



LET US ALL
Give Thanks

Be thankful
unto him, and
bless his name.
For the Lord is
good.

—Psalm 100:4-5

Thanksgiving Eve
November 22, 2023
7:00 PM

“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

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

For the Beauty of the Earth

James Mansfield; Tune: "Dix", by C. Kocher

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

No. 858

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One,

C: we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, Our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

C: Amen.

Hymn

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Hymn 693

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.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Word

First Reading

Deuteronomy 8:7-18

⁷For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, ⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. ¹⁰You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

¹¹Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. ¹²When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, ¹³and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, ¹⁶and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. ¹⁷Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." ¹⁸But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 65

¹You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

²**To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

³Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

⁴**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell
there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the
holiness of your temple.**

⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

⁶**You make firm the mountains by your power; you are girded about with might.**

⁷You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

⁸**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

⁶The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

“He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

¹¹You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹²for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you.

¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Luke 17:11-19

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

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

Hymn

For the Fruit of All Creation

Hymn 679

Thanksgiving Message

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God

Hymn 839

Prayers of Intercession

P: Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: Generous God, we thank you for the legacy and gift of the church. Make our proclamation clear, our generosity bold, and our community rich in welcome. We raise grateful hearts for the body of Christ where we find belonging. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Creator of the earth, the bounty of creation reveals your abundant love. Provide safety and shelter for all wildlife. Save us from the waste of natural resources. We raise grateful hearts for the earth, our home. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of all nations, make all tribes and lands places where justice and inclusion is realized and celebrated. Protect any who are vulnerable and feed all who hunger. We raise grateful hearts for civil rights and just leaders. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Healing God, you see us and are moved with compassion. Attend to those who are sick or dying, surround with love all who are lonely and despairing, and comfort those in need, especially Melanie, Brenda, Denny, Elizabeth, Jerry, Peg, Isaac, Darine, Todd, Carol, Liz, Stevie, Jim, Tom, Fran, Dick, Logan, Adam and Family, Sandi, Steve, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. We raise grateful hearts for your lovingkindness. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of the welcome table, you gather people to be shaped by your word. We pray for ministries that notice and respond to human needs: food banks, shelters, community resource centers. We raise grateful hearts for these organizations. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of life, you raise those who have died to new life in Christ. We raise grateful hearts for the lives and faithfulness of all the saints. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offertory

Now Thank We All Our God
G.F. Kaufman; arr. Jean Pasquet

Offertory Response - Doxology

Hymn 884

Offering Prayer

P: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

C: Amen.

Meal

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.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, on the night you were betrayed you took bread and wine and shared everything equally with your disciples. You gave thanks to God for these gifts and said, Take and eat and drink. This is my body, given for you. This is my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Help us to find a way to share bread with all people, even those we count to be our enemies. Give us a vision of ourselves as waiting on tables at Your Banquet, where all are welcome and have everything they need.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

C: Have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

C: Have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

C: Grant us your peace.

The 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: There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

Distribution

Prayer after Communion

P: Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

C: Amen!

Blessing

P: May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

C: Amen.

Hymn

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Hymn 733

Dismissal

P: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

Johann Christoph Bach; Edited by Lani Smith

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WORSHIP SERVANTS THIS MORNING

Reader: Beth Johnson

Communion Servers: Sandy Andrews
Delores Ivan
Scott Johnson

Ushers: Alan & Delores Ivan
Julie Shrader

Sound: Larry Mohler

Video: ???

Altar Guild: Becky Malloy & Julie Shrader

PRAYERS

Prayers for Healing: Elizabeth, Jerry Jakovic, Peg Huber, Isaac Linden, Darine Prok, Todd Costello, Carol Walter, Liz Linden, Stevie, Jim Kelling, Tom Thornton, Fran & Dick Koenig, Logan, Adam and Family, Sandi, and Steve Combs.

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Christ the King Sunday, we will worship in person at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. with ELW 4 and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cookie Exchange & Soup Luncheon - Please join us on Sunday, December 3, in the Fellowship Hall after the late service. Bring three dozen of your favorite **HOMEMADE** Christmas cookies to share. Don't forget to bring your containers to take the cookies home. There will be a fun craft for the children. If you don't want to participate in the exchange, feel free to join us for a soup and salad luncheon. Wear your favorite Christmas sweater. We're adding a twist this year, for those who would like to participate ... bring a white elephant gift to exchange (\$10 max). We look forward to sharing the afternoon with you. Please sign up using this Sign-up Genius web address: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A44A9AA2EA5FA7-46110193-stmatthews/1889186#/> or for those who are not "online" you may sign up in the narthex or call the office.

To the parishioners of St. Matthew, Due to my spine surgery on November 15th (to replace a fractured/broken spinal rod) I will be on a medical leave beginning November 14th. The surgeon estimates my time of recovery to be 2-3 months. I plan on communicating with Pastor Steve of my progress – but I will ask Deb Musil to put a monthly note in the bulletin, so that everyone is aware of my progress. I am praying for a positive outcome with the surgery and recovery. Please keep me in your prayers. In His Service, Brenda Disbrow, Parish Nurse

Care Connection - Are you looking for a way to care for your fellow St. Matthew members? The Care Connection Team is a special ministry that is focused on caring for, supporting, and connecting with members throughout the year. Members of this team reach out in a variety of ways, such as phone calls, seasonal mailings, and visits. As a member of this team, you can make a positive impact without a significant commitment of time. We are hoping to have 3-4 new team members join this ministry – if you'd like to learn more, please reach out to Jean Waite (330-321-4266) or Kristine Neate (330-421-0653). We have a meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 16 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall – feel free to join us. All are welcome!

The Communication Evangelism Team is looking for new members. Meetings are held in the church library on the second Monday of each month at 5:15 pm. Contact Beth Johnson or Jill Heck with any questions.

Congregational Council Meetings - The regular business meetings of the Congregational Council are the third Tuesday of every month and they are open to the congregation to attend if you are interested. The meetings begin at 5:00 p.m. and are held in the Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to attend in person at that time, you can be sent a Zoom link to attend the live meeting. The next meeting is Tuesday, December 19, 2023.

How can you help with the Renovation Project? *Mail a check to St. Matthew OR Simply Giving Link* - Go to www.stmatthewmedina.org, Click on “Give”, At the bottom of the page under “Online,” click “Give Here”, Select “St. Matthew Refresh/Renovation”, Choose from a one-time donation or recurring donation. **Donations of \$65,755.63 received as of September 30, 2023.**

Directory App - Download this app on your smart phone and/or desktop computer. You received an email during the week of September 17 with your “Unique Identifier”. Contact your UCD Administrator, Beth Johnson at sboyumj@gmail.com or our UCD volunteers: Sandy Andrews or Melody Costello to add your family photo, and/or to update your contact information.



**Finance Report Update for September, October & Year-to-Date
St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church**

	Month of September, 2023	Month of October, 2023	Year-to-Date January-October, 2023
General Offering Unrestricted	\$ 25,168.86	\$ 34,897.12	\$ 273,691.36
2023 Approved Mission Plan	\$ 33,333.33	\$ 33,333.33	\$ 333,333.30
Budget Variance (Loss)	\$ (8,164.47)	\$ 1,563.79	\$ (59,641.94)

Financial Update: *St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church received the unrestricted offerings as compared to the 2023 approved Mission Plan objective shown for the months of September, October and 2023 year-to-date. Please prayerfully consider increasing your offering to support the church and its mission of Living God’s Love. Thank you for your continued generosity.*

By setting up recurring donations online, you enable us to maintain financial stability and plan for the future of St. Matthew. St. Matthew has 57 (increase 1) member families that contribute through Vanco. Please increase our participation and consider signing up for Simply Giving at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z4MP/home>

SPECIAL NOTE: *St. Matthew has set-up in Simply Giving Link easy access for donations directly to the Renovation / Refresh Project. Please select from a one-time donation or recurring donation and contribute as you are able. If you have any questions about your current account or setting up your account, contact our Financial Director Bruce Reed at (412) 848-0219 or email Bruce at brucerreed@comcast.net.*



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

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Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information

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Hearing Loop
System available.