



# *Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

October 8, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

*ELW Setting 10*

*“Living God’s Love”*

**St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church**

400 North Broadway Street † Medina, Ohio 44256

330-725-8885 † [office@stmatthewmedina.org](mailto:office@stmatthewmedina.org)

[www.stmatthewmedina.org](http://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

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Prelude

#### \*Thanksgiving for Baptism *(You may stand or kneel)*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

\*Gathering Song: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Hymn 803

#### \*Greeting

P: 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 *Have Mercy on Us* Page 203

\*Prayer of the Day

**C: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Children's Sermon**

Julie Shrader

**First Reading**

Isaiah 5:1-7

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah,  
judge between me and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

R: The word of the Lord.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**

Psalm 80:7-15

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

<sup>8</sup>**You have brought a vine out of Egypt;  
you cast out the nations and planted it.**

<sup>9</sup>You cleared the ground for it;  
it took root and filled the land.

<sup>10</sup>**The mountains were covered by its shadow  
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

<sup>11</sup>You stretched out its tendrils to the sea  
and its branches to the river.

<sup>12</sup>**Why have you broken down its wall,  
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

<sup>13</sup>The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,  
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

<sup>14</sup>**Turn now, O God of hosts,  
look down from heaven;**  
<sup>15</sup>behold and tend this vine;  
preserve what your right hand has planted.

## Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul writes: <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

<sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

R: The word of the Lord.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia*

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## \*Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the people: <sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce.

<sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’

<sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ <sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord's doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes?'

<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P: The gospel of the Lord.     **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

Pastor David Connor

**Hymn of the Day:**

*There in God's Garden*

Hymn 342

**\*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** (*You may stand or kneel.*)

P: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

P: God of all grace, you are the source of life and joy. Strengthen the resolve of your church throughout the world (*global mission partners may be named*), that together we press on toward the goal of your heavenly call in Jesus Christ. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of all creation, you plant and nourish the earth as your own precious vineyard. Bless fields and orchards and the hands of those who labor in them, that your people are fed with an abundant harvest of good fruit. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of all the earth, you desire peace and justice between nations and peoples. Guide leaders of nations, states, provinces, and cities, that they faithfully govern your people with wisdom, integrity, and compassion. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of all compassion, in Christ, you lovingly poured yourself out like wine for your people. Have mercy on all who mourn, who struggle with their mental health, who cry out for justice, who hunger, and all in any need especially Stevie, Don, Jim, Tom, Fran, Dick, Logan, Sierra, June, Adam and Family, Sandi, Steve, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of all steadfastness, you set Christ as the cornerstone and foundation of the church. Build up this congregation as living stones, that it stands in the community as a witness to your enduring faithfulness and love. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of all hope, the saints who came before us lived and died with their hearts fixed on you. We give you thanks for their faithful witness, and we wait with hope for the great day when we join their voices in praise. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

### \*Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## MEAL

**Offertory**

*I Shall Not Be Afraid* (8:30)

Luther Choir

**Offertory Response**

*For the Fruit of All Creation* (vs. 1)

Hymn 679

### \*Offertory Prayer

P: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**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 our 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: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

**\*Lamb of God**

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**Communion Hymn**

*Jesus Loves Me*

Hymn 595

**\*Prayer after Communion**

P: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*Blessing**

P: The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sending Song:**

*My Lord of Light*

Hymn 832

**\*Dismissal:**

D: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Postlude**

+++

Lord, make me an  
instrument of your

**PEACE.**

where there is injury,

**PARDON;**

where there is doubt,

**FAITH;**

where there is darkness,

**LIGHT;**

Where there is  
hatred, let me sow

**LOVE;**

where there is discord,

**UNION;**

where there is despair,

**HOPE;**

where there is sadness,

**JOY.**

*A prayer attributed to Francis of Assisi*



ELCA



## PRAYERS

**Harvest Home Sundays** - Enjoy the benefits of the harvest today and next Sunday. Thank you to all who supplied items.

**Prayers for Healing:** Stevie, Don Baker, Jim Kelling, Tom Thornton, Fran & Dick Koenig, Logan, Sierra (Davis) Trikillas, June Trenty, Adam and Family, Sandi, and Steve Combs.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

### Harvest Home Sunday

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**, we worship in-person at 8:30 and 11:00 with ELW 10 and holy communion. *Livestream at 8:30.*

**Welcome & Thank You** to Pastor David Connor for leading worship this morning.

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

**Blood Pressure Screening** before and between services in Brenda's office.

**Luther League** meet at church at 7 pm for outing to Forest of Screams.

## NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, AT ST. MATTHEW

### Harvest Home Sunday

**Next Sunday, Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**, we will worship in-person at 8:30 and 11:00 with Praise and holy communion. *Livestream at 8:30.*

**We will welcome** Pastor Shelley Nelson-Bridger as our worship leader.

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

## WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolyte:	8:30 - Aubrey Terihay	11:00 - Ella Supanich
Reader:	8:30 - Owen Blakslee	11:00 - LaVonne Hauptman
Communion Servers:	8:30 - Delores Ivan Scott Johnson Kristin Weight	
Ushers:	8:30 - Alan & Delores Ivan Cindy Rickly	11:00 - Thaddeus & Corey Neururer
Sound:	8:30 - Joe Obermeier	11:00 - Larry Mohler
Video:	8:30 <i>only</i> - Rex Rickly	
Altar Guild:	Becky Malloy & Julie Shrader	

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## October is Clergy Appreciation Month!

**Deacon Lindsay on vacation** October 3-9.

**Pastor Steve on vacation** October 3-16.

Please know that while seeking renewal and rest, they will not be looking at nor responding to emails. Additionally, please honor this important and necessary time away by refraining from texts, calls, instant messages, or other forms of social media communication. Thank you for showing care for your pastor and deacon in honoring healthy boundaries.

**Our Parish Nurse, Brenda Disbrow**, will be in the office on Monday, October 9 instead of Tuesday this week.

**Congregational Council Meetings** - The regular business meetings of the Congregational Council are the third Tuesday of every month and they are open to the congregation to attend if you are interested. The meetings begin at 5:00 p.m. and are held in the Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to attend in person at that time, you can be sent a Zoom link to attend virtually or to review the recording after the meeting. Please reach out to a member of Council or the church office to receive that email. The meeting schedule for the rest of 2023 is: Tuesday, October 17, 2023, Tuesday, November 21, 2023, and Tuesday, December 19, 2023

**Care Package Ministry** - Please help us to fill care packages for our college students. Gift cards in increments up to \$25 and cash or check donations will be accepted. **We are collecting until October 8.**

**Flower Pot Contest** - Check out our St. Matthew flower pot decorated on Medina Square during the month of October, as part of the Mainstream Medina 2023 Fall Flower Pot Contest. Our flower pot is located on Broadway, directly between the old and new courthouse.

**2023 Advent Devotions** - Sign-ups have begun for the 2023 Advent Devotions. All are invited to contribute a devotion. Use this website to add your name. [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PRAEKGXF\\_55MpXyPolw2CxbJ95kIFWlzDEo2h7cvdW4/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PRAEKGXF_55MpXyPolw2CxbJ95kIFWlzDEo2h7cvdW4/edit#gid=0) Suggested scriptural references are listed, as well as verses from the Advent hymn, *Fling Wide the Door*, which is our theme for 2023.

**Nominating Committee Volunteers** - 2024 is coming and our congregation needs to look for our next leaders of the Congregational Council. The Nominating Committee will seek to identify individuals who want to take part in the leadership team in managing our church affairs. The Nominating Committee will also be seeking and confirming the leaders of our Five Star Ministry Chairs and Co-Chairs. If you are interested in taking part in the nominating process or feel the call to be nominated for a specific office or Five Star position, please contact Jennifer Knaggs 330-413-0529.

**432 North Broadway Use Update** - To date, we have over 20 responses from the congregation on what we should be doing with the 432 North Broadway property. The top areas identified are: some form of continued Transitional Housing options, work with Operation Homes to expand their services, and partnering with Habitat for Humanity to house their new home families while they wait for their new home to be completed. These three options were further defined to be short-term uses, two years or less, to enable St. Matthew to continue to serve our community while we take a longer-term view of our development of our facility and grounds. If you have comments or other ideas on what this property should be used for, please contact Bill Heck 330-723-3390.

**Ladies Night on the Square** - Ladies, meet us at the gazebo on Thursday, October 12 at 5:00 p.m. We look forward to a fun evening of fellowship!

**Directory App** - You received an email this past week from Universal Church Directory (UCD), with your family's "unique identifier". Follow the directions to download the "MyUCD" app onto your smart phone and/or desktop. Contact your UCD Administrator, Beth Johnson, at sboyumj@gmail.com to add your family photo, and/or to update your contact information. This way, the online App will be current at all times ... constantly keeping up with changes among our congregation.

**Finance Report Update for July, August & Year-to-Date  
St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church**

	<u>Month of July, 2023</u>	<u>Month of August, 2023</u>	<u>Year-to-Date January-Aug., 2023</u>
General Offering Unrestricted	\$23,717.80	\$25,329.84	\$213,625.38
2023 Approved Mission Plan	\$33,333.33	\$33,333.33	\$266,666.64
Budget Variance (Loss)	\$(9,615.53)	\$(8,003.49)	\$(53,041.26)

**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 July, August, 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 56 (increase 2) 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>*

**SPECIAL NOTE:** *St. Matthew has set-up in Simply Giving Link easy access for donations directly to the Renovation / Refresh Project. Please select from a one-time donation or recurring donation and contribute as you are able.*

*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](mailto:brucerreed@comcast.net).*

## 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

### **How can we help or donate to the Renovation Project?**

*Mail a check to St. Matthew*

*OR*

*Simply Giving Link*

1. Go to [www.stmatthewmedina.org](http://www.stmatthewmedina.org)
2. Click on "Give"
3. At the bottom of the page under "Online," click "Give Here"
4. Select "St. Matthew Refresh/Renovation"
5. Choose from a one-time donation or recurring donation

