



FOR MY YOKE IS  
EASY AND MY BURDEN  
IS LIGHT

MATTHEW 11:30

## *Sixth Sunday in Pentecost*

July 9, 2023

9:30 a.m.

*ELW Setting 8*

*“Living God’s Love”*

**St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church**

400 North Broadway Street † Medina, Ohio 44256

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[www.stmatthewmedina.org](http://www.stmatthewmedina.org)

## St. Matthew invites you to join us in celebration of Holy Communion!

The Lord's table is open to all who believe and are baptized.

Please join us as we receive the means of grace, where Jesus promises to meet us in the bread and the wine.

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"Pages" are in the front of the hymnal.  
"Hymns" are located toward the back of the hymnal.

\*Please stand as you are able.

## GATHERING

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Prelude

#### \*Confession and Forgiveness *(You may stand or kneel)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

P: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

\***Gathering Song:**                      *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling*                      Hymn 608

#### \*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**                                      *Kyrie Eleison*                                      Page 184

\***Hymn of Praise**                      *This is the Feast*                                      Page 187

#### \*Prayer of the Day

**C: You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we**

may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

## WORD

### First Reading

Zechariah 9:9-12

<sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup>He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war-horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm

Psalm 145:8-14

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup>**LORD, you are good to all,**

**and your compassion is over all your works.**

<sup>10</sup>All your works shall praise you, O LORD,

and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup>**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom**

**and speak of your power,**

<sup>12</sup>that all people may know of your power

and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup>**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

<sup>14</sup>The Lord upholds all those who fall

and lifts up those who are bowed down.

## Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

<sup>15</sup>I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go*

Page 188

## \*Gospel

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus spoke to the crowd saying: <sup>16</sup>“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup>‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

<sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

## Hymn of the Day:

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

Hymn 693

## \*Apostle's Creed

**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 Intercession *(You may stand or kneel.)*

P: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

P: God of the covenant, you call ministers to proclaim your gospel of grace throughout the world. Inspire pastors, deacons, church musicians, and all ministers of your word as they carry out your work. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: God of all creation, you reveal your goodness through all you have made: rivers and seas, plants and animals, and endangered species. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, botanical gardens, zoos, and wildlife sanctuaries. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: God of the nations, you desire that all the peoples of the world live in peace. Guide government leaders at all levels—national, state, and local—to work for justice, mercy, and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: God of compassion, you bring healing to those who are sick, consolation to those who are grieving, and well-being to those who are distraught. Send skilled caregivers to all in need especially Carol, Amy, Sammy, June, Pat, Adam and

Family, Loretta, Leithea, Sandi, Judy, Steve and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts, and make your presence known among all who suffer. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: God of rejoicing, you have brought us together this day to worship around word and sacrament. Encourage children in their learning and growing, and watch over those who are absent today. Lead us all to places of renewal and refreshment. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: God of all faithfulness, through the witness of the faithful departed you reveal love in action. Embolden us by their example to build up the beloved community in all the contexts we encounter. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**Offering**

*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast*  
Jennings

Luther Choir Women

**Offertory Response**

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

Hymn 184

**\*Offertory Prayer**

P: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Great Thanksgiving**

Page 190

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**

**\*Holy, Holy, Holy**

Page 190

**\*Eucharistic Prayer**

**\*Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

**\*Invitation to Communion**

P: All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

**\*Lamb of God**

Page 191

**Communion Hymn**

*Come, Let Us Eat*

Hymn 491

**\*Prayer after Communion**

P: We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*Blessing**

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sending Song:**

*Just a Closer Walk With Thee*

Hymn 697

**\*Dismissal:**

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Postlude**

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## PRAYERS

**Altar Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God in loving memory of their grandson, Koi Griffin, by Dean and LaVonne Hauptman.

**Altar Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God in remembrance of her husband John's birthday by Linda Kostelnik.

**Memorial Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God in memory of Mabel Bluhm by Joyce and Tom Davis.

**Prayers for Healing:** Carol Muhlbach, Amy Douglas, Sammy Young, June Trenty, Pat Straub, Adam and Family, Loretta Thornton, Leithea Obermeier, Sandi, Judy McLaughlin, and Steve Combs.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

**Sixth Sunday in Pentecost**, we worship in-person and via livestream at 9:30 with ELW setting 8 and holy communion.

**Thank you and Welcome** to Cindy Piovarchy, our accompanist for worship this morning.

## NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 16, AT ST. MATTHEW

**Next Sunday, Seventh Sunday in Pentecost**, we will worship in-person and via livestream at 9:30 with Praise worship and holy communion.

**National Youth Gathering Meeting** for youth eligible to attend the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana and their parents. 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Deacon Lindsay** will be away for continuing education July 9-13.

**Parish Nurse, Brenda Disbrow, on vacation** July 11-18.

**Cedar Point** - Kids of all ages are invited to join us on Wednesday, July 12. If you would like to carpool, a group will meet in the church parking lot at 8:45 a.m. If you drive to the park, we will meet at the gates at 10 a.m. We will stay until closing at 10 p.m. If you do not have a season pass and need a ticket, please visit the Cedar Point website <https://www.cedarpoint.com/daily-tickets>. Everyone is responsible for their own meals. Contact Julie Shrader with any questions at 330-635-8685. RSVP at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4CADAA2DA5F49-cedar>.

**Ladies Night on the Square!** Thursday, July 13 at 5 pm. Please meet us at 5 pm at the gazebo for a goodie bag and then we will walk around the square and enjoy what our community has to offer. Hope you are able to join us! Note: Bible and Brews begins at 7 pm that night.

**Blood Pressure Screening** - Sunday, July 23, before and after worship in Brenda's office.

**Key Inventory - If you have a key to the church and do not need it, please return it to the office!** Otherwise, contact the church office (330-725-8885 or [office@stmatthewmedina.org](mailto:office@stmatthewmedina.org)) and let us know what type of key you have and the number shown on the key.

**Share your favorite hymns with us!** Forms are located in the narthex for you to fill out. Please place completed lists in Pastor Steve's mailbox.

## **WORSHIP SERVANTS**

Acolytes: Logan Naida  
Reader: Helen Graf  
Ushers: Hogan Family  
Communion Servers: Sandy Andrews  
Melody Costello  
Rick Grice  
Sound: Larry Mohler  
Video: Brian Harris  
Altar Guild: Becky Malloy & Julie Shrader

## Finance Report Update for April, May & Year-to-Date St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

	<i>Month of April, 2023</i>	<i>Month of May, 2023</i>	<i>Year-to-Date January-May, 2023</i>
General Offering Unrestricted	\$ 27,780.49	\$ 22,487.86	\$ 132,574.42
2023 Approved Mission Plan	\$ 33,333.33	\$ 33,333.33	\$ 166,666.65
Budget Variance (Loss) \$	(5,552.84)	\$ (10,845.47)	\$ (34,092.23)

**Financial Update:** *St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church received the unrestricted offerings as compared to the 2023 approved Mission Plan objective shown for the months of April, May and 2023 year-to-date. Please consider increasing your offering to support the church and its mission of Living God's Love. Thank you for your continued generosity.*

*By setting up recurring donations online, you enable us to maintain financial stability and plan for the future of St. Matthew. Please consider signing up for Simply Giving at:  
<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z4MP/home>*

*If you have any questions about your current account or setting up your account, contact our Financial Director Bruce Reed at (412) 848-0219 or email Bruce at [brucerreed@comcast.net](mailto:brucerreed@comcast.net).*

## **St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff**

The Rev. Steven Mahaffey	Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach	Director of Youth & Family Ministries
John Burke	Organist
Deb Musil	Office Administrator
Joyce Davis	Maintenance Supervisor
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Nancy McNeal	Luther Choir Director
Rachel Knaggs	Kids of the Kingdom Director
Kaitlyn Taraschke	Nursery Attendant

### **Pastor Steve's Contact Information**

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### **Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information**

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Hearing Loop  
System available.