



## *Third Sunday after Pentecost*

June 29, 2025

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](mailto:office@stmatthewmedina.org)

[www.stmatthewmedina.org](http://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.

=====

*"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**

*Amazing Grace Medley*

Tornquist

**Welcome and Announcements**

### **\*Confession and Forgiveness**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

**C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Gathering Song:**

*Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death*

Hymn 452

## \*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

**Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## VBS Showcase

## WORD

### First Reading

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

<sup>15</sup> Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup> Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.”

<sup>19</sup> So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. <sup>20</sup> He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” Then Elijah said to him, “Go back again; for what have I done to you?” <sup>21</sup> He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm

Psalm 16

<sup>1</sup> Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;  
I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

<sup>2</sup> **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the people.**

<sup>3</sup> But those who run after other gods  
shall have their troubles multiplied.

<sup>4</sup> **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,  
never take their names upon my lips.**

<sup>5</sup> O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;  
it is you who uphold my lot.

- <sup>6</sup> **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**
- <sup>7</sup> I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;  
my heart teaches me night after night.
- <sup>8</sup> **I have set the LORD always before me;  
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**
- <sup>9</sup> My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.
- <sup>10</sup> **For you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor let your holy one see the pit.**
- <sup>11</sup> You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures  
forevermore.

## Second Reading

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

<sup>1</sup> For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

<sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup> If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup> Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go*

Page 188

## \*Gospel

Luke 9:51-62

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the ninth chapter.

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

<sup>51</sup> When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; <sup>53</sup> but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" <sup>55</sup> But he turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> Then they went on to another village.

<sup>57</sup> As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." <sup>58</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." <sup>59</sup> To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." <sup>60</sup> But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." <sup>61</sup> Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." <sup>62</sup> Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

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

**Sermon**

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

**Hymn of the Day**

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

Hymn 798

**\*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**

D: Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

*A brief silence.*

D: Guide your church, O God. Anoint us for service and make us messengers of your peace. Emboldened by the witness of Christians throughout history, send us to proclaim your reign come near. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: Protect this world, O God. Watch over fields and fruit trees, foxes and birds, the pleasant land beneath us and the sun and moon above. Keep us mindful of the rich inheritance you have given us in the natural world. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: Counsel our leaders, O God. Make them steadfast in seeking justice and unable to be shaken as they pursue peace. Lead them by your Spirit to listen and respond to the people they govern. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: Uphold all who suffer, O God. Give refuge to those of us who know rejection, and shelter to those of us who have nowhere to lay our heads. Bring any who are sick into your healing presence especially Brenda, Sue, Darine, Margery, Una Mae, Rosemary, Alan, Loretta, Ed, Jerry, Tom, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Give all your fullness of joy. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: Set free this assembly, O God. Grow your Spirit's fruits within us and within our congregation's ministries. Set our faces always on you, that we might live in the freedom to which you have called us. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: Embrace all your saints, O God. We thank you for the faithful departed. Let us rejoice that you do not abandon us to the grave but lead us on the path of life. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

D: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**Offering**

*I Stand Amazed Medley*

Tornquist

**Offertory Response**

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

Hymn 184

**\*Offertory Prayer**

P: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**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: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

**\*Lamb of God**

Page 191

**Communion Hymn**

*Be Thou My Vision*

Hymn 793

**\*Prayer after Communion**

P: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*Blessing**

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sending Song:**

*Here I Am, Lord*

Hymn 574

**\*Dismissal:**

D: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Postlude**

*Here I Am, Lord*

Schutte

+++

<b>LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE</b>
9:30 - 90



## WORSHIP SERVANTS - SUMMER WORSHIP - 9:30 A.M.

### THIS WEEK

### NEXT WEEK

Acolytes:	Trace Thompson	Reagan Stuchal
Reader:	Delores Ivan	Beth Johnson
Communion Servers:	Dave & Marcia George	Rick Grice
Ushers:	Rick & Kathy Grice	Alan & Delores Ivan
Sound:	Joe Obermeier	Larry Mohler
Video:	Bobby Forsythe	Scott Johnson
Altar Guild:	Becky Malloy	Liz Linden & Brittany Thompson
Assistant:		Jennifer Knaggs



## PRAYERS

**Altar Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God in celebration of their 50th anniversary by Andy and Mary Dunham.

**Altar Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God in celebration of Ryan and Jenna's birthdays by Ron and Karen Saleker.

**Memorial Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God in memory of loved ones by Ron and Ann Kolzing.

**Prayers for Healing:** Brenda B., Sue Schwab, Darine Prok, Margery Murray, Una Mae Gill, Rosemary Evans, Alan Ivan, Jr., Loretta Thornton, Ed, Jerry Jakovcic, & Tom Thornton.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

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

## NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 6 AT ST. MATTHEW

**Next Sunday, Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**, we will worship in person and livestream at 9:30 a.m. with Now the Feast and holy communion.

**Offerings:** By setting up recurring offerings online, you enable us to maintain financial stability and plan for the future of St. Matthew. Please consider signing up for Simply Giving at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z4MP/home> or use your smart phone with the QR code below. Please prayerfully consider increasing your offering to support the church and its mission of Living God's Love.

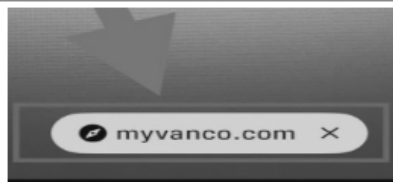
**NOTE:** You can select between recurring or one time donation for General Church Operations, St. Matthew Renovation/Refresh Project, or choose Other if you'd like to dedicate your offering to another purpose.

Estate planning is for everyone, it is an opportunity to create your legacy at St. Matthew. Thank you for your continued generosity.

If you have any questions about your current account or setting up your account, contact our Financial Recording Secretary, Mary Dunham at 330-421-4730 or via email at [Recording\\_Secretary@stmatthewmedina.org](mailto:Recording_Secretary@stmatthewmedina.org)

### Instructions:

1. Open Camera
2. Point your phones camera at the QR Code (make sure it's well lit and fully visible)
3. While hovering, in a few seconds a link or notification should pop up
4. (myvanco.com)



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thank you, VBS Volunteers!** What an amazing journey! Thank you for your time, energy, and joyful hearts on our VBS “Road Trip!” From pit stops with crafts, games and snacks, to scenic routes through stories and songs, you helped kids discover that God is with us wherever we go. Thank you for going the extra mile to share God’s love, and thank you to the congregation for your ongoing support of this ministry!

**Brenda, Parish Nurse will be out of the office** July 1 and 8. Please leave any messages with Deb in the church office.

**Pastor Steve on Vacation** June 30 - July 6.

**Deacon Lindsay on Vacation** June 30 - July 7.

**Blood Pressure Screening** - Sunday, July 27, before and after worship in Brenda’s office.

**Growing Roots - A Small Group Ecumenical Study** - “Getting to know Jesus” book series: A guided discovery for groups and individuals by Kevin Perrotta. We will meet every other week for 90 minutes for six week-day mornings starting in the fall. Book cost is approximately \$8.00. If interested, please contact Elaine Stone 330-441-1531.

**Disaster Relief Trip** - Share the love of Christ through a disaster relief trip. Does this sound like something you might be interested in? Those who have previously participated in them have found them to be a rewarding experience to help those in need. If you want to know more about a possible relief trip to an area in the US that has been hit by a natural disaster, please come to an introductory informational meeting on July 22, 2025 at 7pm at Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church, 28607 Wolf Rd., Bay Village, OH. Pastor Henry Zorn who has organized and participated in many disaster relief trips will be talking about his most recent trip to North Carolina to provide help to people suffering from recent flooding. A future trip would be a collaboration of members from churches in the Northwestern Conference of the Northeastern Ohio Synod of the ELCA. Potential travel time would be this fall. You may also join the meeting by Zoom if you are unable to attend in person. Please contact Pastor Angela Freeman for the Zoom link.

[pastor.angela@bethesdaonthebay.org](mailto:pastor.angela@bethesdaonthebay.org) Questions? Contact Bob or Carla Maas. *For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. Ephesians 2:10*

## **St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff**

The Rev. Steven Mahaffey	Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach	Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Cindy Piovarchy	Organist
LaVonne DeBois	Associate Pianist
Deb Musil	Office Administrator
Heather Rohde	Bookkeeper
Joyce Davis	Maintenance Supervisor
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Rachel Knaggs	Kids of the Kingdom Director
Annabelle Thompson	Nursery Attendant
Scott Schwandt	Praise Team Leader

### **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 (excluding holidays)

Friday: Office Closed