

**St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
September 20-21, 2025**

As We Gather

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOLY CROSS is celebrated in accordance with the Lutheran confession that Christ's body and blood are truly given to us with the bread and wine to give forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation to repentant, reconciled believers in Christ. Missouri-Synod Lutherans united with us in that confession are invited to receive the Sacrament with us. Others who desire to commune should first speak with a Pastor or an Elder.

- ◆ For those who may require it: Holy Cross offers an alcohol-removed red wine (containing less than 0.5% alcohol) located in the center of each Communion tray.
- ◆ Gluten-free wafers are available upon request to a Pastor or Elder before the service.
- ◆ Communion in the pew is available: let an usher or Elder know before the service.
- ◆ Individual Communion cups: Please do *not* stack the plastic cups in the baskets after use at communion. Stacked cups stick together and hinder the rinsing process. Thanks for understanding!

ATTENDANCE PADS: Take a moment to sign the red fellowship pad located by the center aisle of each pew. Provide contact information if you are interested in membership or if you would like to be contacted by the church. After signing, please pass it to your neighbor and then return it to its spot by the aisle.

LIVE-STREAMING of 8 AM SERVICE WEEKLY: Holy Cross live streams the 8 AM service each Sunday on a link at our website (hcross.com). We provide this service for our members who cannot attend worship. The video perspective from the choir loft looks toward the altar and shows all aspects of the service from the sixth row of pews forward. This includes baptisms, children's talks, and communion.

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Those with hearing aids can now download and use a smartphone or tablet app that broadcasts the service to their hearing aids. (Bluetooth connection required)

Step 1. Log in to the Guest Wi-Fi

Network Name: **HC-Guest**

Password: **Romans1:16**

You will be prompted to join the "HC-Guest" Wi-Fi network

Step 2. Download the ListenWIFI App

Search your device's app store for the **ListenWIFI** app by Listen Technologies



St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Divine Service, Setting Three

September 20-21, 2025

Prelude: Aria and Fanfare from Partita on "O Heiland, reiß die Himmel auf" Carson Cooman

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Opening Hymn: "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake LSB 688

Please Stand



1 "Come, fol - low Me," the Sav - ior spake, "All in My
2 "I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly
3 "My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with
4 "I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your
5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the



way a - bid - ing; De - ny your-selves, the world for-sake,
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;
love is glow - ing; And gra - cious words My lips ex-press,
soul's sal - va - tion, Your heart from ev - 'ry guile to free,
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,



O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -
I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
With meek-ness o - ver - flow - ing. My heart, My mind, My
From sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e'er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.
well I show How you must so - journ here be - low.
strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.
of the soul And lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."
bat - tle's strain The crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgive the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P 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 Word ✠

Introit

Psalm 92:1–5; antiphon: Matthew 9:13b, c; Sunday

The introit is chanted responsively by whole verse.



I desire mercy, and not | sacrifice.*

For I came not to call the righteous, but | sinners.

It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,*

to sing praises to your name, | O Most High;

to declare your steadfast love in the | morning,*

and your faithful- | ness by night,

**to the music of the lute | and the harp,*
to the melody | of the lyre.**

For you, O LORD, have made me glad | by your work;*
at the works of your hands I | sing for joy.

How great are your works, | O LORD!*

Your thoughts are | very deep!

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I desire mercy, and not | sacrifice.*

For I came not to call the righteous, but | sinners.

Kyrie

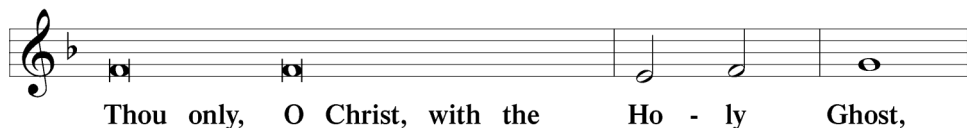
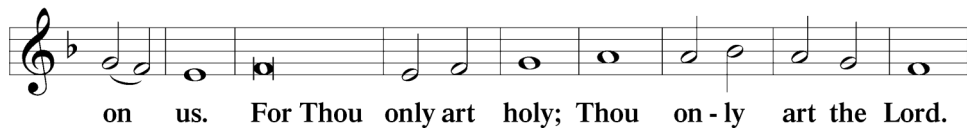
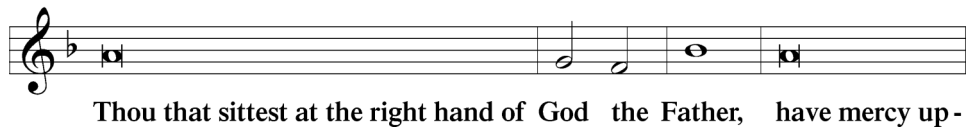
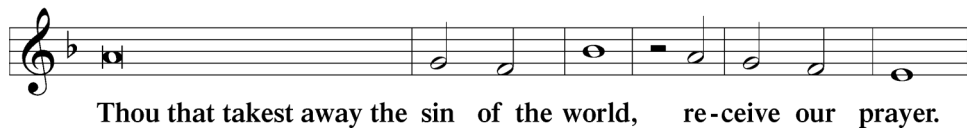
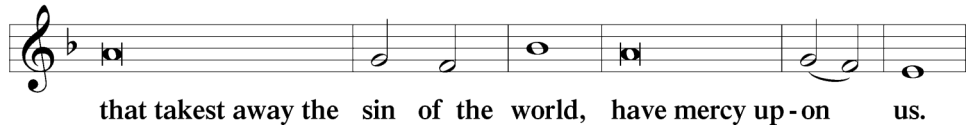
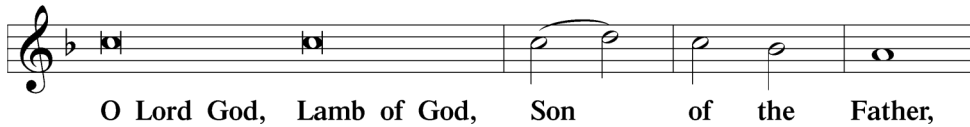
LSB 186

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

O Son of God, our blessed Savior Jesus Christ, You called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist. Through his faithful and inspired witness, grant that we also may follow You, leaving behind all covetous desires and love of riches; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 2:8-3:11

Please Sit

A The Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel, chapters 2 and 3.

“**B**ut you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Be not rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you.” ⁹And when I looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me, and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. ¹⁰And He spread it before me. And it had writing on the front and on the back, and there were written on it words of lamentation and mourning and woe.

And He said to me, “Son of man, eat whatever you find here. Eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel.” ²So I opened my mouth, and He gave me this scroll to eat. ³And He said to me, “Son of man, feed your belly with this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it.” Then I ate it, and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey.

⁴And He said to me, “Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them. ⁵For you are not sent to a people of foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel— ⁶not to many peoples of foreign speech and a hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, if I sent you to such, they would listen to you. ⁷But the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to Me. Because all the house of Israel have a hard forehead and a stubborn heart. ⁸Behold, I have made your face as hard as their faces, and your forehead as hard as their foreheads. ⁹Like emery

harder than flint have I made your forehead. Fear them not, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house.” ¹⁰Moreover, He said to me, “Son of man, all my words that I shall speak to you receive in your heart, and hear with your ears. ¹¹And go to the exiles, to your people, and speak to them and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God,’ whether they hear or refuse to hear.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-16

A The Epistle is from Ephesians, chapter 4.

But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it says,

“When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men.”

⁹(In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) ¹¹And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia

LSB 190; Please Stand



Holy Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me." And he rose and followed Him.

And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and His disciples. ¹¹And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But when He heard it, He said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message

Please be seated/Sunday

Hymn of the Day: "By All Your Saints in Warfare"

LSB 518, sts. 1, 25, 3



1 By all Your saints in war - fare, For
2 Praise, Lord, for him whose Gos - pel Your
△ 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And



all Your saints at rest, Your ho - ly name, O
hu - man life de - clared, Who, world - ly gain for -
wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the



Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be blest! For
sak - ing, Your path of suf - f'ring shared. From
Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till



You have won the bat - tle That they might wear the
all un - righ - teous mam - mon, O raise our eyes a -
all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the

crown; And now they shine in glo - ry
new throne, That we in our vo - ca - tion
As - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry

Re - flect - ed and from Your throne.
May rise and fol low You.
And praise to God a - lone.

Sermon

Please Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Offering & Rite of Fellowship

Please Sit

We ask that all worshipers take a moment to sign the red fellowship pad located at the end of the pew by the center aisle and return it to its spot when finished. If you are interested in membership, please provide a phone number or email address so that we may contact you. Thank you.

Voluntary: Ostinato from Partita on "O Heiland, reiß die Himmel auf"

Carson Cooman

Prayer of the Church

Please Stand

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Additional petitions conclude:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

Preface

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

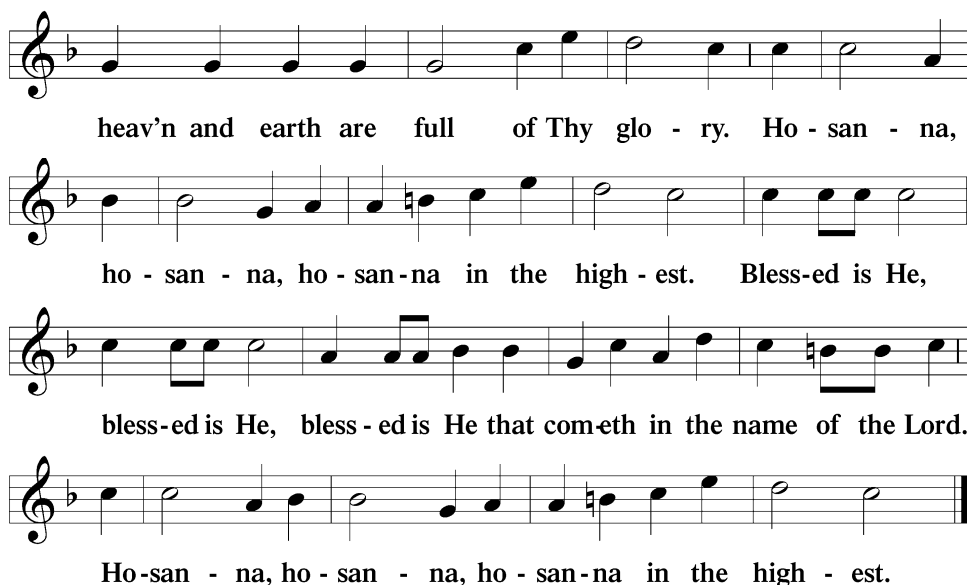
P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant Matthew, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus: "Holy, Holy, Holy"

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
 ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
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
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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

- P** 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, which is 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."

The Peace of the Lord

LSB 197



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei: "Lamb of God"

LSB 198



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution for Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns:

Please Sit

LSB 609 "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"

LSB 586 "Preach You the Word"

LSB 602 "The Gifts Christ Freely Gives"

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.

C Amen.

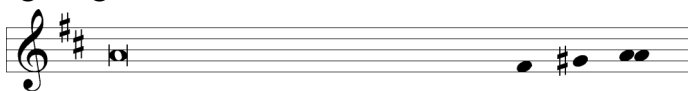
Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

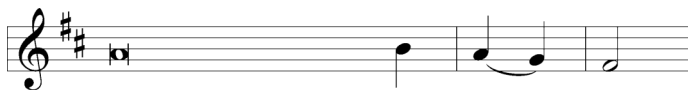
C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn: "What Is the World to Me"

see next page

Silent Prayer & Chimes

Postlude: Finale from Partita on "O Heiland, reiß die Himmel auf"

Carson Cooman

Closing Hymn: "What Is the World to Me"

LSB 730



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed plea - sure
 2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y
 3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of - fers
 4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
 Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.
 Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.
 My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;
 But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is He,
 I have a high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be:
 My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
 My Je - sus, He a - lone. What is the world to me!
 My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
 Once more, then, I de - clare: What is the world to me!

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist



Rembrandt: Saint Matthew and the Angel/Saint Matthew and the Angel, oil on canvas by Rembrandt, 1661; in the Louvre, Paris. 96 × 81 cm.

St. Matthew (flourished 1st century CE, Palestine; Western feast day September 21, Eastern feast day November 16) was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus Christ and the traditional author of the first Synoptic Gospel (the Gospel According to Matthew).

According to Matthew 9:9 and Mark 2:14, Matthew was sitting by the customs house in Capernaum (near modern Almogor, Israel, on the Sea of Galilee) when Jesus called him into his company. Assuming that the identification of Matthew with Levi is correct, Matthew (probably meaning "Yahweh's Gift") would appear to be the Christian

name of Levi (called by Mark "Levi the son of Alphaeus"), who had been employed as a tax collector in the service of Herod Antipas, tetrarch of Galilee.

Because Levi's occupation was one that earned distrust and contempt everywhere, the scribes of the Pharisees criticized Jesus on seeing him eat with tax collectors and sinners, whereupon Jesus answered, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners" (Mark 2:15–17). According to Luke 5:29, the aforementioned dinner was given by Levi in his house after his call.

Other than naming Matthew in the list of Apostles, usually pairing him with St. Thomas, the New Testament offers scant and uncertain information about him. Outside the New Testament, a statement of importance about him is the passage from the Apostolic Father Papias of Hierapolis preserved by Bishop Eusebius of Caesarea: "So then Matthew composed the Oracles in the Hebrew language, and each one interpreted them as he could. "The Gospel According to Matthew was certainly written for a Jewish-Christian church in a strongly Jewish environment, but that this Matthew is definitely the Synoptic author is seriously doubted. Tradition notes his ministry in Judaea, after which he supposedly missioned to the East, suggesting Ethiopia and Persia. Legend differs as to the scene of his missions and as to whether he died a natural death or a martyr's. Matthew's relics were reputedly discovered in Salerno (Italy) in 1080. His symbol is an angel, and he is a patron saint of tax collectors and accountants.

The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica

Serving in God's House Today

September 20-21, 2025

Preacher		Pastor Andrew J. Gimbel
Liturgist		Pastor Jason P. Kohm
Director of Christian Education		Charity Smith
Director of Music		David Gilson
Organist on Saturday		Jill Kirk
Elders	Saturday, 5PM	Rob Paoletti, Jerry Lancour
	Sunday, 8AM	Joe Snyder
	Sunday, 10:45AM	Kent Haffer, Brian Storm
Ushers	Saturday, 5PM	Matt Benigno, Chloe Benigno
	Sunday, 8AM	Terry Hardy, Mike Vesper
	Sunday, 10:45AM	Refer to Elder

COVER:

<https://anastpaul.files.wordpress.com/2019/09/st-matthew-anastpaul.jpg?w=840>

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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*With the help of God,
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
grows disciples
and transforms hearts
for Christ.*