Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 9, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

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

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine."

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

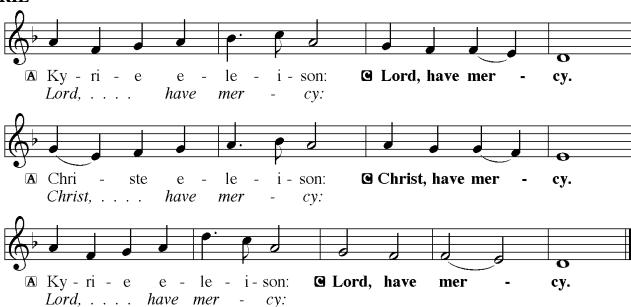
live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

*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





*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray ... Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

¹ In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ² Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³ And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;

the whole earth is full of his glory."

⁴ The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

⁶ Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷ The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" [⁹ And he said, "Go and say to this people:

'Keep listening, but do not comprehend;

keep looking, but do not understand.'

¹⁰Make the mind of this people dull,

and stop their ears,

and shut their eyes,

so that they may not look with their eyes,

and listen with their ears,

and comprehend with their minds,

and turn and be healed."

¹¹ Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said:

"Until cities lie waste

without inhabitant,

and houses without people,

and the land is utterly desolate;

¹² until the Lord sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.

13 Even if a tenth part remain in it, it will be burned again,
like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled."
The holy seed is its stump.

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

PSALM 138 (read responsively)

¹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

² I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;

for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

³ When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

⁴ All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord.

⁶ The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸ You will make good your purpose for me;

O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹ Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴ and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Gospel Luke 5:1-11

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ² he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. 4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." ⁶When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; 10 and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." ¹¹ When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

HOMILY Peggy Steinfurth

*HYMN OF THE DAY How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord ELW # 580

*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: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.
- A: God of surprising abundance, you call your people to enter deeply into the world. Equip us to respond to your call, gather up what we have, and offer it to all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A: God of creation, provide protection from the elements and other hazards to all whose work brings them outside: for fishers, ranchers, line workers, and construction crews. Guide us to live carefully alongside the wonders of the land and waters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A: Open the hearts of all leaders, especially those who serve in the armed forces, that they respond to their commission with wisdom and patience. Ensure that all who serve are kept safe in body, mind, and spirit. We pray for an end to all war and armed conflict. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A: Fill with your compassionate presence all who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, injury, or illness of any kind. Draw helpers to their side so that they find relief from their burdens. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A: Call our faith communities to do marvelous things. Bless the labor and efforts of this congregation, that we may be a sign of your presence in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A: We thank you for those who have courageously gone before us in the faith. May we too show a deep trust in you throughout our lives. God of grace, hear our prayer.
- P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. 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.

*BENEDICTION

P: The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. C: Amen.

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live in hope. C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006 Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #SB105031 Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God in loving memory of Sandy Johnson from Mary Nelson.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Organists – Mary Nelson, DeAnna Cree

Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton - Phil Claar

Our Assisting Minister – Lottie Ebersole

Our Lector – Steve Oswalt

Our Usher – Martie Gilbert

Our Altar Guild - Laura Orczeck and Elaine Buchart

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Local Needs"

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 – 5th Sunday after Epiphany Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Monday – Social Ministry Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m., Zoom

Tuesday – Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. Sunday – 6th Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. **Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Mary Jane Allision, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Avery, Randy Barrett, Greta Buchart, Dr. Ramon Burket, Caleb, Warren Campbell, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry Creek, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Marilyn Horton, Don Hosterman, Baby James, Ruth Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Connie Lamborn, Linda Lehman, Bill Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Nathan, Olga Perlov, Deb Peters, Bekah Ross, Dan Ross, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Doug Smith, Margie Smith, Robyn Smith, Dorothy Stahl, Jean Stonerook, Cindy Thomas, Tiffany Townsend, Drew Wenzel, Susan Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.

Away at School: Max Baker, Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jeff Hoenstine, Lacey Ripka.

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

Lutheran Disaster Response is one of the first organizations in and last organizations out of communities affected by natural and human-made disasters. 100% of gifts to LDR earmarked for a specific aid response help affected people in that area until recovery efforts are complete.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

LOS ANGELES WILDFIRES

Scan to give online



Give through your congregation or make out your check to Lutheran Disaster Response and send it to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and write "Lutheran Disaster Response" or "U.S. Wildfires" on your check's memo line.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

HURRICANE HELENE

Scan to give online



Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and write "Where needed most" or "Hurricane Response" on your check's memo line.



Parish Directory

Please submit changes to your address or telephone number to the office at 814-793-2413 or stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com ASAP so it can be included in the 2025 Parish Directory.

Offering Envelopes

Please contact the church office if you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive offering envelopes (or if you would like to have your name/address changed or removed).

Office Closure During Inclement Weather



On days that the Spring Cove School District cancels or delays instruction due to weather, the church office will be closed as well. In the event of an emergency, Pastor Traci can be reached at 814-935-9237.

Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from Salem Church, along with regular volunteers, will be assisting with the distribution of food on Thursdays, February 6 and February 20, from 9:00 am until 11:00 am.



The items most needed are: Beverages, Fruit, Kidney Beans, Pasta Sauce, Paper Towels.

Many thanks to those that helped at the two Thursdays in January: Carla Brumbaugh, Lottie Ebersole, Sarah Detwiler, Nan Grove, Connie Lamborn, Peggy Steinfurth, and Audrey Stern! Also, we thank and appreciate the monetary gifts of \$130. from St. Matthew members!

Thanks and appreciation for your help!

Linda Smith

Church Messenger

The February 2025 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home or provide an email address and a copy can be emailed to you each month as soon as it is published. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership and articles are always appreciated.

Altar Flowers



The 2025 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. There are plenty of dates available. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price: \$40.00



Who: Volunteers who want to serve their congregation by

bringing the sacrament to members at home

Where: St. Matthew Lutheran Church (Fellowship Hall)

115 E Penn Street, Martinsburg PA

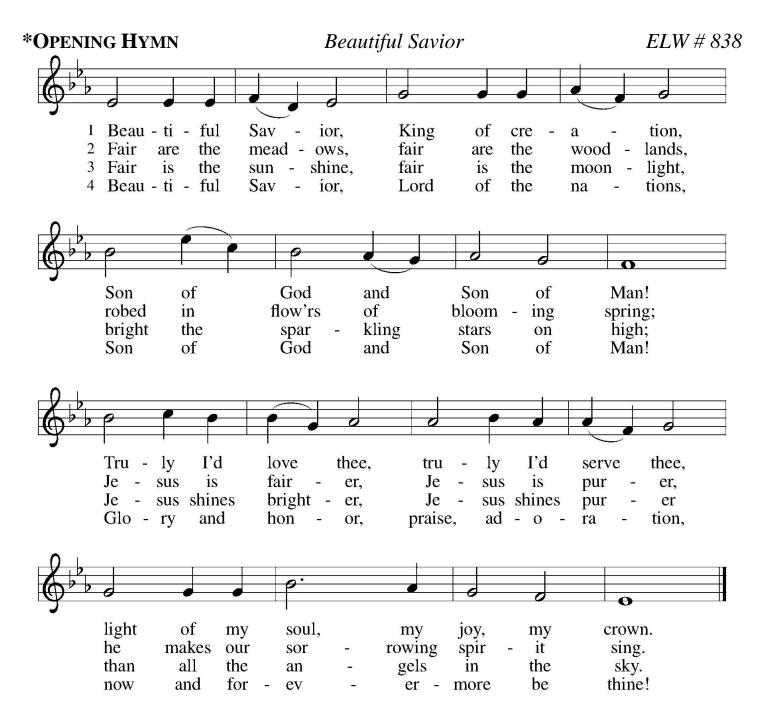
When: Saturday, March 1st from 9AM to 11AM

Continental Breakfast is Provided

RSVP: Pastor Kevin Shock, Assistant to the Bishop

kevin.shock@alleghenysynod.com by February 25th

Suggested donation of \$5 to defray the cost of your home communion kit



Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.



- 1 How clear is our vo ca tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
- 2 But if, for-get-ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
- 3 We mar vel how your saints be come in hin-dranc-es more sure;
- 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to geth er or a lone,



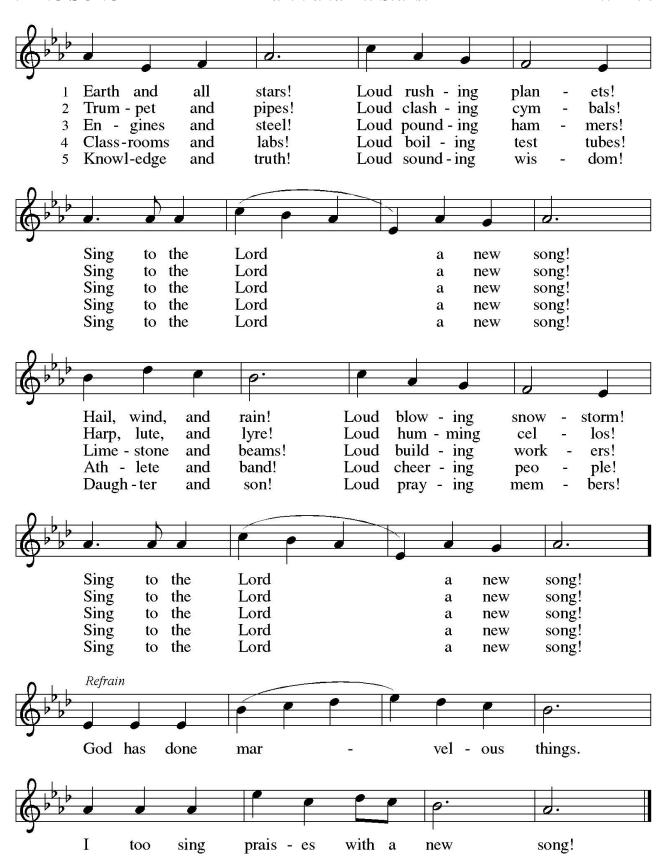
to live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re-freshed, re - stored, if world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name, in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918

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Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text and music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.