



First Sunday in Lent

March 6, 2022

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

ELW

“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 God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

C: **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One,

C: **we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

C: **Amen.**

*Gathering Song

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

No. 326

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Noisy Offering

WORD

First Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the

land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Psalm

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

- ¹You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—
²**you will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust.”**
- ⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,
¹⁰**no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**
- ¹¹For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.
¹²**Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**
- ¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.
¹⁴**I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**
- ¹⁵They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
¹⁶**With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

Second Reading

Romans 10:8b-13

^{8b}“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

*Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

P: The holy gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

⁵Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

⁹Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,’

¹¹and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

¹²Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

***Apostle's Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

P: Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church,
the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: We pray for the church. Sharpen its proclamation of the word so that your
people learn to reject voices of deception and distraction. Strengthen all
who are tempted to believe lies about themselves or others. Merciful
God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for the earth and all its creatures. Protect wilderness places and
all plant and animal species that call them home. Sustain farmers and all
laborers who work the land and harvest the fruits of its abundance.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for the nations of the world. Awaken elected leaders and government officials to the needs of those who are oppressed and grant them compassion to deal mercifully with immigrants and refugees who reside among us. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for those in need. Rescue those experiencing mental illness or contending with addiction. Ease the anxiety of those who live with dementia. Command your angels concerning all who are sick, especially Tom and Loretta Thornton, Esther Svoboda, Lennie Davis, Steve Combs, Jim Frame, John Siebert, Brenda Disbrow, Alexis Scala, Joyce Henschel, and all people suffering from Covid-19. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Be with us as we look to the future of our Transitional Housing ministry. Guide us and help us to be open to your voice as we discern how we will continue to offer help to those in need. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for this assembly. Bless those who prepare the table for our communion celebration. Accompany those who share the bounty of this meal with those who are homebound or hospitalized. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We give thanks for those who have died. Gather them with all the saints into your heavenly dwelling place. Encourage us with the promise that all who call upon your name are saved. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

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

MEAL

Offertory

How Beautiful (11:00)
Paris/Courtney

Luther Choir

Offering Prayer

P: Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

***Eucharistic Prayer**

***Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

***Invitation to Communion**

P: Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

Communion Hymn *Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song* No. 808

***Table Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

P: Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

*Sending Song

Lead Me, Guide Me

No. 768

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Postlude

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PRAYERS

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

Prayers for Healing: Tom and Loretta Thornton, Esther Svoboda, Lennie Davis, Steve Combs, Jim Frame, John Siebert, Brenda Disbrow, Alexis Scala, Joyce Henschel, and all people suffering from Covid-19.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Today, First Sunday in Lent, we worship in-person at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with ELW liturgy and Holy Communion. Livestream at 8:30.

We Welcome Pastor Blair Morgan as our supply pastor this morning.

Youth Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. in the Brown Room.

Adult Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Lenten Meal at 6:00 p.m., followed by Lenten Worship in the fellowship hall.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 13, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Second Sunday in Lent, we will worship in-person at 8:30 with ELW liturgy and communion and 11:00 a.m. with a Celtic service and Holy Communion, music by bagpiper, Ruth Chapman. Livestream at 8:30.

We Will Welcome Pastor Blair Morgan as our supply pastor.

Youth Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. in the Brown Room.

Adult Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lenten Meals & Worship - Join us each Wednesday evening in Lent beginning with a meal at 6:00 p.m., followed by Lenten Worship at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday Lenten Meals - Small Groups Ministry invites anyone and everyone to help us make our upcoming Lenten Suppers a success. We are looking for volunteers to provide or help with Lenten meals. All slots are open for March 16 and April 6. Please sign up in the narthex or at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040544ada629aafd0-lenten>.

Senior Happy Hour has changed its meeting time. They will now begin and 10:30 each Monday morning.

Annual Reports are available to pick up in the narthex. Electronic copies can be accessed through the Shout-Out.

Wine Tasting - Join us for an adult night out with your St. Matthew friends Friday, March 11, 7-10 p.m. at Forest Meadows Villas Clubhouse. We'll be wine tasting (beer can be brought if you like) and enjoying appetizers and desserts. Music, fellowship and maybe a game or 2 of right, left, center or whatever the night brings.

Bring an appetizer or dessert to share as well as 2 bottles of wine (must be the same wine). The person who brings the winning red and white gets to take home the extra bottles of that color! We'll also be voting on the best appetizer and dessert with prizes for the winner! Contact Melody at 330-461-1149 (call or text) with any questions. Sign up here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094CA8AC22ABFC1-wine1>.

Hearing Assist System Upgrade – St. Matthew has had a system in place for the hearing impaired for about 20 years to hear the services better. As with everything, the time has come to upgrade our existing system to be more compatible with the technology available for the hearing impaired. Communication Evangelism presented a proposal to Executive Council to update our system. At the EC meeting on February 15, they voted to upgrade our system. The cost is \$4,900 of which we have \$2,200 designated. We are reaching out to the congregation for funding to help with the additional \$2,700. If you are willing to donate to this project, please send a check to the church with "Hearing Assist" in the memo line, or you can donate online (<https://tinyurl.com/243fytap>) and designate for Hearing Assist. Thank you in advance for your support of this project. ~Melody Costello & Bobby Forsythe, Co-chairs, Communication Evangelism

Pull Tab Collection - Join in tab collecting with others in our area to support Ronald McDonald House in Akron and Cleveland. All pull tabs are accepted! (pet food, soup, veggies, beverages, etc.) There are containers located in the Narthex and the Room of the Cross to deposit your pull tabs. If you have any questions, call Joyce at 216-780-0965.

Game Night – Join us in the fellowship hall on the 3rd Friday of each month at 7:00pm for a variety of games. Bring your favorite game or a deck of cards plus a snack/beverage to share. Our next gathering is March 18. If you have questions, contact Melody Costello or Cindy Rickly.

Care Connection - You are invited to prayerfully consider being a part of our Care Connection at St. Matthew. The mission of this new ministry is “to live God’s love by intentionally caring for, supporting, and connecting with the members of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church”. We have Care Teams who pray for and look out after our members. We also have teams who make deliveries to homes throughout the year. If this resonates with you and if you are interested in being part of this exciting ministry at St. Matthew, please contact Jill Heck or Beth Johnson.

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Date	March 6	March 6	March 13	March 13
Service	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Acolyte		Devin Shrader		Lucas Hogan
Reader	Adam Scheid	Melody Costello		
Ushers	Becky Malloy		Bruce Reed	Todd & Melody Costello
Communion Servers		Melody Costello		
Sound	Joe Obermeier	Larry Mohler	Larry Mohler	Larry Mohler
Video	Rex Rickly		Brian Harris	
Altar Guild	Nancy McNeal			

Finance Report for January and Year-to-Date

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

St. Matthew had the following revenue and expenses for January.

	Month of January 2022	Year-to-Date January 2022
Total Revenue	\$ 35,135.12	\$ 35,135.12
Total Expenses	\$ 29,003.47	\$ 29,003.47
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 6,131.65	\$ 6,131.65
Net Other	\$ 11.10	\$ 11.10
Net Revenue	<u>\$ 6,142.75</u>	<u>\$ 6,142.75</u>

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

Deacon Lindsay Bailey	Director of LGL Ministries
John Burke	Organist
Deb Musil	Office Administrator
Joyce Davis	Custodian
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Nancy McNeal	Luther Choir Director
Kaitlyn Taraschke	Nursery Attendant

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

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

Friday 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM