Adventures this year. We will begin the year with an "Open House" held in the gym at 9:15 am on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. (Each Sunday morning from 9:15 to 10:15 am, childcare for children ages 0 to 3 will be provided in the nursery room of the Fellowship Center).

## **Youth Catechism Classes**

Pastor Hillmer and Pastor Schmidt are teaching the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes in our Lutheran Elementary School on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Pastor Schmidt is teaching classes for our public school and homeschool students on Wednesdays from 5:00 to 6:00 pm.

## **Women's Bible Study**

SHINE Women's Ministry invites all women of St. Matthew's to join them for a "book club" style Bible study of Take Heart- God's Comfort for Anxious Thoughts by Lindsay Hausch. Each week participants will come prepared to discuss a chapter in the book. Books may be purchased at a discount price of \$10 in the church office. The book or e-book can also be purchased through Amazon or another Christian book site. **This study will be held every Wednesday from 6:30-7:30pm in the church fireside room, starting on September 14<sup>th</sup> and ending November 16<sup>th</sup>.** Sign up today at <https://bit.ly/SHINEfall2022>.

## **Women in the Word**

Women in the Word bible study began on Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. The class meets at 8:30 am in the Fireside Room. This bible study will be led by Pastor Bigelow and the topic will be Burden Bearing.

## **Second Saturday of the Month at 7:30 am**

Men's Bible Breakfast meets in the Fellowship Center for food and fellowship as we discuss God's Word together. Join us each month!

## **NEW Bible Information Class**

Pastor Hillmer will be starting a new Bible Information Class on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. It will meet in the Sanctuary following the late service. If you are looking to learn more about the Scriptures or to simply take a review of Christian Doctrine, this the class for you. If you are interested, please let Pastor Hillmer know.

# Highlights and Announcements

## **Oconomowoc Homecoming Parade**

St. Matthew's School and First Steps will be a part of the Oconomowoc Homecoming Parade on Friday, September 23. We will line up for the parade on Oakwood Ave. Families can arrive at 4:45 p.m. (parade begins at 5:15 p.m.). All families are invited to join us! The theme this year is "Get Groove On, Ocon." Wear your tie dye/70's clothes or St. Matthew's/First Steps shirts. Please RSVP to Beth Plitzuweit at [bplitzuweit@smls.org](mailto:bplitzuweit@smls.org) if you plan on having your family walk with us. Please note that there will be no float to ride on. Small children can ride in strollers or wagons. **Candy donations are needed!** If you are interested in donating candy for us to hand out at the parade please bring bags of candy to the school office by Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. Thank you!

## **OWLS**

WOOHOO! No, no it's HOOT! HOOT! The OWLS meetings are back after the summer break! Join us as the 2022-23 season starts on September 20 at St John's in Juneau. Rev. Jeffrey Mahnke will be there to explain how the WELS goal of "*100 Missions in Ten Years*" can happen. As always, refreshments and socializing will follow. Meetings begin at 1:30, last about two hours, and are wheelchair accessible. Aleda Brensel, Beth Preuss, Carl and Arlene Satorius, Paul Manssen, and Pat Porter are members. If you'd like directions to St. John's, more information, or maybe a ride, feel free to contact one of them.

## **Blood Drive**

St. Matthew's will be hosting a fall blood drive on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at our 1650 Brown Street location. This will be in the main entry of the school. We need your blood! The blood drive will be held from 7:30 am till 12:30 pm. Please contact Jennifer Manssen (262) 912-6350 if you would like to make an appointment. You may also email her and let her know what time frame you prefer. Email address is: [jmanssen@smls.org](mailto:jmanssen@smls.org). You may also schedule your own appointment by following this link <https://bit.ly/stmatthewsept2022>

## **Preschool Power Hour Fall Session**

The fall session of PPH begins again on Wednesday, September 14. Registration information is available at [www.smls.org](http://www.smls.org) under the First Steps drop down menu. This unique preschool program involves children ages 0-4 and their caregivers in a variety of learning activities. During each one-hour class the children enjoy a Bible lesson, music, large motor experiences, art exploration and centers time. The cost for nine classes is \$20, and the fall session runs from Sept. 14 to Nov. 9. Classes are held each Wednesday during that time from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. in the Flex Room of First Steps.

## **LWMS Fall Rally**

This Fall's LWMS Rally will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2022 at St. John's in Jefferson, WI. The Speaker will be Sean Young, Sr. Director of Mission Operations. The topic will be Synod's Initiative- "100 Missions in 10 Years." It will go from 8:30am-12:30pm; lunch will be served. If you would like to give to the Circuit Rally, a box will be available on a table near the Church office in the Fireside room. Checks should be made out to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. If you plan to attend, please contact Chris Dvornik at [ccdovnik@gmail.com](mailto:ccdovnik@gmail.com), or Laura McGarvey at [jonmgarvey2@gmail.com](mailto:jonmgarvey2@gmail.com)

## Shorehaven Helpers

We are in need of volunteers to help gather residents at Shorehaven for WELS/ELS chapel services. The team is short by at least one person every Wednesday. With volunteers traveling, we need substitutes as well. Services are at 10:00am each Wednesday morning. Volunteers can gather in the volunteer office on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor around 9:30am. Services are finished around 10:30am and residents returned to their rooms. At most it's about a 2 hour commitment. If anyone wants additional information you can contact the coordinator Deb Kuklinski at 414-520-6642.

## Recycle Your Aluminum Cans

Thank you to everyone who stored their aluminum cans this summer. The upcoming drop off date for recycling is **Sunday, September 25, 2022**. A trailer will be in the parking lot near the parsonage garage for you to place the bags of cans until 5 PM **that day only**. Please only aluminum cans and not other recyclable tin cans or foil. Crushing the cans is appreciated. This effort is producing about \$500 each year. The profits have been targeted for landscaping which can help with our new building project. The next collection date will be January 15, 2023

## Praise & Proclaim Evangelism Training – Sept. 30 & Oct. 1

Join us for this first-ever Praise and Proclaim Evangelism Training weekend. The program will offer in-depth preparation, experience, and encouragement for follow-up. Dave Malnes, who leads the Praise and Proclaim, has shared this program with more than 70 congregations.

### St. Matthew's Church Fellowship Center

**Friday, Sept. 30 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.** (dinner provided)

**Saturday, Oct. 1. 9:00 – 4:30 p.m.** (breakfast, lunch, dinner provided)

Please register at <https://welcome.smls.org/events/>

(click the Praise & Proclaim Sign Up button)

## WELS World Mission Presentation - Sunday, Sept. 18 – 1:00pm

### “Even There Your Hand Will Guide Me” by the Felgenhauer Family

Learn about the Felgenhauer family and their WELS mission work around the world. From Wisconsin to Germany (and many other places in between) on to Africa and back to Wisconsin again, God has led this family through many challenges and provided them with many blessings. Their presentation will focus on *Psalm 139, “If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me...”*. They will teach the group an African song and an African game, and we will play some fun trivia to win prizes. Light refreshments and beverages will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there! Hosted by SHINE LWMS Team

## Acknowledgments

---

Setting One from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.



PHILIP J. BIGELOW  
Pastor  
pbigelow@smls.org

TOM A. PLITZUWEIT  
Principal  
tplitzuweit@smls.org

STEVEN M. HILLMER  
Pastor  
shillmer@smls.org

AMBER L. TERRY  
First Steps Director  
aterry@smls.org

DANIEL R. SCHMIDT  
Pastor  
dschmidt@smls.org

GEORGE M. ZAFEROS  
Business Administrator  
gzaferos@smls.org



HEATHER BIGELOW  
Personal Member Ministry  
hbigelow@smls.org

CONNIE ABRAM  
Communication Manager  
cabram@smls.org

JENNIFER MANSSEN  
Church Office Manager  
jmanssen@smls.org

JULIE NEHR  
School Admin Assistant  
jnehr@smls.org

## St. Matthew's Mission Statement

**COMPELLED BY THE LOVE OF CHRIST**, St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School seek to reach out to our families, community and world, using Law and Gospel to make disciples, growing and nurturing them in their Christian faith and life.

### **WORSHIP SERVICES**

818 W. Wisconsin Ave • Oconomowoc

*Thursday Worship: 6:00 PM*

*Sunday Worship: 8:00 & 10:30 AM*

*Christian Education For All Ages: 9:15 AM*

*Monday Worship: 7:00 PM*

### **SCHOOL & FIRST STEPS**

1650 Brown St • Oconomowoc

### **CONTACT US**

[www.smls.org](http://www.smls.org)

School: 262-912-6364

First Steps: 262-912-6338

Church: 262-912-6060

