



All Saints Sunday

November 5, 2023

11:00 a.m.

Now the Feast & Celebration

“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 stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| *Confession and Forgiveness | | Page 2 |
| *Gathering Song | <i>As Saints of Old</i> | Hymn 695 |
| *Greeting | | Page 2 |
| *Kyrie | | Page 3 |
| *Song | <i>Now the Feast</i> | Page 4 |
| *Prayer of the Day | | |

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

WORD

First Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one

that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

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

Psalm

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

²**I will glory in the LORD;
let the lowly hear and rejoice.**

³Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;
let us exalt God’s name together.

⁴**I sought the LORD, who answered me
and delivered me from all my terrors.**

⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

⁶**I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.**

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD
and delivers them.

⁸**Taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are they who take refuge in God!**

⁹Fear 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.**

²²O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-3

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has

not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

***Gospel Verse**

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel**

Matthew 5:1-12

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

Hymn of the Day

For All Your Saints, O Lord

Hymn 427

***Apostles’ Creed**

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***Prayers of Intercession**

D: 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.

D: Holy God, the church triumphant gathers around your throne to praise you. We join them in worship and remember your sustaining grace in every generation. Heal our divisions; show us unity in your presence. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: Holy creator, we marvel at your creation revealed in the cycle of seasons, changing landscapes, and the rise and fall of ocean tides. Turn us from selfish consumption and open us to gentle healing of the earth so all creation thrives. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: Holy advocate, we lift grateful hearts for the ability to vote and elect leaders. Grant wisdom to those who will be elected and safety to poll workers. May civic leaders serve the whole community, especially all who are underrepresented or oppressed. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: Holy healer, bless the brokenhearted and all who mourn. Send your compassion to all who grieve, grant wholeness to those who are sick, and accompany the dying. Be near to all who need you especially Jim, Tom, Fran, Dick, Joe, Logan, Sierra, June, Adam and Family, Sandi, Judy, Steve, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: Holy comforter, we pray for this congregation, that the promise of your new life may be shared and experienced. We pray for the funeral ministry of this congregation, that families and friends seeking your love find it here. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

D: Holy One, we remember in thanksgiving those saints who have died this past year: Pat Pritchard, LaVerne Ling, and Leithea Obermeier. We remember their witness of faithfulness and love. Praise to you for the eternal life they have been given through Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

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

C: Amen.

***Peace**

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

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

Offertory

For All the Saints
MN Germany/Kigin

Luther Choir

*Song	<i>As the Grains of Wheat</i>	Page 10
*Prayer		Page 11
*Great Thanksgiving		Page 11
*Preface		
*Song	<i>Holy</i>	Page 11
*Eucharistic Prayer		Page 12
*Eucharistic Acclamations		Page 12
Song		Page 13
*Lord's Prayer		Page 13
Lamb of God		Page 14
Communion Hymn	<i>Jerusalem, My Happy Home</i>	Hymn 628
*Thanks Be To You		Page 15

SENDING

***Post Communion Prayer**

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, for the blessings of this table.
 May our lives be made new by these gifts of grace and may your love be
 made known through us.

C: **Amen.**

*Blessing		Page 16
*Sending Song	<i>Behold the Host Arrayed in White</i>	No. 425
*Dismissal		Page 16
Postlude		

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PRAYERS

Altar Flowers This Morning are given to the glory of God in celebration for the birthdays of Kate, Charlotte, and Elisabeth Dunham by Mary and Andy Dunham.

Memorial Flowers This Morning are given to the glory of God in memory of Carol Estock by the Obermeier family.

Prayers for Healing: Carol Walter, Liz Linden, Garrett Shook, Stevie, Jim Kelling, Tom Thornton, Fran & Dick Koenig, Logan, Adam and Family, Sandi, and Steve Combs.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Today, All Saints Sunday, we worship in person and via livestream at 11:00 a.m. with *Now the Feast* liturgy and holy communion.

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

Special Congregational Meeting following worship.

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, 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.

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

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolyte: 9:30 - Faith Taraschke
Reader: 9:30 - Julie Shrader
Communion 9:30 - Mary Dunham
Servers: Teri Uttech
Ushers: 9:30 - Todd & Melody Costello
Bruce Reed
Sound: 9:30 - Joe Obermeier
Video: 9:30 - Owen Blakslee
Altar Guild: Kelly Obermeier



Please join us for a congregational meeting to elect 2024 officers and vote on the 2024 budget.

We will have one worship service at 9:30 am, with the meeting immediately following.



November 5, 2023

Patricia Pritchard, December 2, 2022. Pat's daughter, Jeanne, shared, *"Patricia Pritchard lived a full life loving God. An accomplished rosarian, loving mother, and avid reader who had a wry sense of humor. She passed away on her terms embracing God and looking forward to eternal life."*

LaVerne Ling, December 7, 2022. LaVerne was a beloved wife and dear mother. She adored her children and was a beautiful, kind spirit to all who were blessed to know and love her.

Nesim Muharemovic, January 28, 2023. Nesim is the grandfather of Heather Haycook. He had a vast knowledge of history and spoke nine languages fluently. He took pride in becoming an American citizen and loved his country. He was a tool and die maker for over 50 years. Nesim enjoyed cooking, canning, working in his vegetable garden, and loved music. He loved his family to the fullest and took every opportunity to spend time with them.

Leithea N. Obermeier, August 8, 2023. Joe and Kelly Obermeier, shared, *"Leithea was a lifelong member of St. Matthew Church, as her parents were founding members. Leithea served the church faithfully as a member of altar guild and the kitchen ladies. She was also a decades-long member of Kings Daughters (I Believe Circle). Her focus was always faith and family. We are grateful for her 85 years of life well lived."*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November Game Night will take place at The Foundry Social. Please join us on Friday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m., where we will enjoy some card games, food, fellowship, and fun. We will reserve Duck Pin Bowling that evening as well. If you have any questions, please speak to a member of Small Groups.

Luther League 65+ Thanksgiving Dinner - Please join us on Sunday, November 12 at 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We would like to say Thank You to the seniors of our congregation for the faithful support that you continually give to the high school youth. Thank you for supporting and encouraging us. We hope to see you on the 12th. Sincerely, The St. Matthew Luther League

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 meeting schedule for the rest of 2023 is: Tuesday, November 21, 2023, and Tuesday, December 19, 2023. **Please note**: The Congregation Council, at a closed meeting, decided that given the sensitivity of some of the issues the congregation is currently addressing, that recordings will no longer be shared so as to not add fuel to the fire as well as in an attempt to answer any questions and/or concerns at the time of the meetings. With that said, they are encouraging members to either attend in person or request the link for the live meeting on the day in which it occurs. Additionally, the written minutes are also available on the Members page of the website.

Nominating Committee Volunteers - 2024 is coming and our congregation needs to look for our next leaders of the Congregational Council. The Nominating Committee will seek to identify individuals who want to take part in the leadership team in managing our church affairs. The Nominating Committee will also be seeking and confirming the leaders of our Five Star Ministry Chairs and Co-Chairs. If you are interested in taking part in the nominating process or feel the call to be nominated for a specific office or Five Star position, please contact Jennifer Knaggs 330-413-0529.

Sunshine Meals Ministry - Have you heard of the "Sunshine Meals?" This is a wonderful group of people from St. Matthew who volunteer to periodically make/ or purchase meals and deliver them to parishioners at a time of need. If you would like to learn more about this ministry or want to volunteer, please contact our Parish Nurse, Brenda Disbrow, or the coordinator of the program, Sue Schwab. If you would like to be a recipient of a meal(s) after a hospitalization,

health issue, or loss of a loved one, please contact Sue Schwab at 330-242-3397. A sincere thank you to Sue for her role in supporting the parishioners of St. Matthew and to all the volunteers who lend their time and talent to help others. *Brenda Disbrow, Parish Nurse*

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.**

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.

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 August, September & Year-to-Date
St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church**

	<i>Month of August, 2023</i>	<i>Month of Sept., 2023</i>	<i>Year-to-Date January-Sept., 2023</i>
General Offering Unrestricted	\$ 25,329.84	\$ 25,168.86	\$ 238,794.24
2023 Approved Mission Plan	\$ 33,333.33	\$ 33,333.33	\$ 299,999.97
Budget Variance (Loss)	\$ (8,003.49)	\$ (8,164.47)	\$ (61,205.73)

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 August, September 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 56 (increase 2) 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
John Burke	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

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Cell Phone: 440-376-8338



Hearing Loop
System available.