



You have heard that it was said ...
but I tell you ...

Matthew 5:21-37

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2023

8:30 a.m.

ELW Setting 4

“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

GATHERING

** Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome and Announcements

Good News Moment

Corey Neururer

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness *(You may stand or kneel.)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

*Gathering Song:

Come, All You People

No. 819

*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

Page 147

*Hymn of Praise

This is the Feast

Page 149

*Prayer of the Day

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

WORD

First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses said to the people: ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

Psalm

Psalm 119:1-8

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who follow the teaching of the LORD!
²**Happy are they who observe your decrees
and seek you with all their hearts,**
³who never do any wrong,
but always walk in your ways.
⁴**You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.**
⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might keep your statutes!
⁶**Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.**
⁷I will thank you with a true heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgments.
⁸**I will keep your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when

one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

Listen, God is Calling (vs. 1)

No. 513

***Gospel**

Matthew 5:21-37

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: ²¹"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.'²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.'³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

³⁶ And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.

³⁷ Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

Hymn of the Day:

Healer of Our Every Ill

No. 612

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** (*You may stand or kneel.*)

D: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

D: Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

D: Nourish your creation. Accompany all who plant and water. Bless the work of farmers; provide for subsistence farmers facing drought and climate change. Guide the work of agricultural scientists toward sustainable ways to feed the world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

D: Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible, empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

D: Nurture all in need especially Adam and Family, Bill, Carl, Pat, Becky, Scott, Dorothy, Laurel, Sandi, Arline, Judy, Peggy, Pat, Steve, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for restoration. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

D: Encourage this congregation. Call us to a common purpose and keep us from quarrelling. Turn our hearts toward you and guide our leaders, so that our choices may be lifegiving for all. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

D: Thanks be to you for the lives of all who have died in Christ. Teach us to follow them in your ways and gather us with them into the promise of eternal life with you. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

D: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C: Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

D: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offertory

The Darkness Now Has Taken Flight (8:30)

Luther Choir

Austin C. Lovelace

Offering Prayer

P: Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

C: Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

Page 152

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 him thanks and praise.

***Proper Preface**

***Holy, Holy, Holy**

Page 153

***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: Come and taste the joy of God!

Lamb of God

Page 154

Communion Hymns

One Bread, One Body

No. 496

Eat This Bread

No. 472

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

No. 502

***Prayer after Communion**

P: Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

C: Amen.

SENDING

***Blessing**

P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

C: Amen.

***Sending Song:**

O Master, Let Me Walk With You

No. 818

***Dismissal:**

D: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude**

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WORSHIP SERVANTS

Date	Sunday February 12	Sunday February 12	Sunday February 19	Sunday February 19
Service	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Acolyte	Evan Hogan	Luke Gierhart	Reagan Stuchal	Emma Kotick
Reader	Adam Scheid	Julie Shrader	Delores Ivan	Peg Huber
Ushers	Jennifer Hogan Sophie Hogan Alan Ivan Delores Ivan	Corey Neururer Thaddeus Neururer		Kotick Family
Communion Assistants	Mary Dunham Carol Elkins	Lisa Burke Teri Uttech	Melanie Brown	Peg Huber
Sound	Joe Obermeier	Larry Mohler	Joe Obermeier	Larry Mohler
Video	Rex Rickly	--		--
Altar Guild	Nancy McNeal & Julie Crow			

PRAYERS

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

Memorial Flowers This Morning are given to the glory of God in memory of Sondra Dunham, who entered the church triumphant on January 20, 2023, by Mary and Andy Dunham.

Prayers for Healing: Adam and Family, Pastor Bill Lucht, Carl Ulich, Pat Straub, Becky, Scott Taylor, Dorothy Ulich, Laurel Mader, Sandi, Arline, Judy McLaughlin, Peggy, Pat, and Steve Combs.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Today, Sixth Sunday after Epiphany, we worship in person at 8:30 with *ELW Setting 4* and holy communion, and at 11:00 a.m. with *Rhythm & Blues* and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30 a.m.

Souper Bowl of Caring - The Middle School youth will be in the narthex following each service taking up a collection for Tackle Hunger.

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

NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Transfiguration of Our Lord, we will worship in person at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with *ELW Setting 4* and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30 a.m.

Dandelion Sunday.

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

First Communion Instruction - 12:15-1:00 p.m. in the Brown Room.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Are you interested in becoming a new member of St. Matthew? Contact Pastor Steve if interested or if you have any questions about St. Matthew.

A sincere “thank you” to all those who Wore Red at Sunday’s services. Great job everyone!! Please remember you are the best advocate for your own health.

Gift Cards Are Needed! Walmart, Buehler's, Aldi, Giant Eagle or Fast Food cards are needed for local residents in need. Cash or checks may also be donated for the purchase of gift cards. Please make checks payable to St. Matthew, indicating that it is for gift cards. Thank you for your generosity!

High School Lock-In - Join your high school friends for a night of incredible memories on Friday, February 24. We will go bowling at 7 and then come back to the church for a night of late night pizza, games and fun. A sign up link will be sent to Luther League emails and to Remind.

Mentoring Kick-Off for 8th graders, 8th grade parents, and mentors will be held on Sunday, February 26, in the sanctuary from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

Roller Skating - February 26, from 1-3 p.m. Discounted rate - \$8.00 for admission and skate rental. Admission only - \$4.00. Invite a friend! All are welcome! Sign up in the narthex or at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A45AFAE2CABFF2-roller>.

Dementia Support Group Meeting - Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 6 - 7 pm. At the Echelon of Medina, 629 N. Huntington St, Medina (2nd building). “Private Dining Room”. If you need to bring your loved one, contact Carolyn, Director of Memory Care Unit at 330-591-2777. Questions or concerns? Call Brenda Disbrow, Parish Nurse at the church office 330-725-8885.

St. Matthew Wine Night - Friday, March 10th, 7pm. Forest Meadows Villa, 574 Leisure Lane, Medina. You MUST be 21 or older to attend. Please bring two of the same bottles of your favorite wine to share and taste test. We will hold a separate taste testing for beer for those interested. Please provide either an appetizer or dessert to share for the event. We will plan a St. Patrick's Day/Mardi Gras theme. Sign up in the Narthex or at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A45AFAE2CABFF2-stmatthew2>. Games and activities planned. See you there!

Progressive Dinner - St. Matthew is hosting an adult Progressive Dinner on Saturday, April 29th beginning at 4 pm. All adults are welcome. There will be three courses: appetizer, soup/salad or entree and we all come together for dessert. Everyone will have a role. Also, if you have a concern about driving, just let a

member of Small Groups know and we will make arrangements for you to pair up with someone.

Please sign up in the narthex or at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A45AFAE2CABFF2-progressive> no later than April 9th. The week prior to the dinner, you will be contacted with your location for the first two courses.

We are working on babysitting services at the church. We are planning to provide very capable teenagers at our church with fun games and activities for the kiddos. Stay tuned on that component.

Worship assistants are needed each week to help make our services run smoothly. We need readers, ushers and communion assistants for each service. Please consider how you or your family can help (kids are welcome to help usher). Sign up in the narthex or scroll to the link below. If you have questions about any of the opportunities, please see Sandy Andrews or Melody Costello.

Altar Flowers - 2023 Flower charts are posted in the Narthex. When signing up for Memorial or Altar Flowers, please fill out a form (located at the bottom of the charts) for the office. The form will include your name, the date you selected, and the dedication that you would like to appear in the bulletin. (One sheet for each day chosen.) Please place completed forms and payment in the office administrator's mailbox or the mail slot on the office door. Price per arrangement is \$15.

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. Steven Mahaffey	Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Bailey	Director of LGL Ministries
John Burke	Organist
Deb Musil	Office Administrator
Joyce Davis	Maintenance Supervisor
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Nancy McNeal	Luther Choir 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

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.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Friday 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM



Hearing Loop
System available.