



Sixteenth Sunday of Easter

September 8, 2024
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

Please note: This worship service is being livestreamed and recorded onto Facebook and YouTube, and an edited copy posted onto the St. Matthew webpage. By attending this worship service, you may appear as a part of this digital recording. Thank you.

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

Prelude

Temple Talk

Jen Knaggs

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession & Forgiveness**

D: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

D: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

D: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

D: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Song:**

Earth and All Stars

Hymn 731

***Greeting**

D: 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: Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach

WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7a

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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

Psalm

Psalm 146

¹Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²**I will praise the LORD as long as I live;**

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴**When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob ¹for their help,
 whose hope is in the LORD their God;
⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;**
who keeps promises forever;
⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
 The LORD sets the captive free.
⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are**
bowled down;
the LORD loves the righteous.
⁹The LORD cares for the stranger;
 the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
¹⁰**The LORD shall reign forever,**
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Second Reading

James 2:1-17

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us.

²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

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*Gospel

Mark 7:24-37

D: The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴ Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet.²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.²⁷ He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs."²⁸ But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."²⁹ Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter."³⁰ So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis.³² They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him.

³³ He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue.³⁴ Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened."³⁵ And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.³⁶ Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it.³⁷ They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

Sermon

Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach

Hymn of the Day:

Healer of Our Every Ill

Hymn 612

***Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

A: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A: Awaken in our communities of faith a spirit of radical hospitality. Encourage our churches to celebrate and embrace people of diverse backgrounds, experiences, and abilities. Deepen our commitment to ecumenical and interreligious partnerships. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Bring forth water to nourish plants and animals in places suffering from drought. Renew our commitments to protect rivers, lakes, and streams, and make us good stewards of water in our homes and communities. Preserve wetland habitats and the creatures that make their homes there. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Inspire leaders of cities, nations, and tribes to lead with wisdom and humility. Bring peace among peoples in conflict and strengthen global commitments to nonviolent solutions. Guide all who seek refuge from war to a safe haven. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Comfort all who live with chronic illness. Surround them in your tender embrace and sustain all who provide ongoing care and support. Bring hope and healing to people struggling with addiction and nourish the spirits of all who are in recovery. We pray especially for Jenna, Marliese, Jerry, June, Steve, Tom, Adam and Family, Todd, Sandi, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Nurture in all people the gift of your creating Spirit. Inspire artists and musicians, woodworkers and quilters, poets and dancers. Revive those whose artistic wells have run dry and enliven all who doubt their creative talents. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We give you thanks for all who have died and now find their rest in you. May their faithful witness guide us in our daily life with you. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

A: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offertory

Offertory Response

For the Fruit of All Creation (vs. 1)

Hymn 679

***Offertory Prayer**

D: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

***Thanksgiving for the Word**

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D: Let us pray. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

D: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

D: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

D: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

***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**

***Blessing**

D: God all mighty, God most merciful ☩ bless you, keep you, and give you peace.
C: Amen.

***Sending Song:** *God, Whose Almighty Word*

Hymn 673

***Dismissal:**

A: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude**

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WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolyte:	8:30 - Andrew Hogan	11:00 - Emma Kotick
Reader:	8:30 - Adam Scheid	11:00 - Jen Knaggs
Ushers:	8:30 - Alan & Delores Ivan	
Sound:	8:30 - Joe Obermeier	11:00 - Larry Mohler
Video:	8:30 - Brian Harris	
Altar Guild:	Kelly Obermeier	
Assisting Minister:	Jen Knaggs	

PRAYERS

Altar Flowers This Morning are given to the glory of God in celebration of their granddaughter, Mina Griffin's 20th birthday by Lavonne and Dean Hauptman.

Memorial Flowers This Morning are given to the glory of God in loving memory of their dear son, Bradley Hulvey, by Steve and Diane Hulvey.

Prayers for Healing: Jenna Saleker, Marliese Leggett, Jerry Jakovcic, June Trenty, Steve Combs, Tom Thornton, Adam and Family, Todd Costello, and Sandi.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, we will worship in person at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with ELW 10. *No communion. Livestream at 8:30.*

Sunday School Teacher Installation during worship.

Rally Day activities during the Sunday School hour, 9:45 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, we will worship in person at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with ELW 10 and communion. *Livestream at 8:30.*

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



Please join us in showering Deacon Lindsay and Austin with love as they await the birth of their sweet daughter!

Sunday, October 6, 12:30 - 2:30

St. Matthew Fellowship Hall

Please RSVP via the link in the Shout-Out!

They are registered on Amazon.

We are asking for donations of food items to add to a large charcuterie board.

We are looking for the following items:

cheese, crackers, salami, pepperoni, prosciutto, almonds, walnuts, cashews, pretzels, chocolates, sunflower seeds, and candies.

Please sign up via the link in the Shout-Out and have the donations to Jen Knaggs by Wednesday, October 2.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School Registration - The 2024-2025 Sunday School theme is “God’s Kitchen: Ingredients for a Godly Life”. Children age 3 through 12th grade, as well as adults, are invited to participate in a time of Christian education and faith formation each Sunday (Sep. 8 - May 18) from 9:45-10:45 a.m. You do not need to be a member of St. Matthew to attend Sunday School classes. We ask that you fill out a registration for each child that will be participating in Sunday School in order to help our teachers with their planning. (Adults do not need to register.) The link to register can be found in the Shout-Out or on our website. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Lindsay, lindsay@stmatthewmedina.org or Julie Shrader, jshrader@buckeyeschools.org.

God’s Work. Our Hands. Day. September 14, 2024, at 10 AM at St. Matthew. Volunteers are needed to help pack bags! Sign up through the link in the Shout-Out or on our website if you can help. Lunch will follow. Questions can be directed to Barb Woodard, Melody Costello, or Stephanie Hess.

Blood Pressure Screening - Sunday, September 15, before and between services in the Parish Nurse’s office.

Senior Connections Day - Friday, September 20, 1-4 pm at the Office for Older Adults, 246 Northland Dr., Medina. FREE workshops: Technology/Scams, End of Life Planning, Food/Grocery Assistance/SNAP, Transportation, Home Repair/maintenance/cost reduction, Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid. Scan the QR Code to register or go to <https://zionvc.org/> or call 330-483-3873 for information.

Nursery Coverage - There will be no nursery attendant on Sunday, September 22. The nursery will be open for parents to supervise their own child unless we have a volunteer offer to serve.

Spaghetti Dinner - The Luther League will host the annual Spaghetti Dinner and Dessert Auction on Sunday, September 29 at 5:00 p.m. We hope to see you all there! Please use the link in the Shout-Out to RSVP or sign up in the narthex.

Silent Book Club! Meets the first and third Mondays each month at Faith House (432 N. Broadway). We have a few fun things planned in the upcoming months: Oct 21-Halloween Book Club, Nov. 18-Book Club Food Drive, Dec. 16-Holiday Get Together. *We are still taking donations for the Free Library at Faith House.*

Looms of Love (Hat Making) - Meets the second and fourth Sundays each month at 9:45 a.m. in the Library. *No meeting September 8.*

Share! Do you have something to share with the congregation and/or community? The Evangelism and Communication Team has developed an easy way to make sure your message gets delivered complete, immediately, and effortlessly. We have many avenues of sharing your message (Shoutout,

bulletin, slides, website, Facebook, newspaper, paid ads, etc.) and now you have only ONE place to go to share with all of them. Go to the new webpage, "Share Your News" to submit your message.



FUN FELLOWSHIP

Fall

FESTIVAL

FUN FOR THE FAMILY

SUN. OCTOBER 20, 2024

CHILI COOK-OFF, HAYRIDE & PUMPKIN
PICKING, TRUNK OR TREAT FOR THE KIDS!

Richardson's Farm - 6984 Lafayette Road,
Medina 1:00 - 5:00 pm

MORE DETAILS TO COME - SAVE THE DATE!!



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

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Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information

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Hearing Loop
System available.