

**"I am the bread of
life." - John 6:35**



Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 1, 2021

10:00 a.m.

ELW Liturgy

“Living God’s Love”

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

400 North Broadway Street † Medina, Ohio 44256

330-725-8885 † office@stmatthewmedina.org

www.stmatthewmedina.org

GATHERING

** Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*Confession & Forgiveness

P: In the name of the father, ✚ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our provider,

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live.

We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn?

Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, ✚ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

*Gathering Song

What Feast of Love

No. 487

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Bill Diehm

WORD

First Reading

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the

LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The LORD spoke to Moses and said, ¹²“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”

Psalm

Psalm 78:23-29

²³So God commanded the clouds above
and opened the doors of heaven,

²⁴**raining down manna upon them to eat
and giving them grain from heaven.**

²⁵So mortals ate the bread of angels;
God provided for them food enough.

²⁶**The LORD caused the east wind to blow in the heavens
and powerfully led out the south wind,**

²⁷raining down flesh upon them like dust
and flying birds like the sand of the seas,

²⁸**letting them fall in the midst of the camp
and round about the dwellings.**

²⁹So the people ate and were well filled,
for God gave them what they craved.

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:1-16

¹I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,

⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. ⁸Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.”

⁹(When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be

apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.

¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

***Gospel**

John 6:24-35

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?" ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' ³²Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Bill Diehm

Hymn of the Day:

All Are Welcome

No. 641

***Apostle's Creed**

***Prayers of Intercession**

P: Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: You call your church to be the body of Christ. Awaken all the baptized to the gifts you provide for carrying out the work of ministry. Where the church is divided, knit us together and restore the unity of the faith. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You command the clouds above and cause the wind to blow in the heavens. Watch over deserts and wilderness places. Regenerate rainforests, defend species at risk of extinction, and strengthen the work of conservation organizations. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You summon leaders to respond to the needs of your people. Instill those who govern with patience when confronted with grievances and perseverance in seeking what promotes the well-being of the community. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You draw near to those who cry out for help. Feed those who are hungry, reassure those who are despairing, and accompany those who are imprisoned. Rain down the true bread from heaven that gives life to the world. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You receive all who come seeking a sign of grace. Make this congregation a place of hospitality for those accustomed to rejection. To those who have felt excluded here or elsewhere, prepare us to welcome them in the name of Christ. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for those on our prayer list: Caleb Johnston, John Baker, Ed Berchert, Todd Costello, John Siebert, Bob Lentz, Ron Svoboda, Greg McKee, Jim Apana, and Chuck Payne. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We ask your blessing upon St. Matthew's call committee. Give them insight and a spirit of enthusiasm for their work and raise up for our people a pastor to lead us. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: You provide food that endures for eternal life. Sustain us each day with the bread of life until we are gathered with all the saints and feast together at your heavenly banquet. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

***Peace:** *The peace will be an acknowledgement with your neighbor of God's reconciling love by nod or bow.*

MEAL

Offertory

Offering Prayer

P: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen.

*Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer

*Lord's Prayer

*Invitation to Communion

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Communion Hymn:

In the Singing

No. 466

*Table Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

P: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

***Sending Song:** *I Am the Bread of Life*

No. 485

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude**

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PRAYERS

Prayers for Healing: Caleb Johnston, John Baker, Ed Berchert, Todd Costello, John Siebert, Bob Lentz, Ron Svoboda, Greg McKee, Jim Apana, and Chuck Payne.

Altar Flowers this morning are given to the glory of God.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Today, Tenth Sunday After Pentecost, we worship in person and online at 10:00 a.m. With ELW Hymns and Holy Communion.

Pastor's Book Study - *The Universal Christ*. 11:15 a.m. in person and Zoom.

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost, we will worship outside at 10:00 a.m. at Buckeye Woods with ELW Hymns and Holy Communion.

Compline Service (Prayer at the Close of Day). 6:30 p.m. in person at St. Matthew and live streamed. *No communion.*

For the time being, we have concluded the extension of the communion table post liturgy. Those who desire a home visit with the sacrament are encouraged to call the church office to make that appointment, and the pastor will attend to that request.

THANK YOU - We are very grateful to Pastor Bill, Brenda Disbrow, and the many folks in St. Matthew who are sharing their love, faith, and joy with our sister and brother-in-law, Esther and Ron Svoboda. **THANK YOU & GOD BLESS YOU!** ~*In Christ's Love, Bill & Sue Lucht*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blood Pressure Screening will be provided BEFORE and AFTER this morning's service (August 1) in the Parish Nurse's Office. Waiting area in the church library. ~*Brenda Disbrow, Parish Nurse*

We Are Now Live Streaming on YouTube! Subscribe at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbMSkGvyBcRUoHWduYpW8EA> so you can view worship services as an alternative to Facebook and our videos.

Medical Equipment Lending Items - If you are not aware, St. Matthew Church has some medical equipment than can be lent out if and when you are in need. This includes: walkers, canes, shower chairs, commodes, etc. Please contact Brenda Disbrow, Parish Nurse, to make any arrangements – church office: (330) 725-8885. (PLEASE NOTE: *Our closet is full. Thank you to all those folks who donated new and used items. Please do not drop off any more medical equipment to the church at this time.*) ~*Thank you, Brenda Disbrow, Parish Nurse*

Nursery Attendant Needed - Our nursery at St. Matthew is an important service that we provide to our families with young children. It allows the parents the opportunity to worship without the disruption of their children allowing them to fully take in and participate in worship.

We are currently looking for someone to staff the nursery. The right candidate should enjoy children; be willing to play with them; change diapers/help them use the toilet, etc. The position would involve, roughly, 4 hours each Sunday (fall through spring) and 1 ½ hours during the summer and is a paid position.

If anyone in the church is interested, please contact Melody at 330-461-1149. If you know someone who could be a fit, please pass along my contact information for further discussion.

Pastor's Book Study - You are invited to a study with Pastor Bill on Richard Rohr's new work, The Universal Christ. You have three ways to participate. We meet 4 times: July 18, Aug 1, 15, and 29. We will gather at 11:15 AM in the fellowship hall. You may join us also by zoom. This study may also be done as an independent study. Study guides will be available to download. Books are available through Amazon. Please let the office or Pr. Bill know of your desire to participate. More details to follow.

United Way of Summit and Medina County is collecting school supplies for needy children in Medina County grades K thru 6. St. Matthew has participated in this event for several years, with the exception of 2020 due to the pandemic. A large box is located in the narthex where you may drop the school supplies. The collection will be from July 5th through August 3rd. Items needed are:

#2 pencils with erasers	Crayons (standard 24 ct.)
Folders	Glue sticks (standard size, no jumbos)
Markers (standard 12ct.)	Highlighters
Dry Erase Markers	Notebook paper (wide-ruled)
Pens (Black or Blue)	Plastic Pencil Cases or pencil pouches

Please note that this year United Way will be supplying the back packs.

This year there is also the option to order items online at the following links:

Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/registries/custom/11PYT0BBAZLL6/guest-view>

Target: <tgt.gifts/MedinaSTB>

If you order via Amazon or Target, United Way is requesting that you please add your name and St. Matthew in the “Gift Notes” when checking out.

Also, new this year will be a community Sort-A-Thon that will be held on the square August 5th for anyone who would like to help sort and pack the school supplies. More details to come about that event.

Thank you for your donations!

Electronic Offering Updates - If anyone needs help in changing their electronic giving (ACH) through Vanco please feel free to contact Thaddeus Neururer 617-360-1342 or email at thaddeus.neururer@gmail.com.

UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

- HVAC anti-COVID air treatment / Equipment installed earlier this year**
- No Singing / Restrictions Lifted**
- Limiting Attendance / Restrictions Lifted**
- Keep Exterior Doors Open / Restrictions Lifted**
- Mask Mandate / Masks are now optional**
- Fellowship After Worship / Casual fellowship after church is resuming**
- Ropes to Encourage Social Distance / Ropes removed June 20th**
- Hymnals / Hymnals have been returned to the pews**
- Communion / Covid protocol still in place**
- Sharing of the Peace / Covid protocol still in place**
- Masks and Sanitizer available / Covid protocol still in place**

WORSHIP SERVANTS			
Date	August 1	August 8	August 8
Service	10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m. Buckeye Woods	6:30 p.m.
Song Leader			
Reader	Sandy Andrews		
Ushers	Linda Kostelnik		
Communion Servers	Sandy Andrews		
Sound	Larry Mohler	--	Larry Mohler
Video	Brian Harris	--	Rex Rickly
Altar Guild	Sandy Andrews		

Save the Date!

Saturday, August 28

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

DON'T MISS OUT...
EVERYTHING IS FREE!

Broadway BLOCK PARTY

LIVE MUSIC by local band, CPR

FOOD JT's BBQ Food Truck
Dan's Dogs Food Truck and Ice Cream
from Chill

MAGIC & BALLOON ART
by Nate the Great

FACE PAINTING
CRAFTS & GAMES

by our High School Youth

RAFFLE BASKETS

- All-Medina Basket
- Native American Flute Basket
- Country Made Ice Cream Basket
and more...

*Please join us, your
friends, and neighbors in the*

ST. MATTHEW PARKING LOT

400 N. Broadway Street
Medina OH 44256



Finance Report for May and Year-to-Date
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
 St. Matthew had the following revenue
 and expenses for June.

	Month of June 2021	Year-to-Date June 2021
Total Revenue	\$ 22,272.17	\$ 176,355.41
Total Expenses	\$ 35,434.51	\$ 181,479.22
Net Operating Revenue	\$ (13,162.34)	\$ (5,123.81)
Net Other	\$ --	\$ 88.62
Net Revenue	<u>\$ (13,162.34)</u>	<u>\$ (5,035.19)</u>

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. William Diehm	Interim Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Bailey	Director of LGL Ministries
John Burke	Organist
Deb Musil	Office Administrator
Joyce Davis	Custodian
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Sue Gircsis	Nursery Attendant
Nancy McNeal	Luther Choir Director
Heather Rohde	Youth Worship Music Director

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Friday 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM