

# JESUS THE HEALER



*Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

February 4, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

*Now the Feast & Celebration*

*Marty Haugen*

*“Living God’s Love”*

**St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church**

400 North Broadway Street † Medina, Ohio 44256

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**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 found in the Now the Feast & Celebration booklet.*

*"Hymns" are located toward the back of the red hymnal.*

\*Please stand as you are able.

## GATHERING

**Prelude**

*Rhosymedre*

Williams

**Welcome and Announcements**

*Confession and Forgiveness		Page 2
*Gathering Song	<i>We Come to You For Healing, Lord</i>	Hymn 617
*Greeting		Page 2
*Kyrie		Page 3
*Song	<i>Now the Feast</i>	Page 4

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint.  
Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news  
may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Children's Sermon**

Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach

## WORD

**First Reading**

Isaiah 40:21-31

<sup>21</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

<sup>22</sup> It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,  
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;  
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

<sup>23</sup> who brings princes to naught,  
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

<sup>24</sup> Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
when he blows upon them, and they wither,  
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

<sup>25</sup> To whom then will you compare me,  
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup> Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,  
calling them all by name;  
because he is great in strength,  
mighty in power,  
not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup> Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,  
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

<sup>28</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup> He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.

<sup>30</sup> Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup> but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

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

## Psalm

Psalm 147:1-11, 20

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!  
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem,  
and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD heals the brokenhearted  
and binds up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup> **The LORD counts the number of the stars  
and calls them all by their names.**

<sup>5</sup> Great is our LORD and mighty in power;  
there is no limit to God's wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD lifts up the lowly,  
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;  
make music upon the harp to our God,

<sup>8</sup>**who covers the heavens with clouds  
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the  
mountains.**

<sup>9</sup>God provides food for the cattle  
and for the young ravens when they cry.

<sup>10</sup>**God is not impressed by the might of a horse,  
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

<sup>11</sup>but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,  
in those who await God's steadfast love. <sup>20c</sup>Hallelujah!

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

<sup>16</sup>If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel Verse

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P: The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

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

## \*Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

<sup>29</sup>As soon as Jesus and the disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door.

<sup>34</sup> And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup> In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup> And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup> When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup> He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup> And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

## Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

## \*Hymn of the Day

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

Hymn 773

## \*Apostles' Creed

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## \*Prayers of Intercession

D: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

D: Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

D: Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

D: God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

D: God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need especially the family of Robert, Steve, Liliana, Tom, Una Mae, Adam and Family, Elizabeth, Stevie, Rosemary, Clarence, the Gibeault Family, Ingrid, Judy, Brenda, Jerry, Todd, Logan, Sandi, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**



## **\*Post Communion Prayer**

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, for the blessings of this table.  
May our lives be made new by these gifts of grace and may your love be  
made known through us.

C: **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **\*Sending Song**

*Oh, Worship the King*

Hymn 842

### **\*Trinitarian Blessing & Dismissal**

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### **Postlude**

*Classical Postlude*  
Haydn/Chesterton

+++

## **WORSHIP SERVANTS**

Acolyte:	8:30 - Reagan Stuchal	11:00 - Ella Supanich
Reader:	8:30 - Jen Knaggs	11:00 - Ron Heinz
Communion Servers:	8:30 - Melody Costello Jen Knaggs	11:00 - Sandy Andrews Julie Shrader
Ushers:	8:30 - Tim Brown Alan & Delores Ivan	11:00 - Heinz Family
Sound:	8:30 - Joe Obermeier	11:00 - Larry Mohler
Video:	8:30 - Scott Johnson	
Altar Guild:	Kelly Obermeier	

## PRAYERS

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

**\*Prayers for Healing:** Family of Robert Hildebrand (father of Mary Baker), Steve Combs, Liliana, Tom Thornton, Una Mae Gill, Adam and Family, Elizabeth, Rosemary, Clarence, Gibeault Family, Ingrid Schaller, Judy Weir, Brenda Disbrow, Jerry Jakovcic, Todd Costello, Logan, and Sandi.

*\*If you, a relative, or friend would like to be added to the prayers, please contact the church office. Your request will be added to the bulletin and Shout-Out, as well as the list of prayers for our Thursday afternoon Prayer Group. Names will be removed from the bulletin and Shout-Out after one month, unless a specific timeframe is requested, but will remain in our Prayer Group's prayers. If you wish to have a name added back to the prayers once it is removed, please contact the office.*

## TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**, we worship in person at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. with Now the Feast and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30.

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

## NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, AT ST. MATTHEW

**Next Sunday, Transfiguration of Our Lord**, 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.



## **Finance Committee Chair needed!!**

Establishment of the Finance Committee is well under way. According to the updated Constitution the members of the Finance Committee will consist of the Finance Committee Chair, Treasurer, Bookkeeper, Financial Secretary, Rostered Staff and **at least** two members from the congregation. The current members are:

Finance Committee Chair

Treasurer

Bookkeeper

Financial Secretary

Rostered Staff

Rostered Staff

Congregation Member

Congregation Member

Congregation Member

### **Open**

Teri Uttech

Heather Rohde

Mary Dunham

Pastor Steve

Deacon Lindsay

Bruce Reed, At Large

Austin Stertzbach

Jen Knaggs

The Committee is still in need of a Finance Committee Chair. This individual will be responsible for scheduling the monthly Finance Committee meeting, preparing the agenda with input from the committee, leading the meetings and preparing the minutes to be submitted to the Congregation Council.

If you are interested in serving on the committee but do not wish to Chair it, you are welcome. Contact any member of the committee if you have any questions or are interested in joining us!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**“The Future As I See It” Session** - Monday, February 5, at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All St. Matthew members are invited to attend this highly structured, carefully facilitated session that creates a negotiated and neutral environment for all voices to be heard. *Please reference the full letter that was emailed to the congregation on Thursday, January 25 for more information.*

**Noisy Offering - Souper Bowl of Caring** - The Luther Middles will be collecting money (no goods) on February 11, at both services, as part of the Tackle Hunger Challenge for the Souper Bowl of Caring. All funds will be donated to ELCA World Hunger.

**Soup & Subs Super Bowl Sunday** - On February 11, the Luther League will have to-go orders of Soup and Subs available for pickup. Please use the link in the Shout-Out to reserve your items or see a high schooler before or after worship to place your order. This is a fundraiser to support the 26 St. Matthew high schoolers who are attending the ELCA gathering in New Orleans this July. Orders must be received by Friday, February 9th by noon.

**“Loads of Love”** - St. Matthew will be spreading joy and covering the cost of laundry for all clients at North Court Laundry, 739 W. Liberty St., from 10 am - 2 pm on Saturday, February 17. Use the Sign-Up Genius link in your Shout-Out ([www.signupgenius.com/go/9040544ADA629AAFD0-47171581-loads](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040544ADA629AAFD0-47171581-loads)) if you would like to volunteer your time to hand out coins and spread the JOY! The Evangelism & Communication Committee will provide further details to the volunteers.

**Hats for Cups Café** - We are going to start working on hats for Cups Café and we need more help to get them done for fall. Judy Weir will be starting a class soon to show folks how to make them on a loom. She has several extra looms, so you do not need to buy one. She also has extra yarn to get everyone started. Please call Judy at 440-789-8178 to let her know you would like to help.

**From Our Parish Nurse** - Greetings. On Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, I will be returning to St. Matthew following my recovery from spinal surgery. On Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, Blood Pressure screening will take place before and between services. Thank you, Brenda Disbrow

**Drive Thru Food Drive** - The Evangelism & Communication Committee will hold a drive-thru food drive in the church parking lot on Saturday, March 9, 10 am - Noon. Pull up, pop your trunk, and volunteers will be here to unload without you having to get out of your car. Food donations to benefit local food pantries.

**“Getting to Know You”** - St. Matthew started featuring a St. Matthew family in our weekly Shout-Outs as a way to get to know our fellow St. Matthew members. We would love to feature your family! Go to your most recent Shout-Out to access the link to complete your profile. If you have any questions, please send a text to Beth Johnson (Communication Evangelism) at 301-501-0473. We look forward to *GETTING TO KNOW YOU!*

**Are You A Thrivent Member?** - Thrivent members receive grant funds each year in the amount of \$250 (or more) based on their Thrivent products. These funds can be used for community projects or necessities in the church. In 2023, our members were able to: purchase coffee for our coffee bar; help with Rock the Block and Operation: HOMES; provide needed items and postage for our care packages to college students; purchase turkeys and hams for Feeding Medina County; help 4 families with Christmas wish items; yarn to make hats; purchase supplies for the senior Thanksgiving Dinner; and baptismal gifts. These grants totaled \$2,000!

Ideas are in the works for projects and how Thrivent members can help in 2024. We have a list of individuals who are members, but is your name on it? Please contact Melody Costello (330) 461-1149 or Pastor Steve if you're a member, so we can add your name to the list and call upon you to apply for projects or needs. \*Grants turn over every year, but do not accumulate if not used.\* If you're interested in becoming a Thrivent member, see Pastor Steve or Melody; they can connect you with a local representative or visit [thrivent.com](https://www.thrivent.com).

## 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**

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Cell Phone: 440-376-8338



Hearing Loop  
System available.