Mid-Week Lenten Worship

March 1, 2023
7:00 p.m.

"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

*Please stand as you are able.

Congregation responses in **bold**.

GATHERING

***Confession** *(You may remain seated or kneel.)*

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;

You discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before,
And lay your hand upon me.

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
Test me and know my thoughts.

See if there is any wicked way in me,
And lead me in the way everlasting.

***Gathering Song:** *I Love to Tell the Story* Hymn 661

***Greeting**

The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***Opening Prayer**

You are gracious and merciful, O God, slow to anger, rich in love. Receive our prayers as you have promised and uphold us by your Spirit, until all things, mended by your mercy, are made whole and well in you, through Jesus Christ, our healer and our hope.
Amen.

WORD

Psalm Psalm 145:1-13

[1]I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
[2]Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name forever and ever.
[3]Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.

4 One generation shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.
5 On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
6 The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.
7 They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
8 The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
9 The LORD is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.
10 All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your faithful shall bless you.
11 They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and tell of your power,
12 to make known to all people your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.
The LORD is faithful in all his words,
and gracious in all his deeds.

Reading 2 Timothy 1:1-14

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,
2 To Timothy, my beloved child:
Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
3 I am grateful to God — whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did — when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. 6 For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; 7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.
8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, 9 who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 11 For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, 12 and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I

am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. [13]Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. [14]Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*__Hymn__ *How Firm a Foundation* Hymn 796

Act 1 *Nothing is Hidden From God*

Offering/Offertory

*__Prayers of Intercession__ *(You may stand or kneel.)*

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

You alone are God. Sustain your church in times of wilderness. Give vision and wisdom to bishops, their staff, and all entrusted with the ministry of administration. Counsel all who faithfully lead your people into the future. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You create verdant gardens and expansive deserts. Tend to the needs of every living creature. Bless those who work in fields and orchards, that the world is nourished by the fruits of their labor. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You know our temptations. Sustain those who govern and legislate. Instill in them a sense of your justice and righteousness, that equity and peace would pervade all the regions and nations of the world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You are a hiding place for all in distress. Draw near to exiles, and accompany all refugees and immigrants, especially children who travel alone. In times of trouble, trauma, or illness, surround your people with your steadfast love especially Arline, Adam and family, Bill, Carl, Pat, Dorothy, Sandi, Judy, Steve, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You offer abundance to all. Bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Care for those who tend to the needs of others, especially worship greeters, coffee hour hosts, and nursery attendants. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, call us into a deeper relationship to be your church for the sake of the world. Help us to see with new eyes the injustices within church and society.

Call us to have a loving heart that respects and uplifts the humanity and dignity of every person; open our ears to listen to and learn from the experiences of people of color. Open our mouths to speak up and about injustices. Join us with others to work for racial equity and inclusion for all people. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You alone are God. We praise you for the faithful departed in every age. Unite our prayers with theirs, until our wilderness journey is complete, and we rest in you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who taught us to pray...

*__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.

*__Sending Song:__ *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* Hymn 631

*__Blessing__

Christ Jesus dwell in our hearts through faith, as we are being rooted and grounded in love, strengthened by the Spirit, and filled with all the fullness of God.
Amen.

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Lenten Worship Schedule

Lenten Worship - Wednesdays, March 1,8,15, 22, 29.
*****Meal at 6:00 p.m. Worship at 7:00 p.m.
Palm Sunday - April 2, Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Maundy Thursday - April 6, Worship at 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday - April 7, Worship at 7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday - April 9, Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

***Wednesday Lenten Meals** - Each week for Lent (March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29) we are requesting four pots of soup to share, two people to help set up each week (need to arrive at 5:40 pm) and one person to provide bowls and spoons. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A45AFAE2CABFF2-lent1

Please BYOB and bring any extra food items you wish to partake for solely yourself and/or family. If you have any questions please contact a member of Small Groups or Congregational Life. Thank you!

PRAYERS

Prayers for Healing: Arline, Adam and Family, Pastor Bill Lucht, Carl Ulich, Pat Straub, Dorothy Ulich, Sandi, Judy McLaughlin, and Steve Combs.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, WORSHIP & EVENTS

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

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

First Communion Instruction - 12:15 - 1:00 p.m. in the Brown Room.

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Reader: Beth Johnson
Ushers: Alan & Delores Ivan
Sound: Mike Holthouse
Video: Brian Harris
Altar Guild: Becky Malloy & Julie Shrader

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. Steven Mahaffey	Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Bailey	Director of LGL Ministries
John Burke	Organist
Deb Musil	Office Administrator
Joyce Davis	Maintenance Supervisor
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Nancy McNeal	Luther Choir Director
Kaitlyn Taraschke	Nursery Attendant

Pastor Steve's Contact Information

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Cell Phone: 740-525-6149

Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information

Email: lindsay@stmatthewmedina.org

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Hearing Loop System available.