

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 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 *Tell Me The Story of Jesus* *Composer, John R. Sweney*

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

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 † Christ, you are forgiven.

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

Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:

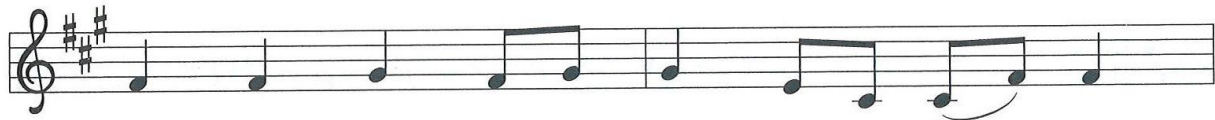
Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



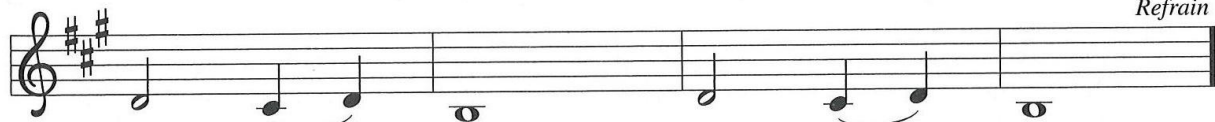
1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set us free by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.



Refrain

Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE
99 10 10 33 and refrain

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray ... O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ” ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40 (*read responsively*)

¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

² **For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**

³ Put your trust in the Lord and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

⁴ **Take delight in the Lord,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord,
and see what God will do.

⁶ **The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

⁷ Be still before the Lord and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land.

¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.

³⁹ **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O Lord;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰ You, O Lord, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

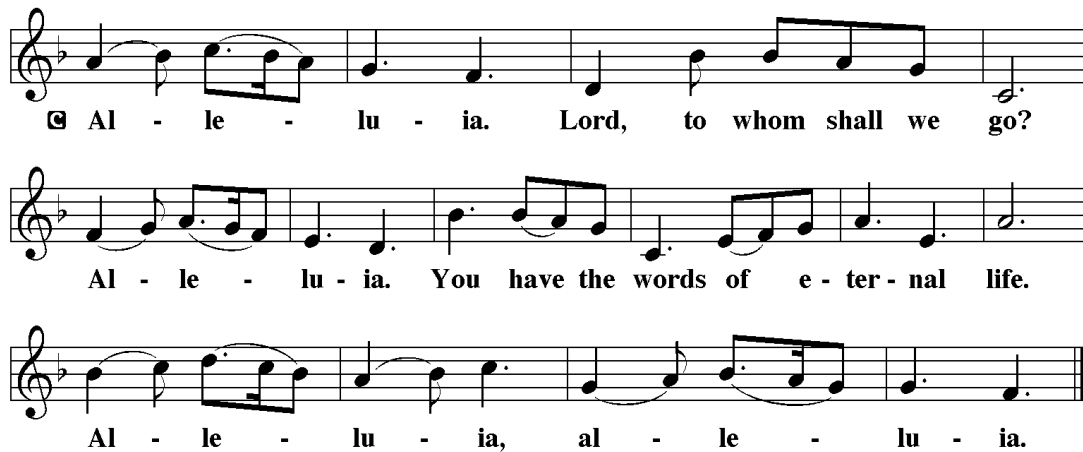
³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Gospel Luke 6:27-38

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

HOMILY

Pastor Traci

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved.

Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

***APOSTLES' CREED**

A: 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: Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us. May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. 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.**

***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 grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his
 promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your
 holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance 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, 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

***THE AGNUS DEI**

Lamb of God



☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

***INVITATION**

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

COMMUNION HYMN

God Is Love

ACS # 1041

God is love. God is love; let us love one an -

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature. The melody starts with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B-flat4, and a quarter note C5. The bass staff provides accompaniment with chords and single notes.

oth-er as God first loved us. God is love.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a half note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The bass staff continues with accompaniment.

God is love. God is love.

The third system concludes the piece. The treble staff has a half note A5, a quarter note B5, a quarter note C6, and a quarter note B5. The bass staff concludes with accompaniment.

Text: Mark Mummert, b. 1965, based on 1 John 4:11, 16, 19
Music: GOD IS LOVE, Mark Mummert
Text and music © 2018 Augsburg Fortress

***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... Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **C: Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

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

***SENDING SONG**

Jesus, Still Lead On

ELW # 624

***DISMISSAL**

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

***POSTLUDE**

Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word

Composer, Johann R. Ahle

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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 our Dad and Pap, Ross Decker, from Paul, Amanda, Gabby and Ben.

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 Acolyte – Jay Hoenstine

Our Assisting Minister – Jean Sinal

Our Lector – Mary Baker, Mace Baker

Our Usher – Paul Decker

Our Altar Guild – Laura Orczeck, 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 –** *7th Sunday after Epiphany*
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday – Knotty Ladies 12:30-3:00 p.m., Quilting Room
- Wednesday – Employee Meeting 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall
- Saturday – Lay Eucharistic Minister Training 9:00 –11:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall
- Sunday – *Transfiguration of Our Lord*
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.

So we can give special attention to those with pressing needs, names will be removed at the end of the month. Please let the office know if a name should remain longer or be removed sooner.

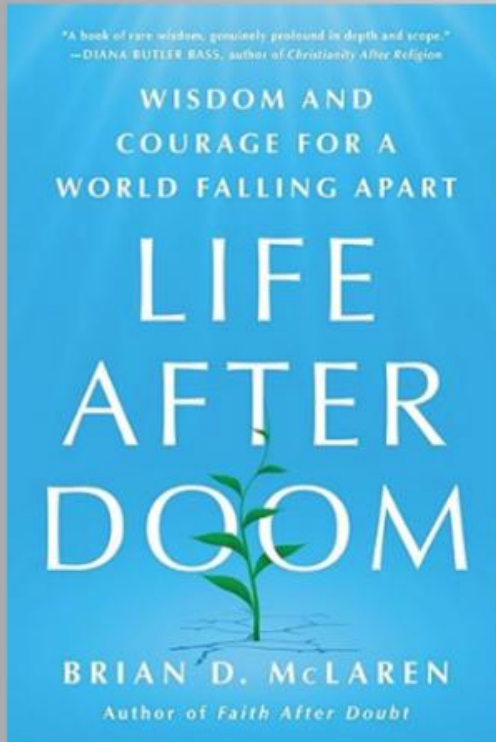
Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Avery, Randy Barrett, Greta Buchart, Doug Bush, Dr. Ramon Burket, Caleb, Warren Campbell, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry Creek, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Marilyn Horton, Don Hosterman, Baby James, Ruth Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Connie Lamborn, Linda Lehman, 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, Margie Smith, Dorothy Stahl, Jean Stonerook, Cindy Thomas, Tiffany Townsend, Joey Tremmel, 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).

Join us for a new
Cross Country Book Study

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Martinsburg, PA &
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd of Duluth, MN



Meet members of our extended church family as Pastor Traci & Pastor Lisa lead this weekly Zoom discussion of Brian McLaren's Life After Doom --an honest and eye-opening portrayal of our current predicament in human history

Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20, & 27

7PM EST / 6PM CST

See your Pastor for the Zoom Link

Although scripture begins with a call to tend God's creation, we know we have fallen far short in our stewardship of the earth. Brian McLaren's latest book explores the situation we're in, what's coming next, and how we are called to live faithfully in our world of turmoil. With members of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Duluth MN, we'll discuss this important topic every Thursday in March by Zoom (7PM). Although this is not a hard text to understand, it is a serious and sobering topic, best studied in community. We will begin March 6th by introducing ourselves and responding to the introduction of the book.

ATTENTION



If services need to be cancelled for inclement weather, we will attempt to notify you using email (like we do for the Sunday Bulletin and Messenger) and Facebook. On days when the weather is questionable, please check these notifications before you travel. If you need a phone call instead, please let the office know.

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.

3rd Annual St. Patrick's Good Luck Game Day & Baked Potato Bar



Baked Potatoes,
Toppings, Drinks
& Desserts
Provided

Bring Your
Favorite
Board Game Or
Card Game

Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from Martinsburg Grace Brethren Church will be helping at the Food Pantry on the first and third Thursdays, March 6 and March 20. It will be open to distribute food from 9:00a.m. until 11:00a.m., and on Saturdays at 11:00a.m. by appointment.



The food items most needed for March are: Peanut Butter, Pasta Sauce, Scalloped Potatoes. Rice Sides and Juice. These or any items may be placed in the food basket at church.

Thank you!
Linda Smith

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

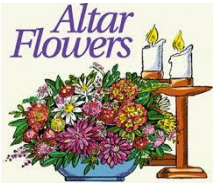


Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and write "*Where needed most*" or "*Hurricane Response*" on your check's memo line.

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



You are invited to

Allegheny Synod Lay Eucharistic Minister Training

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

***OPENING HYMN**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW #631



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

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COMMUNION HYMN

God Is Love

ACS # 1041

God is love. God is love; let us love one an -

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. It contains a vocal line with lyrics: "God is love. God is love; let us love one an -". The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

oth-er as God first loved us. God is love.

The second system of music continues the vocal line from the first system. The lyrics are "oth-er as God first loved us. God is love.". The musical notation follows the same format as the first system, with a vocal line in the upper staff and a bass line in the lower staff.

God is love. God is love.

The third system of music concludes the piece. The lyrics are "God is love. God is love.". The musical notation follows the same format as the previous systems, with a vocal line in the upper staff and a bass line in the lower staff. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Text: Mark Mummert, b. 1965, based on 1 John 4:11, 16, 19

Music: GOD IS LOVE, Mark Mummert

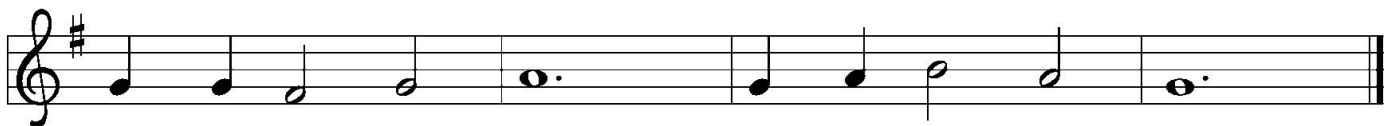
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1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al - though the
2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief from a long - felt grief, when temp - ta - tions
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n - ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701