

# *The 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

**October 6, 2024**

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 the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

*C:* **Amen.**

*P:* Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*P:* Gracious God,

*C:* **have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*P:* God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

*C:* **Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Love Has Brought Us Here Together*

ACS #1040



1 Love has brought us here to - geth - er; love of fam - 'ly,  
2 Love is gen - tle, love is pa - tient, soft in words and  
3 Love does not re - joice at e - vil; love re - joic - es



love of friends; love, our vow till death should part us; love, God's  
kind in deeds. Love is strong and nev - er pom - pous; love puts  
in the right. Keen in giv - ing and for - giv - ing, spread - ing



gift, that nev - er ends. From our birth, through-out our life - time,  
first the oth - er's needs. Not quick-tem - pered or re - sent - ful,  
love is love's de - light. When two peo - ple pledge their u - nion,



love's in - sis - tence calls our name. Floods of wa - ters  
prone to take of - fense or brood, love ex - cels in  
all who wit - ness are re - newed, feast - ing at love's



can - not drown it or put out its danc - ing flame.  
grace and mer - cy, nev - er jeal - ous, nev - er rude.  
earth - ly ban - quet, tast - ing heav'n's be - at - i - tude.

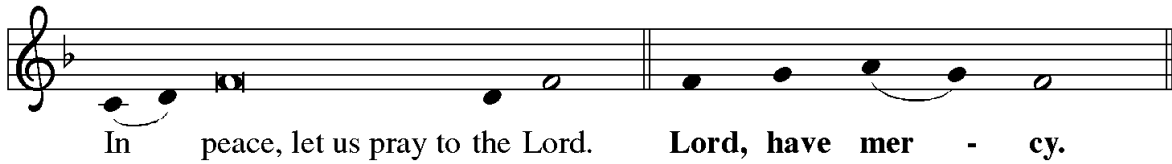
Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

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

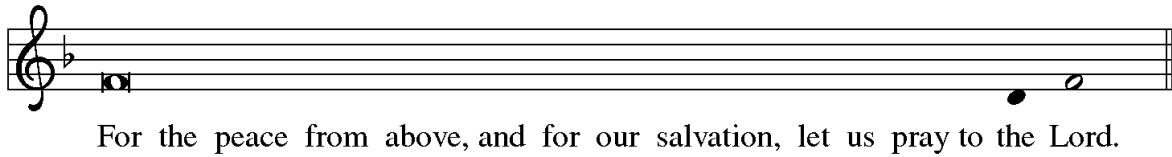
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**\*GREETING**

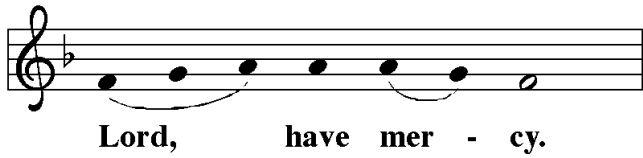
*P:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**



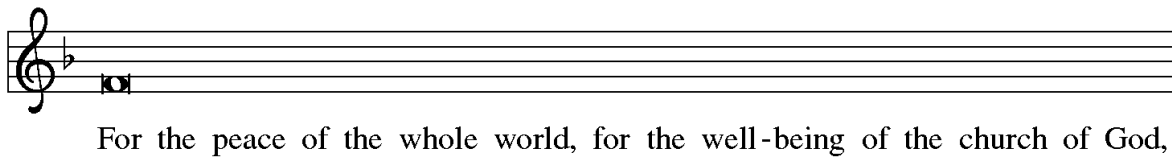
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



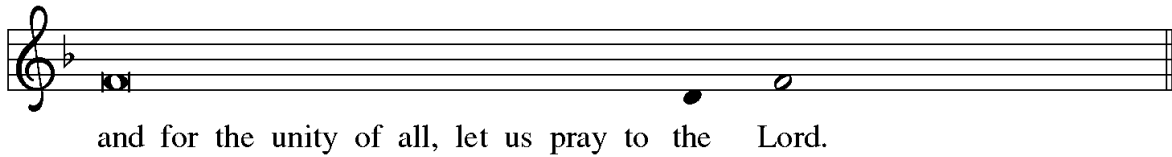
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



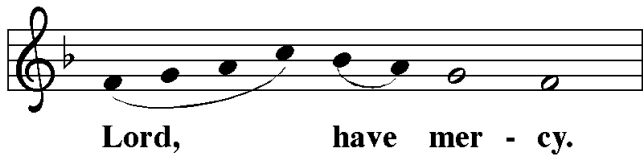
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



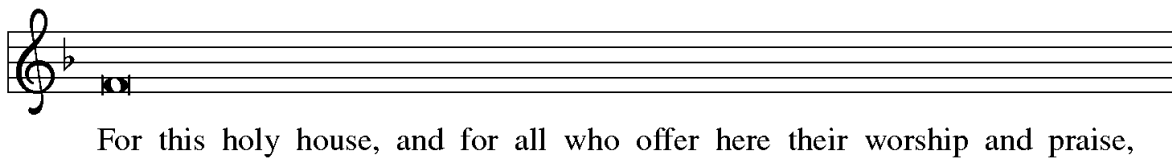
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



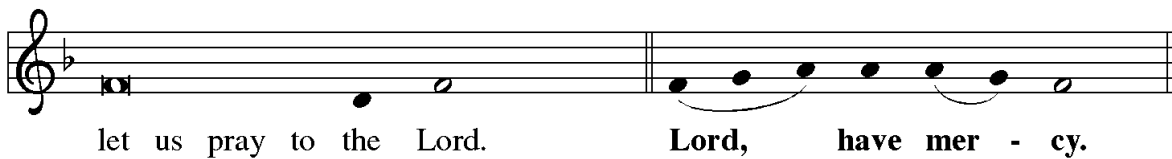
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*P: Let us pray ...* Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24**

<sup>18</sup>The Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup>So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
this one shall be called Woman,  
for out of Man this one was taken.”

<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

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

## **PSALM 8 (read responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>O Lord our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

<sup>2</sup>**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;**

**you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

<sup>4</sup>**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,  
human beings that you should care for them?**

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them little less than divine;  
with glory and honor you crown them.

**<sup>6</sup>You have made them rule over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet:**

<sup>7</sup>all flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts of the field,

**<sup>8</sup>the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,**

**and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

<sup>9</sup>O Lord our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## **SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12**

<sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>2:5</sup>Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. <sup>6</sup>But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
or mortals, that you care for them?

<sup>7</sup>You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;

you have crowned them with glory and honor,

<sup>8</sup>subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,<sup>9</sup>but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

<sup>10</sup>It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

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

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*S142a*

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

**\*Gospel: Mark 10:2-16**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>2</sup>Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” <sup>3</sup>He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” <sup>4</sup>They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” <sup>5</sup>But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. <sup>6</sup>But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ <sup>7</sup>‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, <sup>8</sup>and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. <sup>9</sup>Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

<sup>10</sup>Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. <sup>11</sup>He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; <sup>12</sup>and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” <sup>16</sup>And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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

**HOMILY**

*Pastor Traci*

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Children of the Heavenly Father*

*ELW # 781*

## **\*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:* Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

*A:* God of our ancestors, we give thanks for the church in all times. May we listen for the prophets of this age who bear messages that stir the church toward renewal and justice. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*A:* Creator of every creature on earth, direct our lives toward the renewal and sustaining of cattle, birds of the air, animals of the field, and those who share our homes. Reveal the ways we can work alongside creation for the health and well-being of all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*A:* Sovereign God, we give thanks that you are mindful and benevolent to even us, mere mortals. Accompany us when hardness of heart gets in the way of justice between people and nations. Endow leaders with minds for justice and hearts for compassion. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*A:* Restoring Lord, grant healing and wholeness to those who are sick and suffering. Work through medical professionals to diagnose, ease pain, and give life to all who seek their wisdom and experience. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*A:* Unifying God, humans were created for relationship with the earth, its creatures, and one another. Forgive us when division threatens companionship, mutual support, and unity among us. May your love inspire us to build supportive communities of faith where all are cherished. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*A:* God of resurrection, you prepare a place in the kingdom through Christ's death and resurrection. We give thanks for the saints who have taken their place at your heavenly banquet. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**



*P:* Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **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 ...* Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

ELW # S144a

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

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:

**\*SANCTUS****Holy, Holy, Holy Lord**

ELW # S144b

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. 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.

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

*P:* You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

***C:* Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, 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.**

**\*THE AGNUS DEI**

*Lamb of God*

ELW # S146

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.

**\*INVITATION**

*P:* Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

**COMMUNION HYMN**

*Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters*

ELW # 445

**\*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...* Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

*P:* God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you, and give you peace.  
**C: Amen.**

**\*DISMISSAL**

*P:* Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

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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 dads,  
Bob Oswalt and Carl Alexy, by Steve and Kim Oswalt Family.

**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 – Norah Kuster

Our Assisting Minister – Jim Barley

Our Lector – Lori Tremmel

Our Usher – Ed Kreider

Our Altar Guild – Jean Sinal and Tonya Walter

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 –** *20<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Journey to Bethlehem organizational meeting after Worship  
Farewell for Bishop Paula 3:00-5:00 p.m.,  
Evangelical Lutheran, Duncansville

**Monday –** Staff Support Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.,  
Window Room/Zoom

**Tuesday –** Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., Window Room/Zoom

**Sunday –** *21<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.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.

**Prayer Concerns:** Amy & Family, Avery, Virginia Barnes, Randy Barrett, Greta Buchart, Tana Byler, Caleb, Warren Campbell, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry Creek, Brian Fleck, Ron Focht, Jim Fritz, Rodger Hoover, Marilyn Horton, Baby James, Ruth Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Linda Lehman, Bill Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Charles Minnick & Family, Pat Mountain, Nathan, Olga Perlov, Deb Peters, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Karyl Sawinski, 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, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.**

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

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

## Journey to Bethlehem

There will be a brief meeting immediately following worship today to gauge interest in reviving the Journey to Bethlehem community Christmas program. We will need actors, tour guides, and helpers to set up and tear down the backdrops and props. If you are interested in helping in any way, please plan to meet in the back of the sanctuary following worship. If you are interested but unable to attend that day, please let Pastor Traci or Jane Fagans know.

## Farewell for the Bishop

The Allegheny Synod Council has planned a drop-in farewell for Bishop Paula today, October 6, from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm at Evangelical Lutheran in Duncansville. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

## Martinsburg Food Pantry



The Food Pantry will be open for food distribution on Thursday, October 17 from 9:00am until 11:00am. The Covenant Brethren Church, Curryville will supply 3 or 4 people to help distribute food in addition to regular helpers.



**Items most needed for October:** Cereal, Mashed Potatoes, Macaroni, Soup, Crackers.

We appreciate your prayers and support with food, paper products or monetary donations!

Looking ahead, we will be having a "Mitten Tree" to provide the need for hats, mittens, gloves, scarves for elementary school children and for children of food pantry. When you are shopping, please purchase any of these items.

*Thank you,  
Linda Smith*

## All Saints Sunday, November 3, 2024

Please submit any names you would like recognized on All Saints Sunday to the church office by completing the form below. **October 30, 2024** is the deadline.

You can also submit names using our Email address: [stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com](mailto:stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com)

**Person submitting:** \_\_\_\_\_

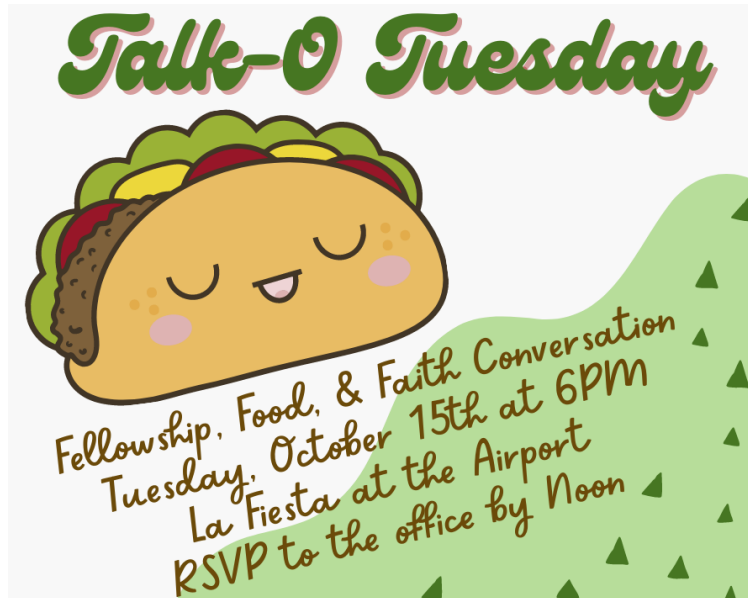
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## Martinsburg Community Thanksgiving Meal

The Martinsburg Community Thanksgiving Meal will be served at 5pm Monday November 11, 2024, at the Church of God. St Matthew's Lutheran Church will provide the desserts for this community meal. The Social Ministry Committee needs the congregation's support to complete this task. Word from the pews say we have numerous good cooks/ bakers in our congregation. We are looking for desserts that emphasize TASTE OF FALL/THANKSGIVING. A sign-up list will be on the bulletin board till October 27. You can deliver your desserts to the Church of God by 4 pm or drop off at St Matthew's by 3:30 pm and the Social Ministry Committee will see they arrive safely to the Church of God. In the past the Community Thanksgiving Meal has served up to 150 people. The Social Ministry Committee appreciates the congregation's prayers and support for this event.

*Lottie Ebersole,  
Committee Chairman*



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**

**Wednesday, October 16th from 11AM--1PM**  
St. Matthew Lutheran Martinsburg Fellowship Hall  
115 E Penn Street (Maple Street Parking Lot)

## Allegheny Synod Lutheran Women's Retreat

The event will be held Saturday, October 19, from 9am to 1pm at Duncansville Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1200 Fourth Ave., Duncansville. Cost per person is \$10 and includes light breakfast and lunch. The day will include time for self-care with chair yoga, paint and pour, and holiday craft time. Registration forms are available at the Usher Station which may be completed and emailed to [luthwomen@yahoo.com](mailto:luthwomen@yahoo.com).

You may also register online at: <https://www.jotform.com/form/242746603684160>.

If you'd like, you may pay at the door the day of the event or mail your check, payable to Allegheny Synod, to:

Pastor MJ Irvin-Stellabotte  
Newry Lutheran Church  
PO Box 397  
Newry, PA 16665

Join Pastor Traci & Otto at St. Matthew for  
**TRICK OR TREAT**

*No Trick or Treaters in your neighborhood?  
No problem! We had over 100 ghosts  
& goblins visit at church last year.*

**6-8PM  
Thursday  
October 31**



Throw on a costume &  
join us to give out candy.  
Shopping for Trick or Treat?  
Grab an extra bag for St. Matthew.  
(Please drop off by Wednesday the 30th)



**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Love Has Brought Us Here Together*

ACS #1040



1 Love has brought us here to - geth - er; love of fam - 'ly,  
2 Love is gen - tle, love is pa - tient, soft in words and  
3 Love does not re - joice at e - vil; love re - joic - es



love of friends; love, our vow till death should part us; love, God's  
kind in deeds. Love is strong and nev - er pom - pous; love puts  
in the right. Keen in giv - ing and for - giv - ing, spread - ing



gift, that nev - er ends. From our birth, through-out our life - time,  
first the oth - er's needs. Not quick - tem - pered or re - sent - ful,  
love is love's de - light. When two peo - ple pledge their u - nion,



love's in - sis - tence calls our name. Floods of wa - ters  
prone to take of - fense or brood, love ex - cels in  
all who wit - ness are re - newed, feast - ing at love's



can - not drown it or put out its danc - ing flame.  
grace and mer - cy, nev - er jeal - ous, nev - er rude.  
earth - ly ban - quet, tast - ing heav'n's be - at - i - tude.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

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

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Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,  
 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;  
 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;  
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.  
 nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.  
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune

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1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.  
 2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.  
 3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.  
 Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.  
 To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.  
 God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,  
 We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.  
 one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.  
 By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,  
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who  
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.  
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -  
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,  
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as  
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"