The 12th Sunday after Pentecost August 11, 2024

9:30 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 Praise Him! Praise Him! Mark Hayes, Arranger

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

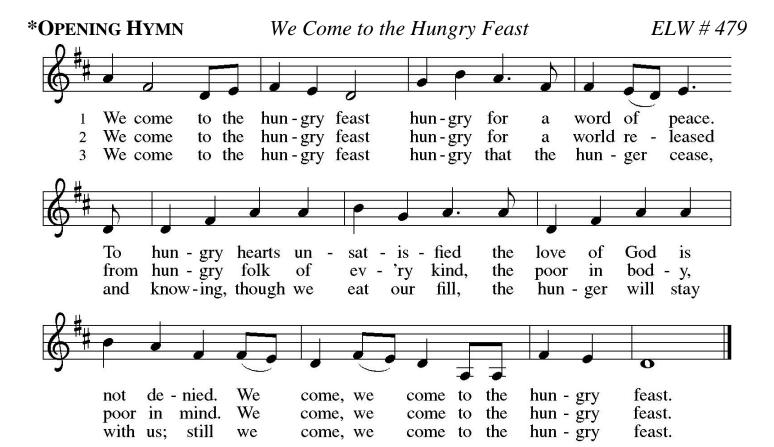
C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

P: God, our provider,

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

C: Amen.



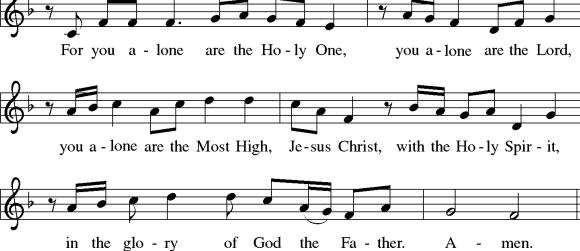
Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*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.



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray ... Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. *C:* Amen.

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

⁵[King David] ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.

⁶So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. ⁷The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. ⁸The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.

⁹Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. ¹⁵And ten young men, Joab's armor-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.

³¹Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, "Good tidings for my lord the king! For the Lord has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you." ³²The king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" The Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man."

³³The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

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

PSALM 130 (read responsively)

¹Out of the depths

I cry to you, O Lord;

²O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³If you were to keep watch over sins,

O Lord, who could stand?

⁴Yet with you is forgiveness,

in order that you may be feared.

⁵I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

⁶My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,

more than those who keep watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is steadfast love; with the Lord there is plenteous redemption.

⁸For the Lord shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:25—5:2

²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. ^{5:1}Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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





*Gospel John 6:35, 41-51

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵Jesus said to [the crowd,] "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

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

HOMILY

Peggy Steinfurth



Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6
Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM
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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: Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
- A: Reignite the prayer of the church. By your Spirit, root your church around the globe in prayer and spiritual practices. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- A: We rely on the goodness of your creation in everything we do. We pray for trees that offer shade and for our fellow creatures that depend on the trees for shelter and food. Sustain the work of all who advocate for forests and wilderness areas. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- A: Guide our leaders and nations with a spirit of justice and mercy. Let no evil come out of our mouths, but rather let us extend grace. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God, receive our prayer.
- A: Sustain feeding ministries and organizations such as ELCA World Hunger and our local food pantries. We work and pray for a day when hunger is no more. Merciful God, receive our prayer.
- A: We pray for this congregation and for all who are gathered. Be present among anyone who cannot be with us today. Be with all who are hurting, grieving, or ill. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- A: We remember the saints who have gone before us in faith. Trusting in the promise of the resurrection, we find hope in your communion of saints of all times and all places. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- P: We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. 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 blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever. C: Amen.

*SENDING SONG

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

ELW # 864



- 1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav en; joy ful ly your trib-ute bring.
- 2 God be praised for grace and fa vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
- 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour ish, blows the wind and it is gone
- 4 An gels sing in ad o ra tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re-stored, for-giv-en, ev-er-more God's prais-es sing. God be praised, the same for-ev-er, slow to chide and swift to bless. but, as mor-tals rise and per-ish, God en-dures un-changing on. Sun and moon and all cre-a-tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927–2005 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. C: Thanks be to God.

To God Be the Glory

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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.

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 – Amanda Decker

Our Lector – Gabby Decker

Our Usher – Steve Oswalt

Our Altar Guild – Elaine Buchart and Janet Stewart

Our Audio/Video Tech - Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Third Quarter Ventures in Faith to "OEW and Missionaries"

This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci is on vacation from 8/7 - 8/16.

In case of emergency call Pastor Ralph Hamer at 814-215-7333.

Jen – Mon., Tues., &Thurs.: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Laura – Wed. & Fri.: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

The front entrance remains closed. Please call the church office if you need to come inside, so you can be let in through the fellowship hall door.

This Week Events

Today – 12th Sunday After Pentecost

Worship Service 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Service of the Word

Thursday – Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m., Allegheny St.

Sunday – 13th Sunday After Pentecost

Worship Service 11:00 a.m. at the Kreider Farm

Lunch will follow the service

Altoona Curve Game, 6:00 p.m., PNG Field

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

Prayer Concerns: Dawn Alexy, Amy & Family, Avery, Jim Barley, Virginia Barnes, Randy Barrett, Dave Brown, Kaye Burket, Tana Byler, Caleb, Diane Cappel, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry Creek, Brian Fleck, Ron Focht, Jim Fritz, Gloria Guyer & Family, Joe Harteis, Rodger Hoover, Marilyn Horton, Michelle Iwanski, Baby James, Ruth Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Darlene Krisco, Linda Lehman, Bill Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Charles Minnick & Family, Pat Mountain & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Karyl Sawinski, Mary Scott, Susann Shimer, Jane Metz Short, Denny Smith (Shelly Hill), Dorothy Stahl, Jean Stonerook, Cindy Thomas, Steve Torres, Tiffany Townsend, Drew Wenzel, Susan Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Tom Woodrow, Jody Zelanko, and for our Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.

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

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



The annual Church picnic and outdoor worship service will be held at the Ed Kreider Farm on Sunday, August 18, 2024. Worship will begin at 11 am, with lunch to follow.

The church will provide chicken, and an assortment of beverages, and table service.

Bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. You are encouraged to bring a chair for the worship service.

We hope to see you all there for a day of worship, good food, and fellowship.

Supplies for Food Pantry (K-5)



When you are shopping, the Food Pantry is providing school supplies again for the school children in August.

These following items are needed, and you can place them in the school box in the fellowship hall:

Crayola Crayons (24 colors)
12 pack of #2 pencils & large erasers
Crayola washable markers (10 colors)
Crayola colored pencils (24 color set)
Highlighters (yellow, pink & green)
Elmer's large glue sticks (.77 oz.)
8½x11 spiral notebooks (3 hole punched)
Elmer's washable school glue (4 oz bottle)

Church Messenger

The August 2024 *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. 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.



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: 9/29 and 10/27. 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.

Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from the Martinsburg Mennonite Church will be helping to distribute food on Thursday, August 15 from 9:00 until 11:00 am, along with the regular helpers.



If anyone harvests more vegetables or fruit than can be used, we will welcome it on the dates the pantry is open.

Items most needed for August: Cereal, Hamburger Helper, Ravioli, Mashed Potatoes, Peanut Butter

Many thanks for all your donations, Linda Smith



Community Mending Meal at 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 sewers. Materials, machines, & expertise provided.

Free Light Lunch Served at 11:30AM

LUNCH & SIMPLE MENDING
JOIN US FOR BOTH OR EITHER

St. Matthew Lutheran Martinsburg Fellowship Hall 115 E Penn Street (Maple Street Parking Lot) Wednesday, August 21st from 11AM--1PM



HOMEWOOD OPEN HOUSE

August 27th 11:00am - 1:00pm

OPEN CONCEPT MOVE-IN READY!



Come and see the beautiful landscapes and pristinely landscaped campus of Homewood at Martinsburg!

Imagine a maintenance free lifestyle while enjoying all of the pleasures of retirement! Enjoy a delectable complimentary meal complete with Homemade Gob Cake!





ASK THE REALTOR:

Special guest Tracey Shade from Perry Wellington Realty who will be available to answer questions on downsizing.

- What can I do to enhance the marketablity of my home?
- Is it true that I need to paint my home in all neutrals?
- My roof is 25 years old...do I need to replace it?

Property Features

- Living Room
- Sunroom
- Dining Room
- 2 Bedrooms
- Kitchen
- 2 Bathrooms
- One Car Garage
- Storage

RSVP by August 20, 2024

Call Juls at 814.793.1314 or register at www.homewoodmartinsburg.com



Cottage Open House - 602 Diamond Circle Homewood at Martinsburg - 437 Givler Drive, Martinsburg, PA 16662

Martinsburg Booster Association presents



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024



DANIEL

\$170 per person

Taken from his people, Daniel is exiled far from home in the powerful kingdom of Babylon. Now this faithful servant must navigate his new life inside a palace filled with golden statues and shifting empires. As royal pressures mount, Daniel is faced with a dangerous choice. Will his trust in the one true God remain steadfast through every test of faith?

From the fiery furnace to the infamous den of lions, DANIEL is a spectacular theatrical experience for the whole family.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip Motorcoach Transportation
- via Raystown Transit
- Reserved Main Floor Seating at 11:00am show
- Dinner stop made on return—Hoss's in Carlisle (on own)

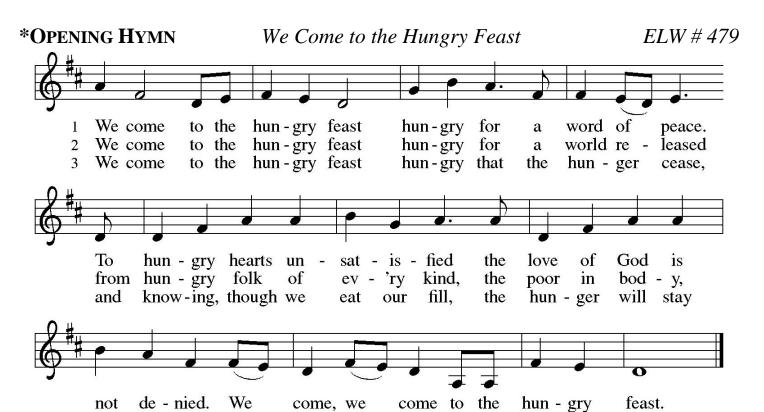
DEPART: 7:00 AM from Morrison Cove Park

DEADLINE for RESERVATIONS and FINAL PAYMENT: September 13, 2024

PAYMENT: Check payable to Duane Bordell or CASH

For Reservations and Information:

Contact Duane Bordell, Raystown Transit Service at 814-944-2585 1117 Logan Blvd, Altoona, PA 16602



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Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943 Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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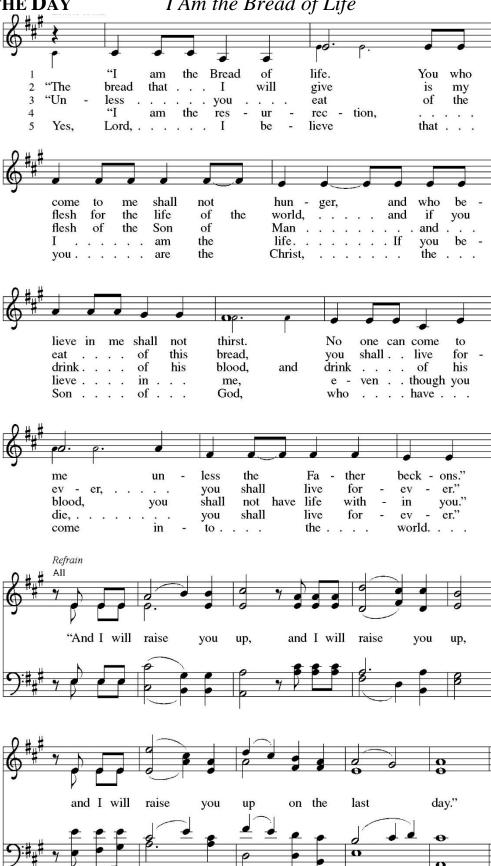
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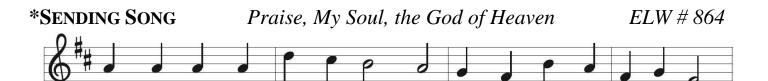
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- 1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav en; joy ful ly your trib-ute bring.
- 2 God be praised for grace and fa vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
- 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
- 4 An gels sing in ad o ra tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re-stored, for-giv-en, ev-er-more God's prais-es sing. God be praised, the same for-ev-er, slow to chide and swift to bless. but, as mor-tals rise and per-ish, God en-dures un-changing on. Sun and moon and all cre-a-tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

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