

A silhouette of a person carrying a cross on their back, walking across a dark, rounded hill. The background is a dramatic sky with orange and yellow clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

*Whoever does not  
carry the cross and  
follow me cannot  
be my disciple.*

*Luke 14:26*

## *Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

September 4, 2022

9:30 a.m.

*Now the Feast & Celebration*

*“Living God’s Love”*

**St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church**

400 North Broadway Street † Medina, Ohio 44256

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

(\* Please stand as you are able.)

## GATHERING

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Prelude

- |                             |                            |         |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| *Confession and Forgiveness |                            | Page 2  |
| *Gathering Song             | <i>Lift High the Cross</i> | No. 660 |
| *Greeting                   |                            | Page 2  |
| *Kyrie                      |                            | Page 3  |
| *Song                       | <i>Now the Feast</i>       | Page 4  |
| *Prayer of the Day          |                            |         |

**Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

#### Children's Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

## WORD

### First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

<sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>If 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. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I 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. <sup>19</sup>I 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, <sup>20</sup>loving 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.**

- <sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- <sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**
- <sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,  
with leaves that do not wither;  
everything they do shall prosper.
- <sup>4</sup>**It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**
- <sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- <sup>6</sup>**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

## Second Reading

Philemon 1-21

- <sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, <sup>2</sup>to Apphia our sister, to  
Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:
- <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- <sup>4</sup>When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God <sup>5</sup>because I  
hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>I  
pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive  
all the good that we may do for Christ. <sup>7</sup>I have indeed received much joy and  
encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been  
refreshed through you, my brother.
- <sup>8</sup>For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do  
your duty, <sup>9</sup>yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul,  
do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I am  
appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during  
my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup>Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed  
useful both to you and to me. <sup>12</sup>I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back  
to you. <sup>13</sup>I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me  
in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do  
nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary  
and not something forced. <sup>15</sup>Perhaps this is the reason he was separated  
from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup>no longer as  
a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how  
much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.
- <sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome  
me. <sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to

my account. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

**\*Gospel Verse**

Page 8

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

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

**\*Gospel**

Luke 14:25-33

<sup>25</sup>Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?

<sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup>saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

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

**Sermon**

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

**Hymn of the Day**

*Take My Life, That I May Be*

No. 685

**\*Apostles’ Creed**

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**\*Prayers of Intercession**

D: As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God’s good creation.

*A brief silence.*

D: We pray for the church around the world and for the mission of the gospel. Refresh the hearts of your people, deepen our understanding of every good thing we share, and strengthen our partnerships in the faith.  
God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: For the well-being of the earth and all its creatures: for trees and forests, for all that will yield fruit this season, and for streams and other bodies of water. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: For the nations and those in authority: for the elected leaders of our towns, states, and country, and for international organizations. Grant wisdom to those who govern and raise up citizens who make decisions in the best interest of their neighbors. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: For all in need: for those who suffer from disease, who struggle with homelessness or food insecurity, for those whose family life is difficult, and for all in this community who need your care especially Ron, Rachel, Justin, Steve Combs, John Siebert and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts.. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: For this community of faith: for all our labors—begun, continued, and ended in you—that they glorify your holy name. Bless your people with the strength to live into their many vocations for the sake of the world. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

D: We give thanks for the saints who now rest from their labors. Give us faith, like them, to love you with all our hearts, and by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

D: Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Peace**

D: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## **MEAL**

**Offering**

**Offertory**

<b>*Song</b>	<i>As the Grains of Wheat</i>	Page 10
<b>*Prayer</b>		Page 11
<b>*Great Thanksgiving</b>		Page 11
<b>*Preface</b>		
<b>*Song</b>	<i>Holy</i>	Page 11
<b>*Eucharistic Prayer</b>		Page 12
<b>*Eucharistic Acclamations</b>		Page 12
<b>Song</b>		Page 13
<b>*Lord's Prayer</b>		Page 13
<b>Lamb of God</b>		Page 14
<b>Communion Hymn</b>	<i>All My Hope on God is Founded</i>	No. 757
<b>Post-Communion Blessing</b>		
<b>Thanks Be To You</b>		Page 15

## SENDING

### **\*Post Communion Prayer**

P: God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **\*Blessing**

P: God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, + one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

**C: Amen.**

<b>*Sending Song</b>	<i>Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus</i>	No. 802
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<b>*Dismissal</b>		Page 16
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**Postlude**

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## PRAYERS

**Altar Flowers** this morning are given to the glory of God in loving memory of their son, Brad, by Steve and Diane Hulvey.

**Prayers for Healing:** Ron Tino, Rachel, Justin, Steve Combs, and John Siebert.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

**Today, Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost,** we worship in person and via livestream at 9:30 a.m. with *Now the Feast* liturgy and communion.

**Thank You** to Cindy Piovarchy, our guest accompanist for worship this morning.

**Blood Pressure Screening** before and after worship today in Brenda's office.

**New Member Class** - Following worship in the Brown Room.

**Ice Cream Bar** - We will wrap up our summer worship schedule with an ice cream bar following worship this morning.

## NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 AT ST. MATTHEW

**Next Sunday, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost,** we will worship in person and via livestream at 8:30 a.m. with *ELW Setting 8* liturgy and communion and at 11:00 a.m. with *Praise* liturgy and communion in person. New members will be welcomed and received at both services.

**Rally Day** - Join us in the fellowship hall at 9:45 a.m. for some back to Sunday School fun.

**God's Work Our Hands** - Lunch at Zion, Valley City after 11:00 worship, followed by packing book bags and Loads of Love service projects.

## WORSHIP SERVANTS

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday September 4</b>	<b>Sunday September 11</b>	<b>Sunday September 11</b>
<b>Service</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	Emma Gierhart	Mason Cooper	Evan Hogan
<b>Reader</b>	Delores Ivan	Melody Costello	
<b>Ushers</b>	Alan Ivan Delores Ivan Bruce Reed	Alan Ivan Delores Ivan Bruce Reed	
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Melody Costello Mary Dunham	Melanie Brown	Linda Kostelnik Becky Malloy
<b>Sound</b>	Joe Obermeier/ Larry Mohler	Joe Obermeier/ Larry Mohler	Joe Obermeier/ Larry Mohler
<b>Video</b>	Owen Blakslee	Rex Rickly	--
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kelly Obermeier		

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**New Members** will be welcomed and received during both services next Sunday, September 11.

**Luther League Spaghetti Dinner** - Sunday, September 18 at 5:00 p.m. Please RSVP here <https://forms.gle/DV6ZV1v3kCN2kmgCA> or in the narthex. This meal is intended for ALL to come and enjoy a meal together. Donations are accepted and appreciated, but not required. *RSVP by September 13.* (Please note: Our dessert auction will be held in February.)

**Congratulations to Our 2022-2023 Luther League Officers!** Martha Weight, President; Colin Shrader, Vice President; Anna Holthouse, Secretary; August Weight, Secretary.

**Flour Barrel Fund** - (aka Pastor's Discretionary Fund) is running low. We are asking for contributions to this fund that is used to help those with a more immediate need, such as an extra night in a hotel, food, etc. Cash or checks (made out to St. Matthew) can be placed in the offering plate, mailed, or dropped off at the church office. Please make sure they are clearly marked for the Flour Barrel Fund.

**Block Party Update** - Our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual block party was another great success! We had 113 people attend. Thank you to everyone that came; we hope you enjoyed the activities and food. A BIG THANK YOU to the committee who helped plan our party and those that helped throughout the day. Your help and support are appreciated.

**Mark Your Calendar Now!** Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual block party will be held August 26, 2023. We're planning new events for fun! If you'd like to be part of planning this fun day, contact Melody with your interest.

**LBW & Hymns and Songs for Church Schools Books** are available to anyone that would like to add them to their home library (FREE). They are located in the Brown Room.

**Luther Choir** meets Wednesday evenings from 7:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. in the sanctuary. We encourage those who would like to join us to come to these rehearsals and be a part of our Luther Choir.

**What is the LGL Samaritan Fund?** This fund was set up in 2007 to assist our members during a financial situation where a helping hand may be needed. Perhaps you had a large car repair and cannot pay your rent or mortgage one month. Maybe you recently lost your job and need a helping hand to stay in good financial standing. It is a confidential ministry where your identity is only known by the intake specialist. We have assisted over 1400 family units over the years. If you could benefit from financial assistance and are a member of St.

Matthew, you will find applications on the table in front of the church office or in the drop box under the doorbell at the rear Pearl Street entrance. You will also find the application on our website, [stmatthewmedina.org](http://stmatthewmedina.org), in the Community Resources section. Please read the guidelines that are posted on the website as well. It is also open to non-members who reside in Medina County. This fund is administered by a Board of Trustees formed of members of St. Matthew that meets monthly.



**Electronic Giving** – To set up an online giving account or to make changes to your online giving, scan the QR code to the left or go to [stmatthewmedina.org](http://stmatthewmedina.org), click on the Give tab, scroll down to “*How Can I Give?*” and click on Give Here. If you already have an account, log in.

You can then update any of your information (contact information, giving amount, and which funds you support). If you wish to *begin* donating electronically, click on Sign Up. You will fill each field as you are prompted to set up your account.

If you have questions about your account or setting up your account, contact our Financial Director, John Baker at 330-607-0667 or [financedir@stmatthewmedina.org](mailto:financedir@stmatthewmedina.org).

## VOLUNTEER AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**Nursery Assistants** - The Personnel Committee is looking for several members of St. Matthew who would be willing to serve as an assistant in the nursery on a rotation. Our nursery attendant sometimes needs a couple extra hands. If you would be willing to serve as a Nursery Assistant for one service or during the Sunday School hour once every couple of months, contact the Personnel Director, Barb Woodard, at 330-321-2408 or [barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com](mailto:barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com).

**Youth Music Director** - We have many talented young members of our congregation who enjoy music and would love to show their talents to the congregation. We have been searching for a person who would lead our youth choir(s) and instrumental groups. If you know of someone who would be qualified in this position, contact Barb Woodard, Personnel Director, for more information at 330-321-2408 or [barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com](mailto:barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com).

**Sunshine Meals Ministry** - The Sunshine Committee is a group of people who volunteer to periodically make/or purchase meals and deliver them to parishioners at a time of need. If you feel called to help with this St. Matthew ministry, please contact Sue Schwab at 330-242-3397 or [ohschwab@zoominternet.net](mailto:ohschwab@zoominternet.net).

**Worship Assistants** - Readers, Ushers, and Communion Assistants. Please sign up in the narthex. For any questions regarding these opportunities, please contact Sandy Andrews.

## **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	Custodian
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Nancy McNeal	Luther Choir Director
Kaitlyn Taraschke	Nursery Attendant

### **Pastor Steve's Contact Information**

Email: [pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org](mailto:pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org)

Cell Phone: 740-525-6149.

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**

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

**Friday 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM**



Hearing Loop  
System available.