

*Oh, magnify the Lord with me,  
and let us exalt His name together!*

# *Praise* service

*Second Sunday of Easter*

April 16, 2023  
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

*Praise*

*“Living God’s Love”*

**St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church**

400 North Broadway Street † Medina, Ohio 44256

330-725-8885 † office@stmatthewmedina.org

**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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### **GATHERING**

*\* Please stand as you are able.*

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Good News Moment**

**\*Gathering Song**                      *Open the Eyes of my Heart*

#### **\*Greeting**

D: 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**

**C: Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the  
hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you  
and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with  
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

#### **Children's Message**

Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach

### **WORD**

#### **First Reading**

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

<sup>14a</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd,  
<sup>22</sup>"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man  
attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did  
through him among you, as you yourselves know—<sup>23</sup>this man, handed over to  
you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and  
killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him up, having  
freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

<sup>25</sup>For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,

for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

<sup>26</sup>therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

<sup>27</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup>"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup>Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,  
'He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'  
<sup>32</sup>This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

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

## Psalm

Psalm 16

<sup>1</sup>Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;  
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."  
<sup>2</sup>**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the people.**  
<sup>3</sup>But those who run after other gods  
shall have their troubles multiplied.  
<sup>4</sup>**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,  
never take their names upon my lips.**  
<sup>5</sup>O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;  
it is you who uphold my lot.  
<sup>6</sup>**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**  
<sup>7</sup>I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;  
my heart teaches me night after night.  
<sup>8</sup>**I have set the LORD always before me;  
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**  
<sup>9</sup>My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.  
<sup>10</sup>**For you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor let your holy one see the pit.**  
<sup>11</sup>You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures  
forevermore.

## Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this

you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

**\*Gospel**

John 20:19-31

P: The holy gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

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

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

Pastor Jim Kulma

**Hymn of the Day:**

*Jesus, Name Above all Names*

## 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

D: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

D: God of rebirth, the good news of your resurrection brings refreshment to a weary world. Following the women at the tomb, empower us to boldly share your radical love through our words and our work. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

D: As you breathed your Spirit into the disciples, breathe your spirit of healing upon all creation. Nourish the earth with sufficient rains. Strengthen us to counter the effects of pollution and destruction. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

D: You prepared the disciples for their ministry by calming their fears and granting them your peace. Equip our communities' leaders. Give them a spirit of peace and hearts that burn for justice, that their leadership reflects your love. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

D: You come among us in unexpected ways. Send us to those who hide in fear or question your love. Be a healing presence for any isolated by addiction, incarceration, mental illness, chronic pain, sickness, or grief especially

the family of Milora, John, Al, Jen, Bob, Heidi, Willy, Dylan, Andrew, Brittany, Becky, Adam and family, Carl, Dorothy, Sandi, Judy, Steve, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

D: As you met the disciples on the road to Emmaus, show us your presence along our journeys. Bless our doubts and questions. Provide trusting and safe relationships for all ages, to nurture our connection to you and one another. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

D: Resurrecting God, you bring us to new life every day. Thank you for blessing us with companions on our faith journey, especially those who now rest in your love. Strengthen us with the eternal peace of your promises. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

D: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

D: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**Offering**

**Offertory**

*He Comes in the Name of the Lord (8:30)*

Luther Choir

Mary Kay Beall

**Offertory Prayer**

P: Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

**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.**

**\*Words of Institution**

**\*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.

**Distribution**

**Communion Hymn**

*Communion Song*

**\*Prayer after Communion**

P: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*Blessing**

P: The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sending Song:**

*All the People said Amen*

**\*Dismissal:**

D: Go in peace. Serve the risen one.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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Vocalists: Heather Rohde

Guitar: Scott Schwandt

Drums: Lennie Davis

Bass: Karl Hermann

## WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolyte:	8:30 - Ella Supanich	11:00 - Brooke Haycook
Reader:	8:30 - Delores Ivan	11:00 - Lisa Burke
Ushers:	8:30 - Alan & Delores Ivan	
Communion Servers:	8:30 - David George Cindy Rickly	11:00 - David George Peg Huber
Sound:	8:30 - Joe Obermeier	11:00 - Larry Mohler
Video:	8:30 <i>only</i> - Rex Rickly	



## PRAYERS

**Altar Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God by Bob & Teri Madey in thanksgiving for 32 years of marriage.

**Altar Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God in honor of our Children's birthdays, Kristin April 10 and David April 24, by Brian and Sandi Harris.

**Prayers for Healing:** Family of Milora VanAntwerp (Marianne Beachy's sister-in-law), John Baker, Al, Jen Knaggs, Bob Forsythe, Heidi Jones, Willy Boggs, Dylan, Andrew & Brittany Harr, Becky, Adam and Family, Carl Ulich, Dorothy Ulich, Sandi, Judy McLaughlin, and Steve Combs.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

**Easter Second Sunday of Easter**, we worship in-person at 8:30 and 11:00 with the Praise service and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30.

**Welcome and Thank You** to Pastor Jim Kulma, our supply pastor this morning.

**Sunday School** for all ages at 9:45 a.m.

**Adult Sunday School** - Pastor Kulma has 33 years of Healthcare Chaplain experience and will discuss the topic, "What does a Hospital Chaplain really do?"

**Spaghetti Lunch** and basket raffle to benefit Operation Homes of Medina County today at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 3355 Medina Rd, Medina. \$12 per person, \$8 children 6 and under. Dine in or take out.

## NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 23, AT ST. MATTHEW

### Compassion Sunday

**Next Sunday, Third Sunday of Easter**, we will worship in-person at 8:30 and 11:00 with ELW setting 8 and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30.

**Sunday School** for all ages at 9:45 a.m.

**New Member Reception** - 9:45 - 10:45 in the Fellowship Hall.

**Thrivent Member Luncheon** - 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Pastor Steve is on Vacation** April 10-16.

**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.

**Thank you.** Dear Pastor Steve and people of the St. Matthew congregation, God has blessed us in these times of trial through your love, prayers, and cards. Thank you!! All our love, Bill & Sue Lucht

**Lay Reader Training** - Reader training will be held on Sunday, April 30, in the sanctuary beginning at 9:45 a.m. This will be a refresher for those who have read before and new training for those who have never read in worship, but would like to start. Contact Sandy Andrews ([sandrews731@aol.com](mailto:sandrews731@aol.com) or 330-667-2858) if you are interested.

**Care Connection Meeting** - Would you like to learn more about the Care Connection (or become a Care Connection leader?) Come to our next meeting, Wednesday, April 19, 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Food will be provided.

**Key Inventory** - We are running short on our key cards and fobs and need to update our key inventory. If you have a church key, swipe card, or fob, 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. If you no longer participate in council or another committee and don't need a key to the church, please return it to the church office.

**Children's Sermons** are now available to view on YouTube. The link is: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbMSkGvyBcRUoHWduYpW8EA>.

**Annual Women's Luncheon** - Ladies! Please join us in our Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 7 after the late service (about 12:15pm). This year's theme is luau, Hawaiian. Dress in your favorite attire. Join us for some amazing food and fellowship, prizes will be awarded. Hope to see you there! Invite a friend too! Sign up in the narthex or using this website <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A45AFAE2CABFF2-stmatthew3>

**Ladies!** Thursday, May 11 at 5 p.m. is Ladies Night on the square. Please meet at 5 p.m. 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 - Bibles and Brews begins at 7 p.m. that night.*

**Bill Harrington Memorial Golf Outing** - Monday, July 31, 2023, at Weymouth Country Club, to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Medina County. See fliers on the bulletin boards in the narthex and outside of the church offices. Registration deadline: June 30, 2023.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**June 26-30, 9 - 11 am - VBS (*Comprehensive Youth*)**

### **SPECIAL REQUESTS**

**Looking for a reliable vehicle.** We have two individual looking for a reliable vehicle. If you know of a reliable vehicle, free or for which payments can be made, please contact the office.

**Member looking for assistance.** If someone is able to put up a basketball hoop for a member's children, please contact the church office.

## 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
Kaitlyn Taraschke	Nursery Attendant

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

Email: [pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org](mailto:pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org)

Cell Phone: 740-525-6149

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

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Cell Phone: 440-376-8338



Hearing Loop  
System available.