

# The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

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

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Of the Land and Season booklet, page 1 (for Spring)

### \*ENTRANCE HYMN

*Morning Has Broken*

ELW # 556



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.  
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, admin. David Higham Associates

**\*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**

OLS pages 2-3

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

OLS pages 3-4

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*P: Let us pray ...* O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

**FIRST READING: ACTS 10:44-48**

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

**PSALM 98 (read responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, you have made known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup>**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>**With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,  
the world and those who dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>**Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with equity.

## **SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 5:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

## **\*GRADUAL HYMN**

OLS page 4-5

## **\*Gospel: John 15:9-17**

The holy gospel according to John.

## **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

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

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

*Spirit, Open My Heart*

ACS #1043

*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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Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

## \*NICENE CREED

OLS page 5-6

## \*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A: Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and interreligious partners. God of grace,  
**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation, that we may embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us. At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **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 HYMN

OLS page 7

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

OLS page 8

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

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

OLS page 8

**\*SANCTUS**

OLS page 8

**\*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

OLS page 9

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

OLS page 10

**\*THE AGNUS DEI**

*Lamb of God*

OLS page 10

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

**POST COMMUNION HYMN**

OLS page 11

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION, BENEDICTION, & DISMISSAL**

OLS page 12

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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 and in memory of our mother,  
Mary Baker, from Jane Fagans and Gloria Guyer.

## 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 – Jim Barley

Our Lector – Dawn Alexy

Our Acolyte – Norah Kuster

Our Usher – Stanley Smith

Our Altar Guild – Jackie Lightner, Janet Stewart

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

### Second Quarter Ventures in Faith to “*Youth & Camping*”

#### **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 –**

*6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

Sunday School 9:30 a.m., In Person and Zoom

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday –**

*7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

*Mother’s Day*

Sunday School 9:30 a.m., In Person and Zoom

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall in Use 2:00-7:00 p.m.

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Mary Jane Allision, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Ginny Sell.

**Prayer Concerns:** Dawn Alexy, Amy & Family, Avery, Virginia Barnes, Randy Barrett, Elaine Buchart, Kaye Burket, Tana Byler, Caleb, Diane Cappel, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry & Cathy Creek, Greg Dick, Pastor Sharon Erb, Brian Fleck, Ron Focht, Jim Fritz, Joe Harteis, Rodger Hoover, Marilyn Horton, Baby James, Darren Kreutzer, Linda Lehman, Bill Lively, Kristen Malloy, Ruth Marshall, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Bob & Annette Ritchey, Paul Ruth, Ron Short, Denny Smith (Shelly Hill), Dorothy Stahl, Peggy Steinfurth, Jean Stonerook, Cindy Thomas, Tiffany Townsend, Drew Wenzel, Craig Werner, Emily Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, 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, Elizabeth Haffling, Jeff Hoenstine.

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



*St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
Welcomes You to Celebrate*

## **Affirmation of Baptism -Confirmation-**

**of  
Max Baker + Jay Hoenstine + Camden Kuster**

*Pentecost Sunday  
May 19th, 2024 at 10:30AM  
Reception to Follow*





## Martinsburg Food Pantry



The Food Pantry will be open for food distribution on Thursday May 16 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. It will be open other times by appointment.



Those helping on these Thursdays will be those 3 or 4 helpers from the Martinsburg Church of God in addition to the regular helpers.

### **Following are items most needed for May:**

Beverages, Canned Fruit, Ravioli, Hamburger Helper, and Cleaning Products.

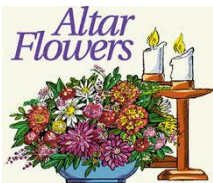
These or any other donations can be placed in the basket at the church marked "Food Pantry".

Monetary gifts may be sent to our new mailing address:

P.O. Box 310, Martinsburg, PA 16662

Many thanks for donations of food, paper items, and recent donations of \$785.00 from members!

*Linda Smith*



The 2024 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. The following dates are available: 5/26, 7/21, 7/28, 9/15, 9/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 12/1. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price - \$40.00. If you would like a Sunday(s) you can also call the church office at 814-793-2413.

## Church Messenger



The May 2024 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** ([stmatthewlc.com](http://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. 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.

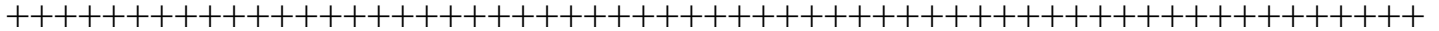
**St. Matthew Seniors  
Are Invited To  
A Young at Heart Luncheon**



**Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 12:00 PM**

**Held at St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
Fellowship Hall  
115 East Penn Street  
Martinsburg, PA**

**Please RSVP to the Church Office (814-793-2413) by July 8**



The adult Sunday School class will be holding class both in person and on Zoom for the next few weeks.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8147932413?pwd=Zm5SYTNnU0cxYm9wS1ZyZUJuQXhJdz09&omn=84087814741>

Meeting ID: 814 793 2413  
Passcode: 16662



*Community Mending Meal  
Hosted by St. Matthew*



***Favorite clothing in need of repair?  
Give it another chance!***

**Bring laundered clothes  
that need mending to work on  
yourself or get help from our  
experienced sewers. Lunch,  
materials, & expertise provided.  
Everyone Welcome!**

**LUNCH & SIMPLE MENDING  
JOIN US FOR BOTH OR EITHER**

**St. Matthew Lutheran Martinsburg Fellowship Hall  
115 E Penn Street (Maple Street Parking Lot)  
Wednesday, May 22 from 11AM--1PM**

## **ENDOWMENT FUND**



### **THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)**

The Third Century Fund had a good earnings year in 2023 and as a result has \$6,072.30 for distribution in 2024. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting Laura Orczeck, chairperson, or committee members: Allen Kuster, Barb Wilt, Beth Garner, or Pastor Traci.

Deadline to submit a request is Sunday, May 26, 2024. Funds will be distributed in June 2024.

The following is from the by-laws of the Third Century Fund and outline the guidelines for fund requests.

#### **PURPOSE**

The St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund is established to encourage responsible Christian stewardship and to promote the mission of the congregation. In response to God's love and mercy, the Endowment Fund seeks to enhance and expand the mission outreach objectives of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Members and friends of St. Matthew congregation are encouraged to practice responsible Christian Stewardship by making contributions to the Endowment Fund. There are a variety of ways such gifts can be made such as cash, securities, bequests through wills or living trusts, life insurance policies, charitable gift annuities and life estates.

The Endowment Fund provides financial support for the church in a manner that is separate from the expenditures normally funded by the annual operating budget of the congregation.

#### **USE OF THE FUND**

All contributions to the St. Matthew Lutheran Church Endowment Fund will be undesignated and added to the principal balance of the fund. The Endowment fund principal balance will be retained and only the dividend income will be used for annual disbursements.

Consideration for awarding fund requests will be given using the following guidelines:

1. Youth of all ages - scholarship support of congregational members and their children; for youth events, for church camps or similar Christian programs, and education.
2. Christian outreach ministries and missions of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, its members, and the ELCA.
3. Worship and Music - support for the worship of St. Matthew.
4. Capital Projects - major renovations or building projects of St. Matthew.