

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

October 22, 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

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:**

God is Here

Hymn 526

***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

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***Hymn of Praise**

Come, Let Us Join

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***Prayer of the Day**

C: Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷O LORD, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
⁹If I say, "I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
¹⁰For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him."
¹¹But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.
¹²O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³Sing to the LORD;
praise the LORD!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

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

Psalm

Psalm 96:1-13

¹Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**
³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.
⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**
⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**
⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**
⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the
peoples with equity."**
¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
¹²**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD,
for you come to judge the earth.**
¹³You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.
²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of
love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers
and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the
gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and

with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

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***Gospel**

Matthew 10:24-39

D: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the twelve: ²⁴“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

³⁶and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

D: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Hymn 841

*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: 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: Faithful God, your Spirit animates the church throughout the world and binds believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith, and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Creating God, the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Sovereign God, your rule and authority is over the cosmos. As you once worked through the ruler Cyrus for the good of your people, accomplish your purposes through the work of elected leaders and public servants. Guide them with your wisdom and compassion. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Caring God, your arms enfold all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick, and suffering especially Carol, Liz, Garrett, Stevie, Jim, Tom, Fran, Dick,

Logan, June, Adam and Family, Sandi, Steve, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned, and forgotten, that they may know your joy. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, all our life belongs to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead your church astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of church treasurers, councils, and all who manage financial matters. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Everlasting God, the saints of every age have sung your praise and shared your word. We give you thanks for their witness and pray that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. 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

Worship the King of Kings (11:00)

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

Rock of Ages Cleft For Me

Hymn 623

***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:**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Hymn 834

***Dismissal:**

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

C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude**

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PRAYERS

Altar Flowers this morning are given to the glory of God in memory of her beloved mother, Carole Jean Davis, by Debra Sherman.

Memorial Flowers this morning are given to the glory of God in memory of their parents, Albert and Dorothy Thornton and Milton and Opal Bockbrader, by Tom and Loretta Thornton.

Prayers for Healing: Carol Walter, Liz Linden, Garrett Shook, Stevie, Jim Kelling, Tom Thornton, Fran & Dick Koenig, Logan, June Trenty, Adam and Family, Sandi, and Steve Combs.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

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

First Bible Presentations during both services.

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

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Reformation Sunday, we will worship in-person at 8:30 and 11:00 with ELW Setting 4 and holy communion. *Livestream at 8:30.*

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) during the 11:00 service.

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

Reception for Confirmands in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 a.m.

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolyte:	8:30 - Luke Rohde	11:00 - Ella Supanich
Reader:	8:30 - Delores Ivan	11:00 - Becky Matyas
Communion Servers:	8:30 - Carol Elkins Delores Ivan	11:00 - Marcia & Dave George
Ushers:	8:30 - Alan Ivan Bruce Reed	11:00 - Tom & Amanda Kotick
Sound:	8:30 - Joe Obermeier	11:00 - Larry Mohler
Video:	8:30 - Melody Costello	
Altar Guild:	Becky Malloy & Julie Shrader	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Confirmation Practice - Wednesday, October 25, 6:00-6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

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, November 21, 2023, and Tuesday, December 19, 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.

How can you help with the Renovation Project? *Mail a check to St. Matthew OR Simply Giving Link* - Go to www.stmatthewmedina.org, Click on "Give", At the bottom of the page under "Online," click "Give Here", Select "St. Matthew Refresh/Renovation", Choose from a one-time donation or recurring donation. **Donations of \$65,755.63 received as of September 30, 2023.**

Sunshine Meals Ministry - Have you heard of the "Sunshine Meals?" This is a wonderful group of people from St. Matthew who volunteer to periodically make/or purchase meals and deliver them to parishioners at a time of need. If you would like to learn more about this ministry or want to volunteer, please contact our Parish Nurse, Brenda Disbrow, or the coordinator of the program, Sue Schwab. If you would like to be a recipient of a meal(s) after a hospitalization, health issue, or loss of a loved one, please contact Sue Schwab at 330-242-3397. A sincere thank you to Sue for her role in supporting the parishioners of St. Matthew and to all the volunteers who lend their time and talent to help others. *Brenda Disbrow, Parish Nurse*

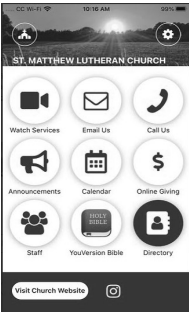
Blood Drive at St. Matthew - St. Matthew is hosting another blood drive with the American Red Cross on **October 28, 2023**. Appointments are available from 8:00am-1:00pm. You can schedule an appointment on the Blood Donor app or at www.redcrossblood.org. Choose St. Matthew under the zip code search. If you have any questions, please contact Melody at 330-461-1149.

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 - https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PRAEKGXF_55MpXyPolw2CxbJ95klFWIzDEo2h7cvdW4/edit#gid=0

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.

Directory App - Download this app on your smart phone and/or desktop computer. You received an email during the week of September 17 with your “Unique Identifier”. Contact your UCD Administrator, Beth Johnson at sboyumj@gmail.com or our UCD volunteers: Sandy Andrews or Melody Costello to add your family photo, and/or to update your contact information.



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

	<i>Month of August, 2023</i>	<i>Month of Sept., 2023</i>	<i>Year-to-Date January-Sept., 2023</i>
General Offering Unrestricted	\$ 25,329.84	\$ 25,168.86	\$ 238,794.24
2023 Approved Mission Plan	\$ 33,333.33	\$ 33,333.33	\$ 299,999.97
Budget Variance (Loss)	\$ (8,003.49)	\$ (8,164.47)	\$ (61,205.73)

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 August, September 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 .



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

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Cell Phone: 740-525-6149

Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information

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Hearing Loop
System available.