

# ST MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

This week's announcements can be found online at  
[StMatthewGR.com/whats-happening](http://StMatthewGR.com/whats-happening)

## OLD TESTAMENT READING      DEUTERONOMY 6:4–15

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. <sup>5</sup>You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. <sup>6</sup>And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. <sup>7</sup>You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. <sup>8</sup>You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>9</sup>You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

<sup>10</sup>"And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build, <sup>11</sup>and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, <sup>12</sup>then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. <sup>13</sup>It is the Lord your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear. <sup>14</sup>You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you, <sup>15</sup>for the Lord your God in your midst is a jealous God, lest the anger of the Lord your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth."

## NEW TESTAMENT READING      HEBREWS 10:19–25

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup>not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

## GOSPEL READING      MATTHEW 18:10–20

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

<sup>15</sup>"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

# SERMON NOTES

## We are the Church: Week 1

### Images the Bible uses to describe the Church

- Building of God 1 Cor 3: 10-15
- Bride of Christ Eph. 5:22-33
- Body of Christ Eph. 1:22-23, 1 Cor 12

### Some descriptions of the Church

- **People:** “to the church at... (Rome, Corinth, Ephesus, Colosae, Phillippi, Grand Rapids etc.)”
- **Chosen People:** 1 Peter 2:9 “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”
- **Regenerated people:** Romans 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will.
- **Distinct People:** Jeremiah 31:33 ““This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds. and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.”

### What we do:

**Deuteronomy 6:4–9:** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”

- The Focus - vs 4 The Lord!
- The Preparation - vs 5. Love the Lord
- The Who - vs 7 - 8 You

‘Could I climb the highest place in Athens, I would lift my voice and proclaim, Fellow citizens! Why do you turn and scrape every stone to gather wealth, and take so little care of your children, to whom one day you must relinquish it all?’ - Socrates of Athens

- The when - 7b “Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

By teaching and by example

St Matthew In the Word: a home based endeavor our whole congregation embraces.