

**I am the living
bread that came
down from
heaven; whoever
eats this bread
will live forever.
– Jesus
(John 6:51)**



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**August 18, 2024
9:30 a.m.**

ELW Setting 8

“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

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

D: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

D: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

D: God, our provider,

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

D: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Song:**

Praise and Thanksgiving

Hymn 689

***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**

Kyrie Eleison

Page 184

***Hymn of Praise**

This is the Feast

Page 187

***Prayer of the Day**

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing of the Backpacks

WORD

First Reading

Proverbs 9:1-6

- ¹ Wisdom has built her house,
she has hewn her seven pillars.
- ² She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.
- ³ She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
from the highest places in the town,
- ⁴ "You that are simple, turn in here!"
To those without sense she says,
- ⁵ "Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.
- ⁶ Lay aside immaturity, and live,
and walk in the way of insight."

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

Psalm

Psalm 34:9-14

- ⁹ Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.
- ¹⁰ **The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**
- ¹¹ Come, children, and listen to me;
I will teach you reverence for the LORD.
- ¹² **Who among you takes pleasure in life
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

¹³ Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from lying words.

¹⁴ **Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:15-20

¹⁵ Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰ giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go

Page 188

*Gospel

John 6:51-58

D: The holy gospel according to St. John, the Sixth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, ⁵¹ "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸

This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

D: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Youth Gathering Experience Shared by Luther League

Hymn of the Day:

I Am The Bread of Life

Hymn 485

*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**

P: Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P: Wisdom has built her house. May the church be a house of wisdom for all who enter. May we continue to grow and stretch in ways we never thought possible. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Wisdom has mixed her wine. May the harvest seasons be plentiful this year. We pray for orchards, vineyards, farms, and all of creation. Protect and conserve the earth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Wisdom has employed her laborers. Be with all who seek adequate employment. Guide our economic and governmental leaders to support the people of our world with fair wages and safe working conditions. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Wisdom has invited her guests. Make your presence known to all who feel lost, abandoned, or hurting at this time. Direct your spirit of care to all who seek healing and comfort especially Gary, Susie, Jerry, June, Steve, Tom, Adam and Family, Todd, Sandi, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Wisdom has set her table. May this congregation be a welcome table to all who seek the refuge of God. Break down walls and barriers that prevent us from offering a seat at this table to anyone who comes. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Wisdom has shown her path of insight. May we journey on her paths, looking toward a bright future while remembering from where we have come. We give our thanks for those who have gone before us. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.

C: Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

Offertory Response

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Hymn 184

***Offertory Prayer**

P: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

Page 190

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**

Page 190

***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: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

***Lamb of God**

Page 191

Communion Hymn

One Bread, One Body

Hymn 496

***Prayer after Communion**

P: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

SENDING

***Blessing**

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Sending Song:**

Voices Raised to You

Hymn 845

***Dismissal:**

D: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude**

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WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolyte:	Bennett Alt
Reader:	Judy McLaughlin
Ushers:	Alan & Delores Ivan Becky Malloy, Bruce Reed
Communion Assistants:	Carol Elkins Delores Ivan
Sound:	Joe Obermeier
Video:	Brian Harris
Altar Guild:	Liz Linden

PRAYERS

Altar Flowers This Morning are given to the glory of God in celebration of Nathan and Nicole Hulvey's 25th wedding anniversary by Steve and Diane Hulvey.

Prayers for Healing: Gary Kelling, Susie Siebert, Jerry Jakovcic, June Trenty, Steve Combs, Tom Thornton, Adam and Family, Todd Costello, and Sandi.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, we worship in person and livestream at 9:30 a.m. with ELW 8 and holy communion.

Welcome and Thank You to Nathan Kenney, our accompanist this morning.

Comprehensive Youth/Sunday School Meeting, 10:45 a.m., Brown Room.

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, we will worship in person outside at Buckeye Woods at 9:30 a.m. with ELW 8 and holy communion.

Potluck Picnic to follow worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Men's Breakfast - Monday, August 19, 8:00 a.m. at Yours Truly. Meet the third Monday of each month.

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.

Luther Choir Rehearsals Will Resume Wednesday, August 21, 6:00- 7:00 p.m. in the Brown Room.

Bible & Brew - Thursday, August 22, 7:00 p.m., at Forest Meadow Villas. *No study August 29 or September 5*

Altar Guild Meeting - This Saturday, August 24, beginning at 9:30 a.m., in the sanctuary. Discussion will include all items that we need to accomplish by the end of the calendar year. Any questions, please contact Sandy Andrews at 330-391-0847 or slandrews731@gmail.com.

Outdoor Worship & Potluck Picnic - On Sunday, August 25, our 9:30 worship service will take place at Buckeye Woods Park followed by a potluck picnic. Please use the Sign-Up Genius link in the Shout-Out to let us know what you will be bringing for the potluck, or see the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Table service, lemonade, and water will be provided. *In the case of inclement weather, worship and the picnic will take place at St. Matthew.*

Senior Fellowship - Join us to socialize and play some favorite games. Our next get together is Monday, August 26, at 1:00 p.m. in the Brown Room. Bring your favorite game!

Return to Two Services - Sunday, September 1, 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Rally Day - Kick off to the Sunday School year, Sunday, September 8, during the Sunday School hour (9:45 a.m.)

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

Silent Book Club! Meets the first and third Mondays each month at Faith House (432 N. Broadway). *Note: We will NOT meet on Labor Day, 9/2.*

Looms of Love (Hat Making) Meets the second and fourth Mondays each month at Faith House (432 N. Broadway).

God's Work. Our Hands. Day

September 14, 2024, at 10 AM at St. Matthew. There will be a sign up sheet soon with the addition of sizes for those who wish to purchase t-shirts. We will need volunteers to help out with set up, tear down, and fix food for the luncheon. An organization, "For the Greater Good", will be the recipient of the 150 packages of care kits for homeless men in Cuyahoga County. 50 additional kits will be distributed to members of our congregations to be passed out upon encountering someone in need.



We are asking for the following donations (Collection deadline is August 18): Deodorant, ~~Toothbrushes~~ (150 toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss have been donated), Shampoo, Combs/hair picks, Band-Aids, Bar soap, and Canvas/plastic re-usable grocery shopping bags to package the care kits.

Cash donations are being accepted, including Thrivent grant dollars, to be used to purchase (in bulk) the following items to be included in the kits: Men's white t-shirts (various sizes), men's underwear, men's crew socks, wash cloths, and gallon-size zip lock bags to pack the hygiene items in the care kits.

Checks should be made out to "St. Matthew Lutheran Church" with a memo note "GWOH".



God's work. Our hands. Spirit Wear

ORDER DEADLINE: August 18.

T-shirts are available in adult and youth sizes and are \$11 each. All shirts will be distributed at St. Matthew in early September. Link to order is available in the Shout-Out or on our website. If you will not be ordering your shirt online, please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Make payment to St. Matthew with a memo indicating *GWOH t-shirts*. Questions can be directed to Barb Woodard, Melody Costello, or Stephanie Hess.

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

Cell Phone: 740-525-6149.

Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information

Email: 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