

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

9:30 a.m. Adult & Youth Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary



Masks are optional but available in the narthex for anyone who feels more comfortable taking that precaution for themselves or on behalf of others.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

C Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.

P Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

P God of new beginnings,

C we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.

P People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on ✝ Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

C Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

ELW # 254



1 Come, thou long-ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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



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



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



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

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might- y God and Fa- ther, we



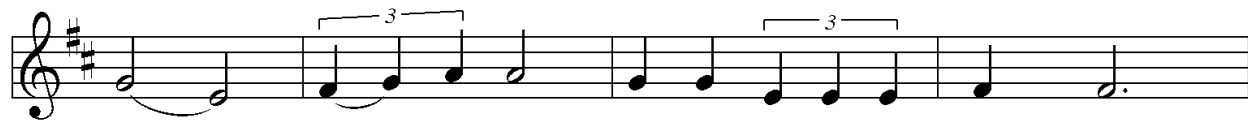
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



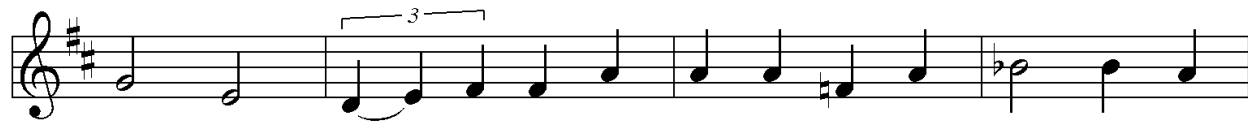
☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ 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.



C Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



I
II 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.



C Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray ... Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

* LIGHTING ADVENT CANDLES

ADVENT LIGHTING HYMN

O Come O Come Emanuel

(vs 2)



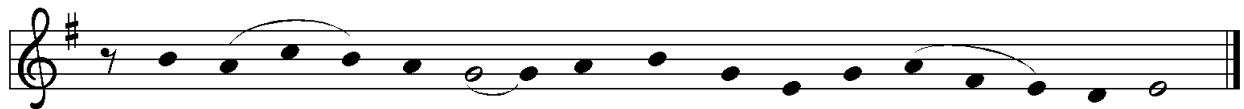
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite

Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19 (*read responsively*)

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

²**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁸**Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel; you alone do wondrous deeds!**

¹⁹And blessed be your glorious name forever, and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

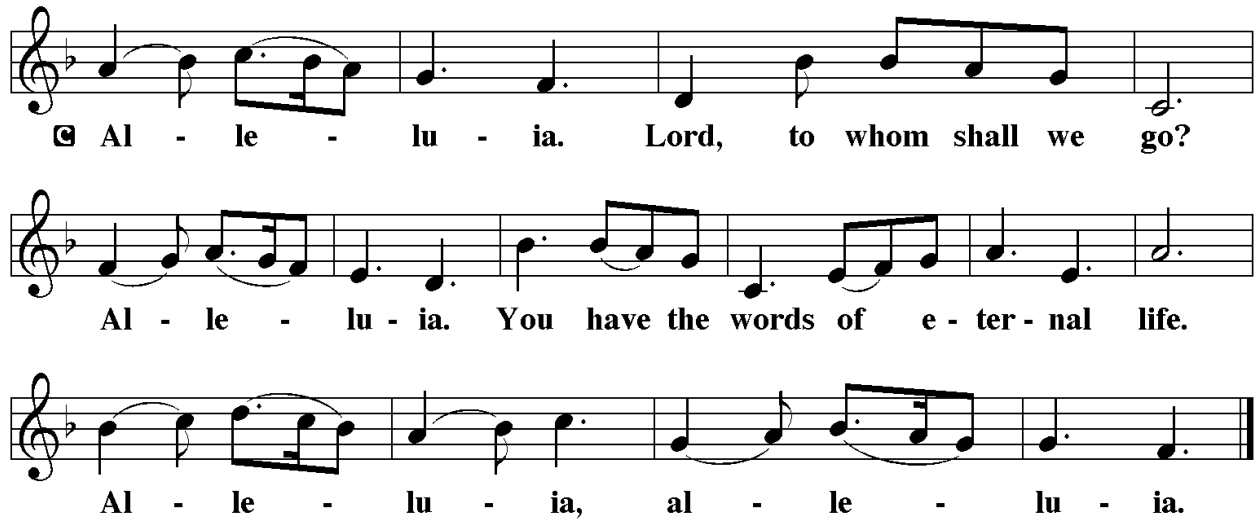
SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹²and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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: Matthew 3:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

HOMILY

Pastor Traci

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

ELW # 249



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

***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 God, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A You give us a vision of creation in harmony, when hurting and destruction will be no more. Teach us to be stewards of the earth and companions to its creatures. Restore to balance and wholeness what human greed has harmed. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A You deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A You urge your people to welcome one another as you have welcomed us. Nurture ministries of hospitality and care in this and every congregation. We pray for people who are homebound, hospitalized, or separated from loved ones. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A You embrace all who have died trusting in your promises, and we give thanks for their faithful witness. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- P God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **C Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

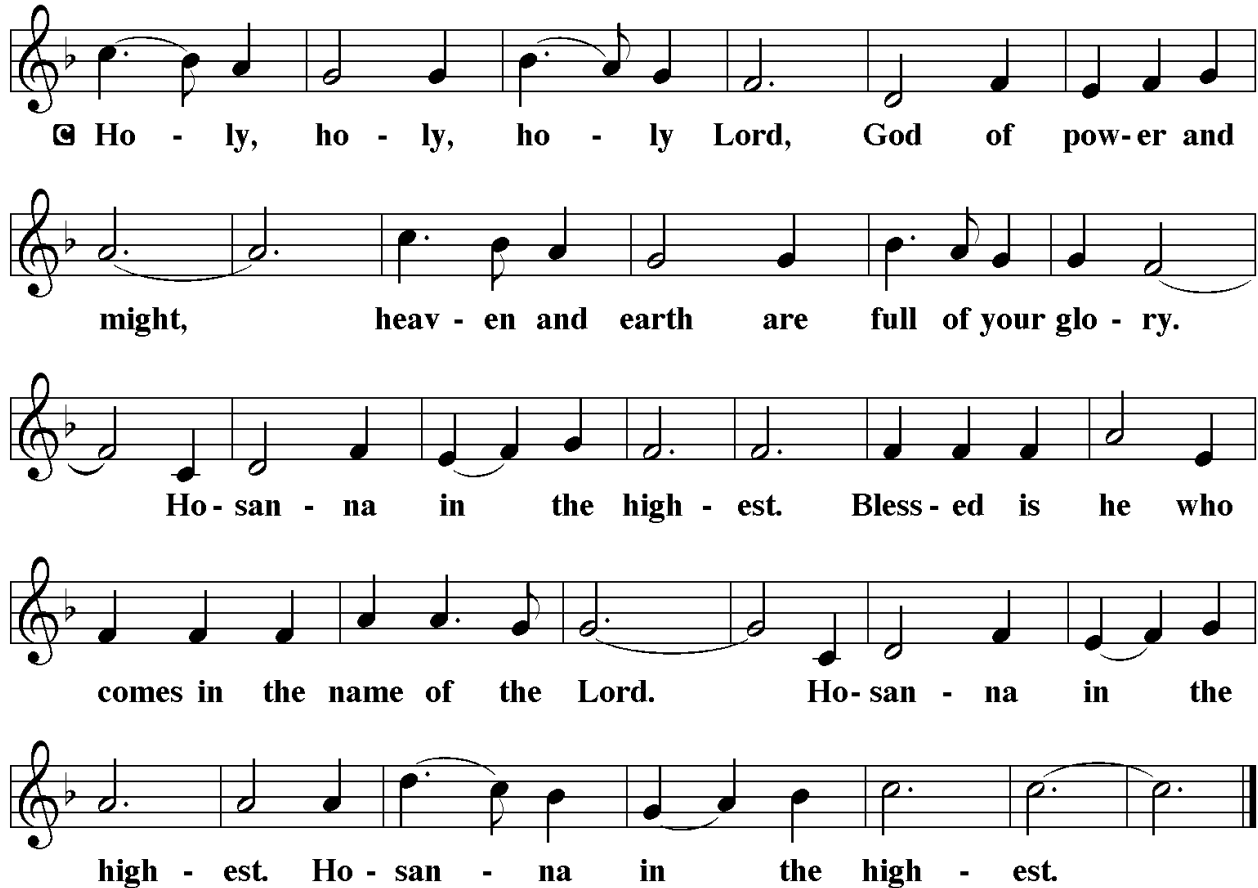
C We lift them to the Lord.

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 and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, 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 Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.

At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

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 life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through hi 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 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



☩ 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



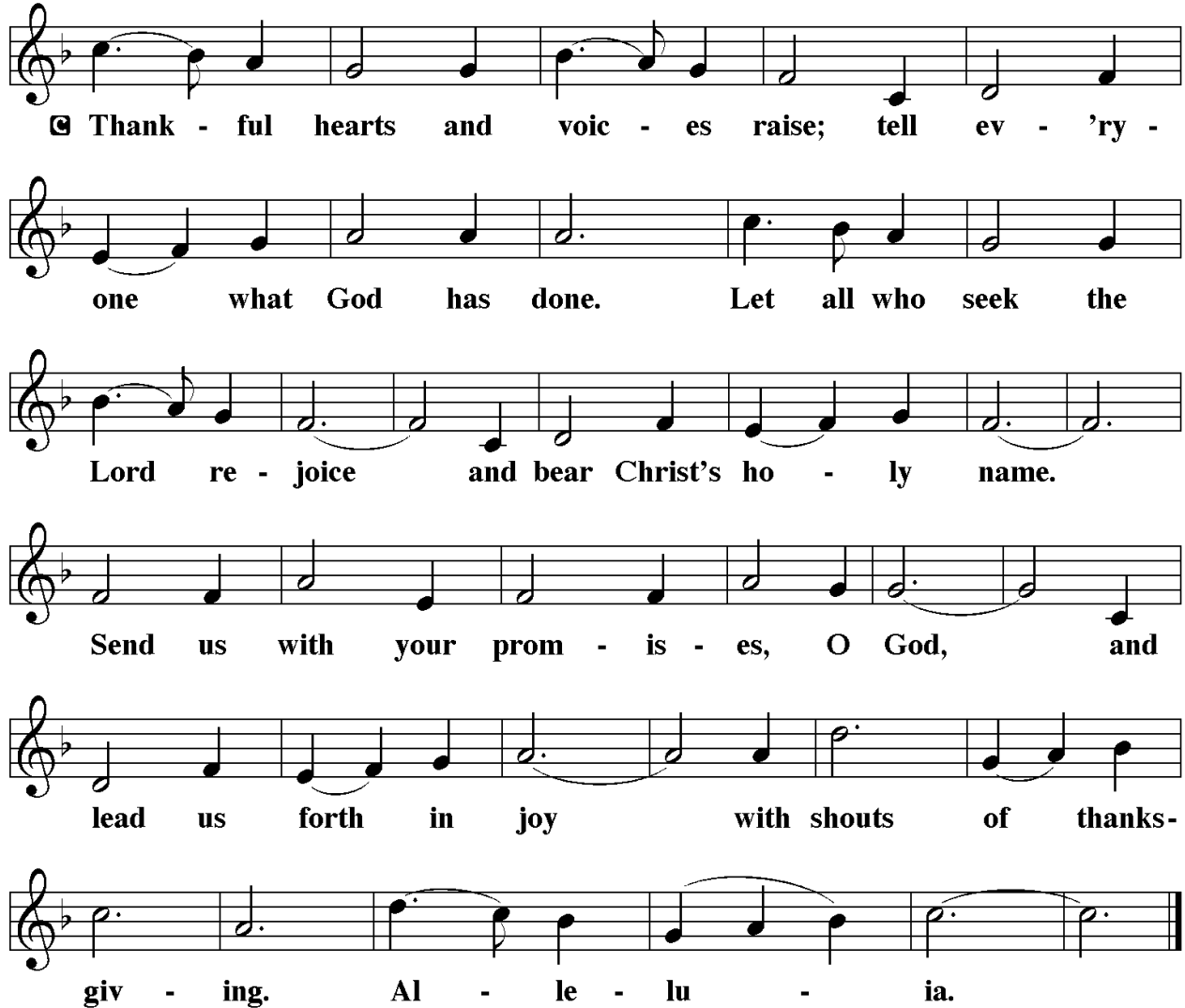
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION

P Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C Amen.**



☩ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A *Let us pray...* Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.

Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **C Amen.**

BLESSING

P God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever. **C Amen.**



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Christ is near. **C** Thanks be to God.

Reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #SB105031

Please be advised that worship services are recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God in memory and in honor of past, present, and future holidays by Janet, Ed and Dean.

Candy Order Forms are at the Usher's Station

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Organist – Mary Nelson

Our Missionary Family – On Eagle’s Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Lector – Shawn Orczeck

Our Acolyte – Lucy Lightner

Our Altar Guild – Jackie Lightner, Jane Fagans

Our Usher – Stanley Smith

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Fourth Quarter Ventures in Faith to “United Lutheran Seminaries”

Martinsburg Food Pantry

We will be open for distribution of food on Thursday, December 15 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Volunteers from Redefined Community Church will be assisting in the distribution of food with the regular helpers. There are 12 churches that help each month at the food pantry.

Holiday Foods will be the focus in December: Beverages, Canned Meat, Potatoes, Stuffing Mix, Vegetables, Fruit.

Please place any of these foods in the basket at church. Many thanks to all who generously gave all year to the Food Pantry! It is greatly appreciated! **Linda Smith**

Prayers and Christian Sympathy are asked for the Verna Blough family upon her death, Saturday, November 26, 2022.

Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 11th during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Topics: 2023 Budget & 2023 Council Slate.

This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413

Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Wed. 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Lori Tremmel – Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

This Week Events

- Today** – Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.
Monday – Worship & Music Meeting via Zoom 6:00 p.m.
Scouts, Scout Rooms 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday - Bible Study 4:00 p.m. via Zoom
Wednesday – No Yoga
Saturday - Candy Making in the Kitchen 9:00 a.m.
Sunday – Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.
Congregational Meeting during worship
Candy making in the Kitchen following worship



St. Matthew now has a new email address:

stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com

Please send all correspondence to this address.

We will no longer use AOL.

Mitten Tree

Our annual Mitten Tree is in the narthex until December 18th. Please be thinking as you shop, and bring school-age children's mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, earmuffs or socks to be hung on the Mitten Tree. These will be distributed by the school nurses at the Spring Cove Elementary Schools for needy children. Donations of money can be given by marking a **pew envelope "Mitten Tree"**. Let's help children have a warmer Winter!

Cove Christmas Love

It's time to think about children who will get very little or nothing for Christmas. These children within the area covered by the Martinsburg Association of Churches will receive **new** toys, books and blankets with the help of contributions from people in the community.

Please bring your donations to the church and place in the Christmas box located in the Narthex. Monetary contributions are also welcome. Checks are to be made out to "Cove Christmas Love" and placed in the offering plate.

All donations of gifts and monetary contributions are due by Monday, December 12, 2022. ***Social Ministry Committee***

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Carl Alexy, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenburg, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Jere Hess, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Bill Stahl, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, David Bolger, Bonnie Brobst, Diane Cappel, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry & Cathy Creek, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Audrey Kensinger, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Kay McGraw, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Paul Ruth, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, Rev. Jack Timm, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Camryn Gates.

Those Serving in the Army Overseas: Nathan Smith (Germany), Melody Estep.

Nominating Committee Looking for Council Nominees

The nominating committee is seeking St. Matthew members for several Council positions. Have you been looking for a way to serve at St. Matthew? One of these offices may be just the position for you!

We are in need of a President, Secretary, and Nominating Committee Member.

The President presides at all monthly Council meetings following a prescribed order of business and

conducts annual and special meetings of the congregation.

The Secretary keeps written minutes of the meetings of the congregation and Council.

These offices are for two-year terms, with eligibility to serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

A Member of the Nominating Committee works with others to recruit a slate of nominees for the next years' open Council positions to be voted on by the congregation at its annual meeting.

The term is two years and the position is not eligible for consecutive re-election.

Please contact the nominating committee for more information:

Martie Gilbert (Chair) 814-793-4461 Peggy Steinfurth 814-515-6205

Peggy Freyer 814-327-0291 Ruth Marshall 814-793-3107



Dear Members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church:

The 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 11th at 10:30 a.m. Here in, and for your review, is a copy of the 2023 Ministry Proposal (Congregational Budget) for St. Matthew Lutheran Church.

The budget process begins with all committees providing their budget requests to the finance committee, who then review the individual proposals and ultimately agree on a budget. The Finance Committee unanimously approved the 2023 Budget at their meeting on October 26, 2022. Church Council then reviews the budget, and in this case, approved it at their November 8th meeting.

The congregation will also be asked to approve the following 2023 recommendations for Venture in Faith, which are the same as 2022:

- 1) The first quarter will go to local needs.
- 2) The second quarter is for Youth and Camping
- 3) The third quarter will go to On Eagle's Wings & Holy Family Lutheran Church & Rocky Boy Ind. Res.
- 4) The fourth quarter is for the United Lutheran Seminaries both in Gettysburg and Philadelphia.

The congregation will also be asked to approve the 2023 recommendations for Special Envelopes, which are identical to what was used in 2022:

- 1) Easter envelopes go to the Breezewood Truck Ministry.
- 2) Special envelopes for Children's Sunday go to Good Shepherd children's home.
- 3) Harvest Home envelopes go to ALSM (ILUMIN).
- 4) The special envelopes for Blanket Sunday go to Lutheran World relief.
- 5) Christmas envelopes are used for St. Matthew's current expense.

If, after reviewing the budget and the recommendations for Ventures in Faith and Special Envelopes, if you have questions or concerns, there will be a **question and answer session on Sunday, December 4th following the 10:30 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary.** You may also contact Jim Barley by phone (814-793-4623) or by email (jimbarley@gmail.com).

*In response to God's love, St. Matthew Lutheran Church
Shares God's word and serves all people.*

Jim Barley
Finance Committee Chairperson

St. Matthew Lutheran Church Proposed Budget 2023

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	Proposed Budget	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
MINISTRY OF THE PASTOR							
Base Salary/Housing Allowance	\$ 60,470.00	\$57,350.00	\$57,281.04	\$56,073.12	\$53,815.12	\$10,724.32	\$0.00
Social Security Allowance	\$ 4,626.00	\$4,387.00	\$4,290.00	\$4,198.08	\$4,039.92	\$652.84	\$0.00
Transitional Pastors Stipend						\$24,000.75	\$26,925.00
Total Compensation	\$ 65,096.00	\$61,737.00	\$61,571.04	\$60,271.20	\$57,855.04	\$35,377.91	\$26,925.00
Pension Contribution	\$ 7,812.00	\$7,409.00	\$7,244.52	\$7,088.52	\$6,822.93	\$0.00	\$0.00
Medical	\$ 10,936.00	\$9,878.00	\$9,443.16	\$8,831.46	\$7,817.92	\$2,622.64	\$0.00
Disability and Death	\$ 1,107.00	\$1,358.00	\$1,328.16	\$1,092.84	\$1,535.03	\$9.00	\$0.00
Disability Insurance Supplement	\$ -			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Retirement Support	\$ -			\$413.52	\$397.44	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Benefits	\$ 19,855.00	\$18,645.00	\$18,015.84	\$17,426.34	\$16,573.32	\$2,631.64	\$0.00
TOTAL COMPENSATION & BENEFITS OF THE PASTOR	\$ 84,951.00	\$80,382.00	\$79,586.88	\$77,697.54	\$74,428.36	\$38,009.55	\$26,925.00
PROFESSIONAL REIMBURSEMENT							
Automobile Reimbursement	\$ 2,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$940.46	\$671.95	\$2,269.68	\$317.95	\$400.38
Continuing Ed, Books & Periodicals	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$657.29	\$935.50	\$1,002.74	\$77.16	\$588.53
Assembly/Conference Expense	\$ 600.00	\$600.00	\$40.00	\$25.00	\$461.00	\$143.00	\$426.00
Other Professional Exp	\$ 500.00	\$1,100.00	\$90.96	\$0.00	\$1,397.38	\$18.88	\$12.45
Transition Pastors Mileage and Lodging	\$ -					\$9,243.52	\$10,785.42
TOTAL PROFESSIONAL REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 4,100.00	\$5,700.00	\$1,728.71	\$1,632.45	\$5,130.80	\$9,800.51	\$12,212.78
PARISH ADMINISTRATION							
Parish Administrative Assistant	\$ 33,600.00	\$31,992.00	\$31,897.00	\$31,200.00	\$30,599.94	\$29,618.00	\$26,367.26
Employer's SS Taxes Parish Admin Ass't	\$ 2,570.00	\$2,447.00	\$2,273.44	\$2,227.35	\$2,224.38	\$2,126.44	\$1,847.69
Employee Benefits Parish Admin Ass't	\$ 11,791.00	\$13,867.00	\$13,641.24	\$13,548.30	\$13,093.08	\$14,161.66	\$11,429.07
Assistant to Administrative Assistant	\$ 1,008.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,280.81	\$641.37	\$2,064.51	\$1,697.25	
Employer's SS Taxes Ass't Admin Ass't	\$ 77.00	\$230.00	\$92.57	\$57.23	\$161.34	\$112.45	
Office Supplies	\$ 2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,017.65	\$2,132.07	\$2,956.78	\$2,586.16	\$2,718.75
Postage	\$ 1,300.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,245.65	\$1,034.48	\$1,381.71	\$1,370.16	\$1,587.89
Telephone	\$ 3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,855.97	\$2,957.12	\$2,927.98	\$2,841.07	\$1,997.98
Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$822.06	\$3,366.35	\$1,523.26	\$916.58
Computer Program & Updates	\$ 1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,574.85	\$1,049.47	\$1,627.00	\$1,882.91	\$1,894.09
Copier Lease	\$ 2,604.00	\$2,604.00	\$4,134.60	\$4,134.60	\$4,134.60	\$4,150.70	\$3,960.13
Misc. Expenses	\$ 200.00	\$200.00	\$82.67	\$148.84	\$0.00	\$141.70	\$161.88
TOTAL PARISH ADMINISTRATION	\$ 60,900.00	\$63,890.00	\$61,096.45	\$59,952.89	\$64,537.67	\$62,211.76	\$52,881.32

WORSHIP AND MUSIC										
Supply Pastors Compensation	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$350.00	\$290.82	(\$75.00)	\$1,063.14	\$1,575.00			
Organists' Stipends	\$ 9,420.00	\$8,800.00	\$8,150.00	\$7,785.00	\$7,162.40	\$3,950.00	\$4,282.28			
Adult Choir Dir. Stipend		\$2,250.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,100.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Organ, Piano, and Carillon	\$ 700.00	\$700.00	\$720.00	\$360.00	\$300.00	\$870.00	\$350.00			
Choir Music	\$ 150.00	\$150.00	\$96.34	(\$50.00)	\$152.60	\$34.67	\$107.24			
Worship Supplies	\$ 1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$801.50	\$1,841.82	\$2,552.92	\$1,481.25	\$1,807.78			
Devotional Guides	\$ 150.00	\$150.00	\$105.01	\$316.13	\$259.25	\$413.50	\$396.50			
Bulletins	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70.90			
Flower Fund	\$ -	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$33.40	\$0.00	\$21.95	\$90.00			
Journey to Bethlehem	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$501.91	\$0.00	\$591.86			
Audio Tech Person	\$ 1,485.00	\$1,375.00	\$1,325.00							
Employer's SS Taxes	\$ 114.00	\$105.00	\$63.10							
TOTAL WORSHIP AND MUSIC	\$ 14,519.00	\$16,330.00	\$13,210.95	\$11,677.17	\$11,104.08	\$7,834.51	\$9,271.56			
EVANGELISM										
Evangelism Projects	\$ 500.00	\$1,300.00	\$435.93	\$246.07	\$229.65	\$298.20	\$255.43			
TOTAL EVANGELISM	\$ 500.00	\$1,300.00	\$435.93	\$246.07	\$229.65	\$298.20	\$255.43			
FELLOWSHIP										
Fellowship Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$233.07	\$427.58	\$1,195.21	\$1,179.11	\$1,103.23			
TOTAL FELLOWSHIP	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$233.07	\$427.58	\$1,195.21	\$1,179.11	\$1,103.23			
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION										
Synod Assembly (2 delegates)	\$ 400.00	\$400.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$292.00	\$286.00	\$378.00			
SCS Christmas Gifts	\$ 100.00	\$100.00	\$42.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$38.02	\$80.07			
Vacation Church School	\$ -	\$750.00	\$500.00	\$150.00	\$19.93	\$0.00	\$1,019.41			
The Lutheran	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$622.67	\$971.79	\$1,009.14	\$1,044.98	\$1,071.40			
Curriculum & Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$1,000.00	\$480.26	\$403.35	\$1,287.61	\$538.31	\$812.11			
St. Matthew Youth Events	\$ 500.00	\$500.00	\$172.62	\$22.43	\$205.17	\$0.00	\$11.99			
National Youth Gathering Advisor	\$ -	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00			
Advent and Lenten Workshop	\$ 200.00	\$200.00	\$54.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
FBI Background Checks	\$ 100.00	\$100.00	\$119.55	\$35.00	\$58.85	\$61.20	\$16.00			
TOTAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$ 2,800.00	\$5,250.00	\$2,071.70	\$1,582.57	\$2,872.70	\$2,968.51	\$3,388.98			

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	Proposed Budget	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE							
Insurance	\$ 5,000.00	\$5,500.00	\$4,553.00	\$4,589.00	\$4,286.00	\$7,999.45	\$5,119.00
Electricity	\$ 9,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$7,969.55	\$7,882.13	\$12,599.92	\$13,662.03	\$14,254.45
Janitorial Services	\$ 16,443.00	\$15,405.00	\$12,771.78	\$15,411.80	\$14,867.11	\$14,205.00	\$15,361.10
Employer's SS Taxes	\$ 1,258.00	\$1,178.00	\$1,014.60	\$1,187.74	\$1,179.25	\$1,066.53	\$1,150.17
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 2,300.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,469.38	\$595.26	\$2,529.08	\$4,762.68	\$2,787.11
Utilities (Water/Sewer/Gas/Garbage)	\$ 4,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,606.22	\$3,106.83	\$2,850.06	\$2,572.30	\$2,081.35
Operating Supplies	\$ 1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,108.71	\$985.90	\$760.23	\$596.35	\$1,074.06
Maint Fees (Snow Plowing & Shoveling)	\$ 1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,072.00	\$516.00	\$1,384.00	\$1,754.25	\$1,205.50
Security	\$ 700.00	\$700.00	\$539.88	\$539.88	\$539.88	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	\$ 41,601.00	\$42,683.00	\$35,105.12	\$34,814.54	\$40,995.53	\$46,618.59	\$43,032.74
STEWARDSHIP							
Stewardship Education	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$745.20	\$926.52	\$920.91	\$906.47	\$624.37
Offering Envelopes	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$751.50	\$983.85	\$665.41	\$490.03	\$1,964.41
TOTAL STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE	\$ 2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,496.70	\$1,910.37	\$1,586.32	\$1,396.50	\$2,588.78
SOCIAL MINISTRY							
Social Ministry	\$ 300.00	\$300.00	\$55.86	\$0.00	\$95.54	\$208.08	\$0.00
TOTAL SOCIAL MINISTRY	\$ 300.00	\$300.00	\$55.86	\$0.00	\$95.54	\$208.08	\$0.00
MISCELLANEOUS							
Miscellaneous	\$ 500.00	\$500.00	\$1,107.38	\$178.74	\$411.31	\$393.60	\$332.15
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 500.00	\$500.00	\$1,107.38	\$178.74	\$411.31	\$393.60	\$332.15
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 213,171.00	\$ 219,835.00	\$ 196,128.75	\$ 190,119.92	\$ 202,587.17	\$ 170,918.92	\$ 151,991.97
Average Weekly Needed per Budget	53 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	53 Sundays
	\$ 4,022.00	\$4,227.60	\$4,287.77	\$4,299.48	\$4,096.94	\$4,413.40	\$4,181.47
Faith Commitment (Allegheny Synod)	\$ 20,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00
Note: Faith Commitment (Decrease) is %	23%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Note: Budget Increase (Decrease) is %	-3.03%	-1.40%	-0.27%	4.94%	-7.17%	3.56%	2.50%

Ventures in Faith for 2023

First quarter will go to local needs; Second quarter is for Youth & Camping; Third quarter OEW's & Holy Family Lutheran Church & Rocky Boy; Fourth quarter is for the United Lutheran Seminaries (Gettysburg & Philadelphia)

Special Envelopes for 2023

Easter - Breezewood Truck Ministry.; Children's Sunday - Good Shepherd Children Home.; Harvest Home - ALSM (ILLUMIN); Blanket Sunday - Lutheran World Relief.; Christmas - St. Matthew Current Expenses.



Dr. Adam Smith, Piano

AN ADVENT CONCERT

7PM - Monday, December 19th
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
 115 East Penn Street, Martinsburg
 Free Admission - Free Will Offering to Benefit
Camp Sequanota



Snow Camp 2023

"Come to the Table"

Friday-Sunday, January 27-29
 Camp Sequanota, Jennerstown PA
 6th - 12th Grade

Games, Crafts, Food, Sledding, Worship, & Learning
 Accommodations in Sequanota's Winterized Cabins
 Register from December 15 to January 20 at www.sequanota.com

\$80-includes food, lodging, materials
 Families are asked to pay \$10: St. Matthew will cover the rest.

Please contact Pastor Traci with any questions.
****Adult Helper(s) Wanted!****



Advent Concert


Dr. Smith has graciously offered to share his musical gift in an Advent concert, Monday, December 19 at 7PM, followed by cookies and cocoa, with a free will offering to benefit Camp Sequanota. If you are interested in supporting Camp in advance through this event, please note "Sequanota Concert" on your donation and specify how you want your name to appear in the program.

Birthday Celebration, Saturday, December 17, 2022
1:00-3:30 p.m. (Note time change)

Janet Kreider will be 90 years young on December 16. Her family is planning a birthday celebration here at St. Matthew in the Fellowship Hall. The congregation is invited. You can RSVP by completing the form below or you can email the church office at: stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com by **December 12, 2022**

Menu: Pizza, Assorted Subs, Beverage, and Cup Cakes.

+++++



Contact Name: _____

_____ # of Adults _____ # of Youth

BUILDING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

As we prepare to return our Statements of Intent cards, planning our commitment to financial generosity in 2023, think about some of our ministry together, looking back at last year and moving forward into the future:

- + Following the most critical phase of the pandemic, we returned to hosting Lenten Wednesday suppers and services, extending those meals to include delivery for many of our members who are experiencing restricted mobility.
- + Members, young and old, participated with our synod partner, Camp Sequanota, in its 75th summer of outdoor and retreat ministry.
- + Several of our senior high school students attended the alternative youth gathering in Washington, DC and Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp.
- + Our young adults are slated to travel to Florida next summer to work with Lutheran Disaster Relief to rehabilitate some of the areas hardest hit by this year's hurricane season.

Keeping our ministry strong will enable us to continue serving our community and allow us to dream of how our ministry can grow in the future. Reflect on the ways in which your connection and participation in our ministry has impacted you personally and made a difference to those you know and love. Then, start dreaming about what God may be up to here at St. Matthew as we move forward together into the future.

BUILDING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

DECIDING TO GIVE SACRIFICIALLY

Little has ever been accomplished without sacrifice. This is true in our homes, our relationships, our work, our church, and our country. Sacrifice is part of building a fulfilling life. And so it is with the Christian life and faith. We are saved by grace, but as Bonhoeffer rightly said, there is no such thing as cheap grace.

Much of church giving is less sacrificial and more token giving, averaging about two percent of income. As with so many things, we feel only a little satisfaction in giving what only requires a little sacrifice, what we can give easily or might not even really miss.

Experience shows that the more sacrificial giving is, the more meaningful and joyful it is to the giver. What amount or percentage is sacrificial is different for different people's circumstances. But studies suggest that most people move from token giving to more sacrificial—and thus, more rewarding—giving at about five percent of income. Growing to or beyond that amount may be less about how much we have and more about how much we're willing to sacrifice.

Like any other area of our lives, our interest in church deepens with our investment. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (*Luke 12:34*) Where is our treasure? That is where we will find our hearts.



YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program is ready for new volunteers!

This year, for the first time since early 2020, YAGM participants are walking alongside our international neighbors. Now, it's time for the YAGM team to find the next volunteers ready to step out into the world. Do you know one of them? Applications are now open, and you can invite young adults on this journey abroad for the 2023-2024 program year. If you know young adults aged 21 to 29, this is the time to reach out. Encourage them to apply for YAGM by the deadline of Feb. 1, 2023. (Priority deadline is Jan. 15, 2023.) Through YAGM, young adults will learn what it means to serve in a spirit of accompaniment as they walk alongside global church companions. They'll become immersed in a new community and form deep relationships. And they'll confront issues of wealth and poverty, racial privilege, gender privilege, economic disparity and globalization, all through the lens of faith. [Learn more at ELCA.org/YAGM](https://elca.org/YAGM).

December Bible Study – Dreaming of Christmas

We'll study a different dream from Matthew's Christmas story each Tuesday at 4PM on Zoom; the Zoom link will be sent out by email.

December 6: Joseph's First Dream (Matthew 1:18-25)

December 13: The Magi's Dream & Joseph's Second Dream (Matthew 2:1-13)

December 20: Joseph's Third Dream (Matthew 2:16-23)

Advent Concert Cookies

A time of fellowship refreshments will be held in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the Advent Concert by Dr. Adam Smith on Monday, December 19, 2022.

Please bring the cookies to the church no later than Monday, December 19 at 5 p.m.

If you are interested in donating a couple dozen cookies, please indicate the amount on the following form. You can place it in the offering plate or in the Jane Fagans' mailbox.

Thank you on behalf of the Fellowship Committee.

Yes, I will donate _____ cookies for the reception following
The Advent Concert on December 19.

Name _____