

NOTE ON PARTICIPATING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church throughout history, Closed Communion is observed by this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those who:

- (a) are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;
- (b) have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scriptures as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, have been confirmed in and are a faithful member of a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or a synod that has altar fellowship with the LC-MS, and continues to embrace this same Lutheran faith in the same way that it is believed, taught, confessed, and practiced at this congregation;
- (c) believe that in this Sacrament Christ Jesus is truly present (The Real Presence) in, with, and under the bread and wine which is the Real Body and Blood of Christ that is distributed to and orally received by you, bestowing on you the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation;
- (d) that you have truly examined yourself and have repented of all your sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this Holy Meal.

If you are a guest at Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church, we kindly ask that you first speak with our pastor before receiving this Blessed Sacrament. It is in accord with Holy Scripture that we practice Closed Communion and, therefore, it is an expression of our sincere friendship and concern for your spiritual welfare. If you desire to learn more about our beliefs we ask you to speak with our pastor.

Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Our Ascended Lord gives gifts to His Church. In particular He gave apostles and evangelists like St. Matthew, prophets like Ezekiel, and still gives pastors and teachers (Eph. 4:8, 11). They speak Christ's truth in love to wind- and wave-tossed children so that the saints may be equipped, served, and built up as the body of Christ (Eph. 4:12-15). Christ is not only the Head of this body; He is her Good Physician (Matt. 9:9-13). He has come not for the well but for the sick, not for the righteous, but for sinners—even notorious tax collectors like Matthew. Christ's team of spiritual physicians must serve faithfully. Their instrument is "Thus says the Lord God," to be spoken "whether they hear or refuse to hear" (Ezek. 3:11). To those stubborn, rebellious patients who believe they need no physician, the Word of lamentation, mourning, and woe must be fearlessly spoken: God's Law calls that all repent! To those who recognize their sin, the salve of the Gospel is to be applied. So Christ works to save us, as St. Matthew's Gospel records.

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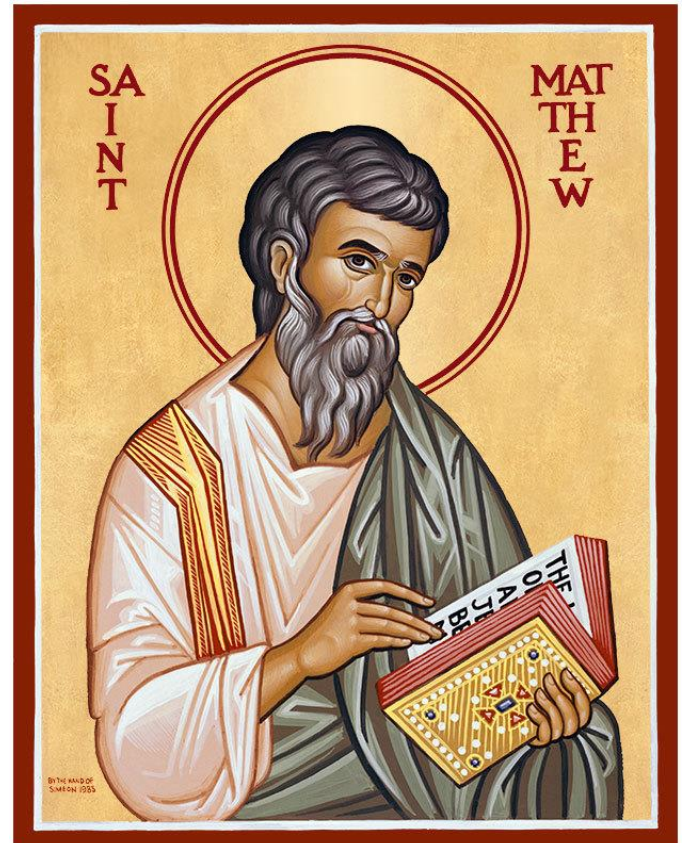
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A Guide to the Divine Service

9:00 a.m.

September 21, 2025



Misericordiam volo et non sacrificium
"I desire mercy, and not sacrifice."

Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church

**6755 Earl Drive, Suite #100
Colorado Springs CO 80918**

*A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical
Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions --
Where the Lutheran Reformation Lives!*

MEMBER: THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

[We rise and face the Processional Cross]

Processional Hymn

“Thy Strong Word” #578

Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution p. 184

Service of the Word

Introit

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 faithfulness 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!

(Ps. 92:1-5; antiphon: Matt. 9:13b, c)

***Gloria Patri, Kyrie* p. 186**

***Gloria in Excelsis* p. 187**

Salutation p. 189

Collect for the Feast of St. Matthew – 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. **A - - - men!**

[We are seated]

Prophecy of the Day **Ezekiel 2:8 – 3:11**

[The Responsibility of the Prophet]

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

Gradual

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

**How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than
honey to my mouth!**

My heart overflows with a pleasing theme;

my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

(Ps. 119:105, 103; 45:1a, c)

Epistle of the Day **Ephesians 4:7-13**

[Spiritual Gifts]

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

[We rise] **Triple Alleluia p. 190**

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**
Holy Gospel of the Day **St. Matthew 9:9-13**

[Matthew the Tax Collector]

Responses to the Holy Gospel **p. 190**

Nicene Creed p. 191

Hymn of the Day

“By All Your Saints in Warfare” #518

[Stanzas 1, 25, (stand) 3]

Sermon

[We rise] **Offertory p. 192**

[We are seated]

The offering is received

God richly bless you for your support of His work among us!

[We rise] **Prayer of the Church**

Service of the Sacrament p. 194

[Please review our Communion Policy on the back of this Guide]

[We are seated for the Distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ]

Hymn **“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” #633**
[We rise st. 8]

Dismissal, *Nunc Dimittis*, Thanksgiving, p. 199
Salutation, *Benedicamus*, Benediction

[We are seated for announcements]

[We rise for the Recessional Hymn]

“Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake” #688

Readings for Next Sunday:

Feast of St. Michael and All Angels

Prophecy of the Day: Daniel 12:1-3

Second Reading of the Day: Revelation 12:7-12a

Holy Gospel of the Day: St. Matthew 18:1-11