

*Oh, magnify the Lord with me,  
and let us exalt His name together!*

# *Praise* service

*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

*Youth-Led Worship*

May 12, 2024  
8:30 & 11:00 a.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](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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### **GATHERING**

*\* Please stand as you are able.*

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Mother's Day Liturgy**

Lord, on this day set aside to honor and remember mothers, we give you thanks for our mothers. We are grateful that you chose to give us life through them, and that they received the gift of life from your hands, and gave it to us. Thank you for the sacrifices they made in carrying us and giving us birth.

We thank you for the women who raised us, who were our mothers in childhood. Whether birth mom, adopted mom, older sister, aunt, grandmother, stepmother or someone else, we thank you for those women who held us and fed us, who cared for us and kissed away our pain. We pray that our lives may reflect the love they showed us, and that they would be pleased to be called our moms.

We pray for older moms whose children are grown.

**Grant them joy and satisfaction for a job well done.**

We pray for new moms experiencing changes they could not predict.

**Grant them rest and peace as they trust you for the future.**

We pray for pregnant women who will soon be moms.

**Grant them patience and good counsel in the coming months.**

We pray for moms who face the demands of single parenthood.

**Grant them strength and wisdom.**

We pray for moms who enjoy financial abundance.

**Grant them time to share with their families.**

We pray for moms who are raising their children in poverty.

**Grant them relief and justice.**

We pray for step-moms.

**Grant them patience and understanding and love.**

We pray for moms who are separated from their children.

**Grant them faith and hope.**

We pray for moms in marriages that are in crisis.

**Grant them support and insight.**

We pray for moms who have lost children.

**Grant them comfort in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

We pray for moms who gave up their children for adoption.

**Grant them peace and confidence as they trust in your providence.**

We pray for adoptive mothers.

**Grant them joy and gratitude for the gift you have provided.**

We pray for girls and women who think about being moms.

**Grant them wisdom and discernment.**

We pray for all women who have assumed the mother's role in a child's life.

**Grant them joy and the appreciation of others.**

We pray for those people present who are grieving the loss of their mother in the past year.

**Grant them comfort and hope in Christ's resurrection.**

Lord, we thank you for the gift of motherhood. We thank you for the many examples of faithful mothers in scripture, like Sarah, Hannah, Elizabeth, and Lois. Hear now the first names of other women who have inspired us by their motherly examples . . . We are mindful this day of all these women, and especially Mary the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, who had the courage in faith to say "yes" to your calling. May these women gathered here today emulate these examples of faith. And may they model for all the rest of us what it means to be your disciple. Bless them on this special day; in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**\*Gathering Song**

*My Father's House*

**\*Greeting**

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

**And also with you.**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in 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**

# WORD

## First Reading

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, <sup>16</sup>“Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—<sup>17</sup> for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

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

## Psalm

Psalm 1

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!  
<sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**  
<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,  
with  
leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.  
<sup>4</sup>**It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**  
<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.  
<sup>6</sup>**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

## Second Reading

1 John 5:9-13

<sup>9</sup>If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. <sup>10</sup>Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

<sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

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

**\*Gospel**

John 17:6-19

The holy gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus prayed: <sup>6</sup>“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ!**

**Sermon**

**\*Hymn of the Day:**

*You Are Holy*

**\*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**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

Shepherding You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all bishops, pastors, and deacons to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm. Comfort those in any affliction, especially Michael, John, Isaac, Ron, Catherine, Sylvia, Karen, Richard, Ken, June, Steve, Tom, Adam and Family, Elizabeth, Jerry, Todd, Sandi, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Support those who grieve and bring solace to those near death. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst, console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your saints dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who have gone before us in faith. Inspire us by their witness. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**Amen.**

**Senior Recognition:** Carter Landes, Emerson Lindsley, & Hope Rohde

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**Offering**

**Offertory Prayer**

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**Amen.**

**\*Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**\*Words of Institution**

**\*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.

**Distribution**

**Communion Trio**

*Peace in Christ*

Heather, Hope & Trevor Rohde

## **\*Prayer after Communion**

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **\*Blessing**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

### **\*Sending Song:**

*I Thank God*

### **\*Dismissal:**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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### Song

Leaders: Heather Rohde

Mason Cooper

Shaun Faust

Kaitlyn Taraschke

Hope Rohde

Trevor Rohde

Zach Faust

Guitar: Shaun Faust

Emma Kotick

Drums: Tom Kotick

Pianist: Cindy Piovarchy



## PRAYERS

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

**Memorial Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God in honor of their mothers, Helen Harvey and Helen Donaldson, by Gary and Sandy Kelling.

**Prayers for Healing:** Michael Minen, John Ramsey, Isaac Linden, Ron Umscheid, Catherine Forsythe, Sylvia, Karen Rupert, Richard, Ken Ault, June Trenty, Steve Combs, Tom Thornton, Adam and Family, Elizabeth, Jerry Jakovcic, Todd Costello, and Sandi.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

**Seventh Sunday of Easter, Mother's Day**, we will worship in person at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. with Youth-Led Praise and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30.

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

**Hat Making** - 9:45 a.m. in the Library.

**The Nursery** attendant is not on duty today. Parents are welcome to use the nursery to supervise their children.

## NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 19, AT ST. MATTHEW

### Wear Red for Pentecost!

**Next Sunday, Pentecost Sunday**, we will worship in person at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. with ELW 4 and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30.

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

**Hat Making** - 9:45 a.m. in the Library.

**Baptism** of Olivia Evelyn Naysmith at the 11:00 service. Reception to follow worship in the Fellowship Hall.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A Sincere Thank You** to all who responded to the appeal for beds and dressers last week. The family's needs have been met. We are blessed with good and generous people. *In His Service, Brenda Disbrow, Parish Nurse*

**Collection for Birthcare of Medina** - The Evangelism and Communication team will be collecting items to donate to Birthcare of Medina County throughout the month of May. Please see lists of their needs by the collection box in the narthex. Also look for the article in the Shout-Out for more information about this collection ministry.

**Vacation Bible School registration is open** for all children who have completed Preschool through 5th grade. VBS will take place at St. Matthew June 24-28, 9-11:30 a.m. All registrations must be received by Sunday, June 2. Register at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe4cdM9dzJV7xUcce1sXgDD\\_YrHtQXmHmpAZc8OdO8Xxyo9mw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe4cdM9dzJV7xUcce1sXgDD_YrHtQXmHmpAZc8OdO8Xxyo9mw/viewform) or by using the link through the Shout-Out. **Volunteers needed!**

**Silent Book Club!** Meets every other Monday at Faith House (432 N. Broadway). Upcoming dates are 5/20, 6/3, 6/17, and 7/1 @ 6:30 pm. BYOBook! See you there!

**Bike Ride with Pastor Steve** - May 25. Riders will depart from Pastor Steve's house at 3:30 pm (you may arrive as early as 3:00). We will ride 1.5 miles on the country road to the Rittman bicycle path. The path is mostly flat and goes all the way to Creston. Total mileage out and back is 15 miles. If you are uncomfortable riding on the country road, you can drive to the parking lot at the end of the path in Rittman. **Helmets are required!** After the ride, we will gather in Pastor Steve's back yard, where there will be cornhole, a fire, and food. Please bring a food item to share. Burgers, hot dogs, and some beverage options will be provided. Everyone is asked to bring a lawn chair. Please RSVP via the Sign-Up Genius link in the Shout-Out. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0549A5A622A4F49-49558606-bike>

**The Pierstorf College Fund** was established in 1994 and is a one-of-a-kind Lutheran financial aid program for all Lutheran students pursuing a higher education who live in Ohio. We have awarded over \$13 million in loans to more than 4,000 students since 1994. First time borrowers may be new or returning college students. We do not ask for family income information. The pastor of the applicant is their sole reference.

For more information, please visit [www.Pierstorf.org](http://www.Pierstorf.org) to complete the online application. Applications are open from April 15 through June 30, 2024. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for further updates. We are here to answer your questions. Please contact us at [Pierstorf@messiahfp.org](mailto:Pierstorf@messiahfp.org) or call 440-665-3653.

**"Getting to Know You"** - The *Getting to Know You* segment in the Shout-Out has been received very positively! Please take a couple minutes to respond to the few questions through the link in the Shout-Out or you can find the form in the Narthex. We would love to *Get to Know You* better!

## WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolyte:	8:30 - Lucy Brown-Serban	11:00 - Devin Shrader
Children's Sermon:	8:30 - Kaitlyn Taraschke	11:00 - Annabelle Thompsom
Readers:	8:30 - Carter Landes August Weight Kyle Landes Cam Landes	11:00 - Carter Landes August Weight Kyle Landes Cam Landes
Sermon:	8:30 - Anna Holthouse	11:00 - Anna Holthouse
Communion Servers:	8:30 - August Weight	11:00 - August Weight
Ushers:	8:30 - Tommy Malloy	11:00 - Tommy Malloy Emma Gierhart
Sound:	8:30 - Joe Obermeier	11:00 - Larry Mohler
Video:	8:30 - Bobby Forsythe	
Altar Guild:	Becky Malloy	

## **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**

Email: [pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org](mailto:pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org)

Cell Phone: 740-525-6149

### **Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information**

Email: [lindsay@stmatthewmedina.org](mailto:lindsay@stmatthewmedina.org)

Cell Phone: 440-376-8338



Hearing Loop  
System available.

### **Church Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 am - 3:30 pm

Friday: Office Closed