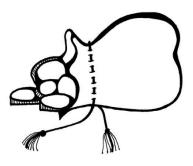
The 21st Sunday after Pentecost October 22, 2023

10:30 a.m. Worship

We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our



pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. *C*: Amen.

- P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.
- P: Steadfast and faithful God,
- C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.
- P:Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
 In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven. C: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** Gather Us In ELW # 532

*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



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. \mathbf{R}

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. \mathbf{R}

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. \mathbf{R}

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray ...Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. *C:* Amen.

FIRST READING: Exodus 33:12-23

¹²Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' ¹³Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." ¹⁴He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." ¹⁵And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. ¹⁶For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

¹⁷The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." ¹⁸Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." ¹⁹And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. ²⁰But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." ²¹And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; ²²and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; ²³then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

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

PSALM 99 (*read responsively*)

¹The Lord is king; let the people tremble. The Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

²The Lord, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.

³Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.

- ⁴O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
- ⁵Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.
- ⁶Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O Lord, they called upon you, and you answered them,
- ⁷you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.
- ⁸O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- ⁹Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and worship upon God's holy hill; for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

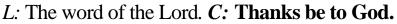
SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

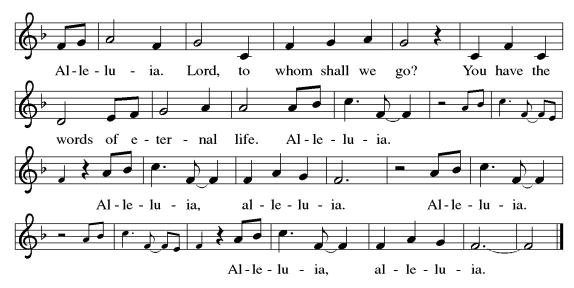
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the

gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.



***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



*Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the

emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

HOMILY

Pastor Traci



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*APOSTLES' CREED

P: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

- C: 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 THE CHURCH**

- A: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
- *A:* Faithful God, your Spirit animates the church throughout the world and binds believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith, and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. God of grace, *C:* receive our prayer.
- A: Creating God, the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. God of grace, *C*: receive our prayer.
- *A:* Sovereign God, your rule and authority is over the cosmos. Accomplish your purposes through the work of elected leaders and public servants. Guide them with your wisdom and compassion. God of grace, *C:* receive our prayer.
- A: Caring God, your arms enfold all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick, and suffering. Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned, and forgotten, that they may know your joy. God of grace, *C:* receive our prayer.
- *A:* Almighty God, all our life belongs to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead your church astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of church treasurers, councils, and all who manage financial matters. God of grace, *C:* receive our prayer.
- A: Everlasting God, the saints of every age have sung your praise and shared your word. We give you thanks for their witness and pray that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. God of grace, C: receive our prayer.
- P: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
 C: Amen.

***THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.

***Offertory Prayer**

An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave; we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:

A: Let us pray ... God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. C: Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

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**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

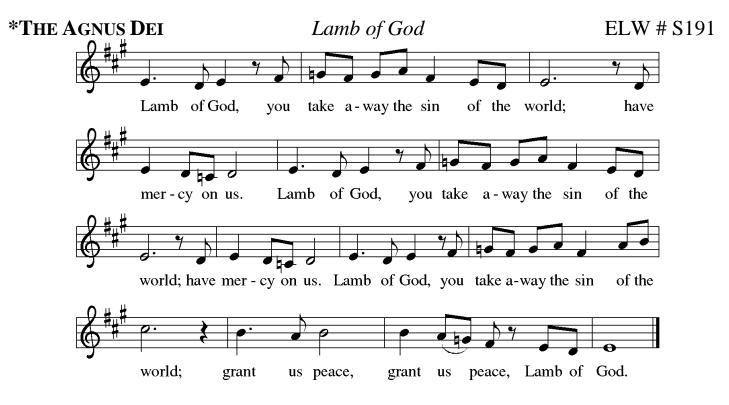
*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
- You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
- You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.
- In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

- Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
- By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
- Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **C: Amen.**

*LORD'S PRAYER

- *P*: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



*INVITATION

P: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.



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*BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. *C*: Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray... Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. C: Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

P: The God of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. *C*: Amen.

***SENDING SONG** Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises ELW # 535

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you. C: Thanks be to God.

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Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God and in honor of my grandson Samuel Scott Nelson by Mary Nelson.

Serving God and Us Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith Our Organist – Mary Nelson Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka Our Financial Bookkeeper – Laura Orczeck Our Sexton – Phil Claar Our Assisting Minister – Stacy Kuster Our Lector – Gavin Kuster Our Acolyte – Norah Kuster Our Usher – Melissa Fetzer Our Altar Guild – Elaine Buchart, Janet Stewart Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner Fourth Quarter Ventures in Faith to "United Lutheran Seminaries"

This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Wed. 1:00-4:00 p.m. Jen – Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

This Week Events

Today –	Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
	Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
	Messenger Deadline
Monday –	Cub/Boy Scouts, Scout Rooms 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday –	Knotty Ladies, Quilt Room 12:30-3:00 pm
Wednesday –	Employee Meeting, Fellowship Hall 10:00 am
	Yoga, Fellowship Hall 5 p.m.
Thursday –	Trick or Treat at St. Matthew, 6:00 pm-8:00pm
Sunday –	Reformation Sunday
	Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
	Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
	Youth Hosted Halloween Party, Lutheran Home 5:30 pm

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Carl Alexy, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenberg, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Bill Stahl, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Randy Barrett, Caleb, Diane Cappel, Ted Chipperfield, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Greg Dick, Brian Fleck, Ron Focht, Jim Fritz, Marilyn Horton, Baby James, Darren Kreutzer, Linda Lehman, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Ruth Marshall, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Kay McGraw, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Bob & Annette Ritchey, Paul Ruth, Denny Smith (Shelly Hill), Cindy Thomas, Tiffany Townsend, Drew Wenzel, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Tim Wilson, Pat Winston, Tom Woodrow, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.**

Away at School: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Camryn Gates, Jeff Hoenstine.

Those Serving in our Armed Forces: Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Colin Guyer, Nathan Smith (Germany).

Thank You Dr. Smith

We give thanks for the music ministry of Dr. Adam Smith, on this, his last Sunday with us here at St. Matthew. Adam served with us from the fall of 2019 and was especially flexible and creative during the challenges of the pandemic. We wish him and his family well on their new adventures in Lancaster, and we look forward to him visiting us for his Christmas concert in December. Thank you Adam!

Trick or Treat at St. Matthew



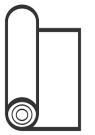
Stop by St. Matthew during Trick or Treat on Thursday (Maple Street side) and help Pastor Traci and Otto distribute candy (or come in costume and get candy).

Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from the Mt. Pleasant Church will be assisting the regular helpers with food distributions on Thursdays, November 2 and November 16 from 9:00a.m. until 11:00a.m.Several churches are providing Thanksgiving dinners for food pantry families that would like to prepare turkey dinners themselves.

Items most needed for November: Cereal, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing Mix, Fruit, Tomato Sauce. We appreciate your prayers and support!

Thank you for all your donations! Linda Smith



For Sale: A 12' x 21' roll of high-quality indoor/outdoor, coffee colored carpeting. It was originally purchased to replace the outdoor carpeting at the main entrance. After tearing up the old carpeting, it was discovered that the concrete was detioriated and determined that carpeting will no longer be used there. Stop in at Cove Flooring to take a look or call the church office.

The Weekend

Allegheny Synod Youth Event Grades 6-12 December 8-10, 2023 Huntingdon, PA

Registration is Now Open \$10 deposit/ for Familes & Friends -St. Matthew covers the remainder See Pastor Traci for forms & details

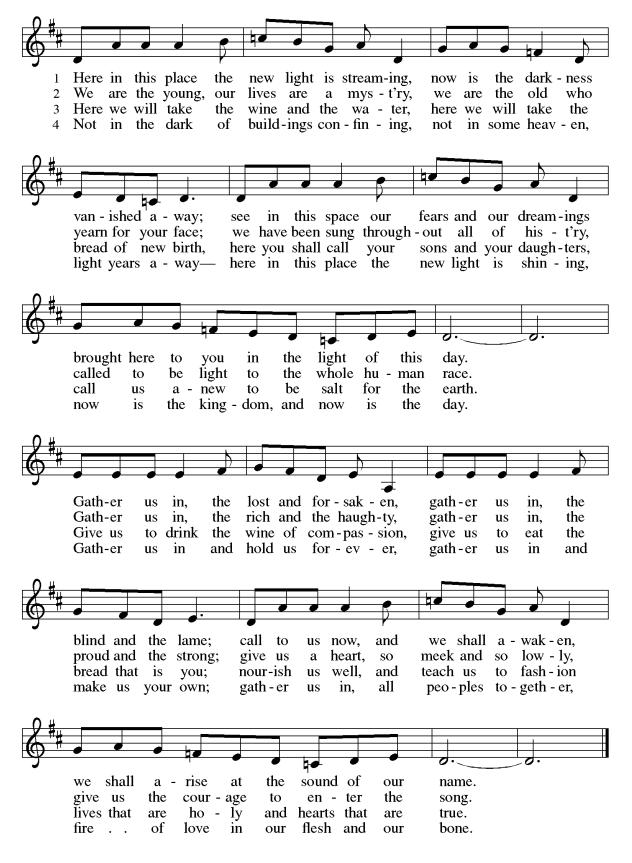


2022 Audit The full church audit of 2022 is available in the church office.

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering Please speak with Pastor Traci if you have any interest in attending the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans. **OPENING HYMN**

Gather Us In

ELW # 532



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*SENDING SONG



Text: South African; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984 Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African; arr. Freedom Is Coming English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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