



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 13, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Songs

Opening

D: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

C: O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Song

Blessing of the Backpacks

First Reading

1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in

the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 85:8-13

- ⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.
- ⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**
- ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- ¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**
- ¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

Second Reading

Romans 10:5-15

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say?

"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.”¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

²²Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he dismissed the crowds.²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear.²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.”²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?”³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach

Song

Holy Communion

Prayer after Communion

P: We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Song

Blessing

D: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✚
bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

C: Amen.

PRAYERS

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

Prayers for Healing: Sierra (Davis) Trikillas, Carol Muhlbach, Amy Douglass, Sammy Young, June Trenty, Pat Straub, Adam and Family, Loretta Thornton, Leithea Obermeier, Sandi, Judy McLaughlin, and Steve Combs.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, we worship in-person at 10:00 a.m. with Outdoor Camp Worship and holy communion. Blessing of the backpacks.

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, we will worship in-person and via livestream at 9:30 with Praise worship and holy communion.

Dandelion Sunday - During worship, the team will share what has happened the first year, what they are currently working on, and where the program is headed, along with discussing the survey results.

Constitution & Bylaws Review - If you wish to learn more about our updated governing documents, please join us after worship.

Guitar: Pastor Steve, Kelly Bonner, Jordan Johnston, Emma Kotick

Altar Guild: Becky Malloy & Julie Shrader

Reader: Jen Hogan

Ushers: The Shook Family

Communion Servers: Melanie Brown & Melody Costello

Looking Ahead

**Rally Sunday is
September 10.**

Please join us as a new
Sunday School year begins
for all ages.



Finance Report Update for May, June & Year-to-Date St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

	Month of May, 2023	Month of June, 2023	Year-to-Date January-June, 2023
General Offering Unrestricted	\$ 22,487.86	\$ 32,003.32	\$ 164,577.74
2023 Approved Mission Plan	<u>\$ 33,333.33</u>	<u>\$ 33,333.33</u>	<u>\$ 199,999.98</u>
Budget Variance (Loss)	\$ (10,845.47)	\$ (1,330.01)	\$ (35,422.24)

Financial Update: *St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church received the unrestricted offerings as compared to the 2023 approved Mission Plan objective shown for the months of May, June and 2023 year-to-date. Please prayerfully consider increasing your offering to support the church and its mission of Living God's Love. Thank you for your continued generosity.*

By setting up recurring donations online, you enable us to maintain financial stability and plan for the future of St. Matthew. St. Matthew has 54 member families that contribute through Vanco. Please increase our participation and consider signing up for Simply Giving at:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z4MP/home>

If you have any questions about your current account or setting up your account, contact our Financial Director Bruce Reed at (412) 848-0219 or email Bruce at brucerreed@comcast.net.

St. Matthew Blessings Opportunity

The house at 432 North Broadway has been occupied by Pastor Steve for the last fourteen months and is now vacant with Pastor Steve's purchase of a home in Rittman. This property provides our congregation with many options for the future use of the property. The property might be to support our administrative or meetings needs. Or, to extend our current missions or, other newly identified community support possibilities.

Your ideas are encouraged and can come from anyone in the congregation. All ideas will be evaluated by a working committee with recommendations submitted to the congregation for review. The congregation will vote on recommendations from the working committee on how the property can best serve St. Matthew and our community.

We do not have a deadline for you to provide your ideas or to come up with a recommendation for the property for the congregation to consider. All final recommendation(s) will require a thorough review of 1.) charter of purpose identifying who will be served 2.) identifying an operating budget and, 3.) identifying the St. Matthew support team necessary to support and manage the future use of the property.

There is a blue **432 North Broadway Idea Box** on a window ledge in the Narthex with blank idea forms. Please use ONE form for each of your ideas so that it can be accurately evaluated. Please place your completed forms in the Sunday service offering plate or in Bill Heck's mailbox in the Room of the Cross. If you would want to participate with the working committee in evaluating all ideas provided by the congregation, please let Bill Heck or Pastor Steve know of your interest to serve.

- Bill Heck

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Giving Statements - In order to save on postage expense, half-year giving statements are available to be picked up in the narthex. Any statements not picked up by August 13 will be mailed.

Directories are here! If you had your photo taken for the directory, you may pick up your free copy from the narthex (look for the directory with your name on it). Otherwise, you may purchase a directory for \$10 - See Melody Costello.

Luther Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, August 19 at 7:00 p.m. We will meet in the sanctuary and will sing in worship for the first time on September 3. More information available at rehearsal. Anyone from the congregation that would like to join us is very welcome to do so.

New Member Class is forming. The class will meet with Pastor Steve following worship on Sundays, August 20, 27, and between services on September 3. New members will be welcomed during worship on Sunday, September 10. Please contact Pastor Steve if you are interested in joining St. Matthew.

Catechism Orientation for students who will be entering grades 6-8 this fall and their parents - Sunday, August 27 from 11:00-11:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We will discuss the confirmation model and curriculum, share dates for upcoming service and fellowship opportunities, and students will receive their materials for the year as well as acolyte training. Please contact Deacon Lindsay if you have any questions or are unable to attend the orientation.

God's Work Our Hands - It's time to mark your calendars and prepare to have fun helping others. God's Work. Our Hands. Day is Saturday, September 9. Our cluster churches, including St. Matthew, will be packing a minimum of 10,000 meals provided by Rise Against Hunger. This is a project for all ages. There will also be blanket tying for those who would prefer a sit-down project. More information will be coming in a couple of weeks. Mark your calendars now! The last time we did this project, everyone had so much fun, and I heard many comments that it was even more fun having the youth working with them too. Remember to watch for more information soon. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. They need a count as lunch will be provided. Questions? Contact Barb Woodard, 330-321-2408 or barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com

Pull Tab Collection - We continue to collect tabs 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.

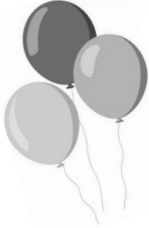
ROCK THE BLOCK

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

4:00-7:00 PM

All of Medina is invited!



Courthouse Pizzeria Trailer
Nate the Great, Magic Show
DJ, Brian Stanis
Combo Bounce House
Splash Tower (Dunk Bucket)
Balloon Art
Carnival Games
Free Raffle Tickets
Face Painting
Water - Based Tattoos
Contests

WE NEED
VOLUNTEERS

Join us as a St. Matthew ambassador.

Go to this site to sign up as a Rock the Block volunteer:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040544ada629aafd0-rock#/>

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. Steven Mahaffey	Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach	Director of Youth & Family Ministries
John Burke	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

Email: pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org

Cell Phone: 740-525-6149

Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information

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“Living God's Love”

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

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