

THE SON OF MAN

**MUST SUFFER MANY THINGS
AND BE REJECTED**

MARK 8:31



Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

9:30 a.m.

ELW Setting 3

“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

St. Matthew invites you to join us in celebration of Holy Communion!

The Lord's table is open to all who believe and are baptized.

Please join us as we receive the means of grace, where Jesus promises to meet us
in the bread and the wine.

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"Pages" are in the front of the hymnal.

"Hymns" are located toward the back of the hymnal.

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING

Prelude

Dear Lord, Remember Me
D.L. Moore

Cindy Piovarchy

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of
one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

**C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.
We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We
speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak
up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all
these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to
us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the
promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Song:**

How Firm a Foundation

Hymn 796

***Greeting**

D: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of
the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***Kyrie**

Hymn 157

*Prayer of the Day

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Message

The Potter's Hand
D. Zschech

Kids of the Kingdom

WORD

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations.

⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 22:23-31

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

²⁹ Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰ **Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹ They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

¹³ The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.

¹⁵ For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶ For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³ Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

Return to the Lord

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*Gospel

Mark 8:31-38

P: The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the eighth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

***Hymn of the Day:**

O God, My Faithful God

Hymn 806

***Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

D: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

D: We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church. Give wisdom and discernment to our bishops, pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: We turn to you for renewal. Save lives and ecosystems threatened by pollution and a changing climate. Cleanse the earth's waters and restore the soil. Preserve rainforests, deserts, and wildlife, that generations to come may cherish your creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: We turn to you for justice. Uphold the worth and dignity of every person, especially any who experience hatred and rejection because of gender, ability, sexual orientation, color, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate helpers to any who suffer because of war and violence. Shelter unhoused people, befriend those who are lonely, bring hope to any in despair, and console the bereaved, especially the family of David, June, Steve, Tom, Adam and Family, Elizabeth, Stevie, Rosemary, Clarence, the Gibeault Family, Judy, Jerry, Todd, Logan, Sandi, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ's sacrificial love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: We turn to you for peace. We honor the saints who lived in service to others. Inspire us by their example until you gather us into your kingdom. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

D: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offertory

Lenten Meditation
Althouse

Luther Choir

***Offertory Response**

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Hymn 186

***Offering Prayer**

P: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

C: Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

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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.

***Proper Preface**

***Holy, Holy, Holy**

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***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: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

***Lamb of God**

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Communion Hymns

Let Us Break Bread Together
Now We Join in Celebration

Hymn 471
Hymn 462

***Prayer after Communion**

P: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C: Amen.

SENDING

***Blessing**

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

***Sending Song:**

Faith of Our Fathers

Hymn 812

***Dismissal:**

D: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude**

Lenten March
W.A. Mozart/JTroutman

Cindy Piovarchy

+++

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolyte: Evan Hogan
Reader: Delores Ivan
Communion
Servers: Melody Costello, Jen Knaggs
Ushers: Todd & Melody Costello, Julie Shrader
Sound: Joe Obermeier
Video: Brian Harris
Altar Guild: Kelly Obermeier

ST. MATTHEW EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Following worship Today!

We will vote to ratify the updated
constitution and bylaws.

All members of St. Matthew
are encouraged to attend.

PRAYERS

Altar Flowers This Morning are given to the glory of God by the Kotick family.

***Prayers for Healing:** Family of David Shoulberg (brother of Beth Johnson), June Trenty, Steve Combs, Tom Thornton, Adam and Family, Elizabeth, Stevie, Rosemary, Clarence, Gibeault Family, Judy Weir, Jerry Jakovcic, Todd Costello, Logan, and Sandi.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Second Sunday in Lent, we worship in person and via livestream at 9:30 a.m. with ELW 3 and holy communion.

No Sunday School.

Annual Meeting following worship.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 3, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday Third Sunday in Lent, we will worship in person at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with Now the Feast and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30.

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drive Thru Food Drive - The Evangelism & Communication Committee will hold a drive-thru food drive in the church parking lot on Saturday, March 9, 10 am - Noon. Pull up, pop your trunk, and volunteers will be here to unload without you having to get out of your car. Food donations to benefit local food pantries. All canned and dry good accepted. We also ask members to consider various packages of fruit cups (applesauce, peaches, pears, mixed fruit, pineapple) which will support Feeding Medina County, who is packing just under 1,100 weekly bags for kids in the Medina County Schools. **Please refrain from donating expired items.**

The Church's AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is located in the Pearl Street entrance area, next to the coat rack. It also has a Narcan kit in the box. Today there will be heart-shaped balloons attached to it. Please feel free to take a look, but, please don't touch.

Church Directory Photographs - The Evangelism & Communication Committee will be adding and updating photos for St. Matthew's Online Church Directory on an ongoing basis. If your individual or family photo is not currently available in the directory or you would like to update it, please contact Stephanie Hess at hessstephanie15@gmail.com or 330-441-1130. You can provide your own image or a photograph of you can be taken at St. Matthew before or after church services.

Passion Walk - Zion Lutheran Church in Valley City invites you to their fourteenth annual Passion Walk. The Walk will be held on two evenings, Saturday, March 23, and Palm Sunday evening, March 24. The Jerusalem marketplace will open at 6:00 and the guided walks will begin at 6:15, beginning at the Upper Room and ending at the sealed tomb of Good Friday. The walks will begin every 15 minutes until 8:00, and all spaces are handicapped accessible. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church is located at 2233 Abbeyville Road in Valley City. For more information, call 330-483-3873. The web site is www.zionvc.org.

"Getting to Know You" - St. Matthew started featuring a St. Matthew family in our weekly Shout-Outs as a way to get to know our fellow St. Matthew members. We would love to feature your family! Go to your most recent Shout-Out to access the link to complete your profile. If you have any questions, please send a text to Beth Johnson (Communication Evangelism) at 301-501-0473. We look forward to *GETTING TO KNOW YOU!*

Renovation Project Recap for January - No identified renovation expenses. \$309.84 Reno restricted giving in January. Balance: \$67,477.47.

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. Steven Mahaffey	Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach	Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Cindy Piovarchy	Organist
Deb Musil	Office Administrator
Joyce Davis	Maintenance Supervisor
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Nancy McNeal	Luther Choir Director
Rachel Knaggs	Kids of the Kingdom Director
Kaitlyn Taraschke	Nursery Attendant

Pastor Steve's Contact Information

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Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information

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Hearing Loop
System available.