



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Now the Feast & Celebration

Marty Haugen

"Living God's Love"

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

400 North Broadway Street † Medina, Ohio 44256

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www.stmatthewmedina.org

Please note: This worship service is being livestreamed and recorded onto Facebook and YouTube, and an edited copy posted onto the St. Matthew webpage. By attending this worship service, you may appear as a part of this digital recording. Thank you.

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 found in the Now the Feast & Celebration booklet.

"Hymns" are located toward the back of the red hymnal.

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness** Page 2

***Gathering Song** *For the Beauty of the Earth* Hymn 879

***Greeting** Page 2

***Kyrie** Page 3

***Song** *Now the Feast* Page 4

***Prayer of the Day**

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message Pastor Jim Kulma

WORD

First Reading Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add

anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children.

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

Psalm

Psalm 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the
LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their
word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading

James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

***Gospel Verse**

Page 8

P: The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel**

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;

⁷in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

²¹"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

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

Sermon

Pastor Jim Kulma

***Hymn of the Day**

O God, My Faithful God

Hymn 806

***Apostles' Creed**

Page 9

***Prayers of Intercession**

P: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: God of every generation, give the church a sense of purpose and belonging. Sustain and build up leaders and lay people as we accompany one another in our life with Christ. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: God of creation, you named humans as co-creators with you. Where the earth cries out in pain, bring wholeness. Guide governments and industry, that environmental laws and practices seek to heal and not harm. Bring relief and justice to people and places suffering from climate catastrophe. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Sovereign God, we pray for local communities of every kind: rural and urban; established and new. Lead those in authority to seek the good of all through their words and actions and to mentor others in honest and generous ways. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Healing God, you draw near to all who are hurting. Be with all who desire relief from chronic and acute illness, cancer, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Strengthen health care workers, therapists, and caregivers. Tend to those who are close to our hearts, especially Jerry, June, Steve, Tom, Adam and Family, Todd, Sandi, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: On this Labor Day weekend we remember and give thanks for all who have fought for workers' rights around the world. Continue to improve working conditions and establish fair wages so that all people may thrive. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Comforting God, console us as we mourn our departed. We hold fast to the promise that death has been defeated by our Savior Jesus Christ. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

***Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

Offertory

*Song *As the Grains of Wheat* Page 10

*Prayer Page 11

*Great Thanksgiving Page 11

*Preface

*Song *Holy* Page 11

*Eucharistic Prayer Page 12

*Eucharistic Acclamations Page 12

Song *Through Christ, With Christ, In Christ* Page 13

*Lord's Prayer Page 13

Lamb of God Page 14

Communion Hymn *Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song* Hymn 808

*Post-Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, for the blessings of this table.
May our lives be made new by these gifts of grace and may your love be
made known through us.

C: Amen.

SENDING

*Sending Song *Take My Life, That I May Be* Hymn 685

*Trinitarian Blessing & Dismissal Page 16

Postlude

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WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolyte:		11:00 - Olivia Naida
Reader:	8:30 - Delores Ivan	11:00 - Sandy Andrews
Communion Servers:	8:30 - Mary Dunham Delores Ivan	11:00 - Sandy Andrews
Ushers:	8:30 - Brittany, Annabelle, & Trace Thompson Bruce Reed	
Sound:	8:30 - Larry Mohler	11:00 - Larry Mohler
Video:	8:30 - Rick Sullivan	
Altar Guild:	Julie Crow	

LOST & FOUND

There were items left behind at the picnic last week: a couple pairs of tongs and a red basket with a container of butter. All items are in the lost and found in the Narthex. (The butter is in the fridge downstairs in the kitchen.)

PRAYERS

Altar Flowers This Morning are given to the glory of God.

Prayers for Healing: Jerry Jakovic, June Trenty, Steve Combs, Tom Thornton, Adam and Family, Todd Costello, and Sandi.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, we will worship in person at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with Now the Feast and holy communion. *Livestream at 8:30.*

Welcome and Thank You to Pastor Jim Kulma for leading worship this morning.

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, we will worship in person at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with ELW 10. *No communion. Livestream at 8:30.*

Sunday School Teacher Installation during worship.

Rally Day activities during the Sunday School hour, 9:45 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office Closed - Labor Day - Monday, September 2 and Tuesday, September 3.

Catechism Orientation for students in grades 6-8 AND their parents, Wednesday, September 4, 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Bible & Brew - *No study September 5*

Rally Day - Kick off to the Sunday School year, Sunday, September 8, during the Sunday School hour (9:45 a.m.)

Sunday School Registration - The 2024-2025 Sunday School theme is “God’s Kitchen: Ingredients for a Godly Life”. Children age 3 through 12th grade, as well as adults, are invited to participate in a time of Christian education and faith formation each Sunday (Sep. 8 - May 18) from 9:45-10:45 a.m. You do not need to be a member of St. Matthew to attend Sunday School classes. We ask that you fill out a registration for each child that will be participating in Sunday School in order to help our teachers with their planning. (Adults do not need to register.) The link to register can be found in the Shout-Out or on our website. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Lindsay, lindsay@stmatthewmedina.org or Julie Shrader, jshrader@buckeyeschools.org.

God’s Work. Our Hands. Day. September 14, 2024, at 10 AM at St. Matthew.

Volunteers are needed to help pack bags! Sign up through the link in the Shout-Out or on our website if you can help. Lunch will follow. Questions can be directed to Barb Woodard, Melody Costello, or Stephanie Hess.

Blood Pressure Screening - Sunday, September 15, before and between services in the Parish Nurse’s office.

Silent Book Club! *We will NOT meet on Labor Day, Sep. 2.* Meets the first and third Mondays each month at Faith House (432 N. Broadway). We have a few fun things planned in upcoming months: Oct 21-Halloween Book Club, Nov. 18-Book Club Food Drive, Dec. 16-Holiday Get Together. *We are still taking donations for the Free Library at Faith House.*

Senior Connections Day - Friday, September 20, 1-4 pm at the Office for Older Adults, 246 Northland Dr., Medina. FREE workshops: Technology/ Scams, End of Life Planning, Food/Grocery Assistance/SNAP, Transportation, Home Repair/maintenance/cost reduction, Social Security/ Medicare/Medicaid. Scan the QR Code to register or go to <https://zionvc.org/> or call 330-483-3873 for information.



Nursery Coverage - There will be no nursery attendant on Sunday, September 22. The nursery will be open for parents to supervise their own child unless we have a volunteer offer to serve.

Looms of Love (Hat Making) - After Labor Day, we will move back to meeting on Sundays (the second and fourth Sundays each month) at 9:45 a.m. in the Library.

Share! Do you have something to share with the congregation and/or community? The Evangelism and Communication Team has developed an easy way to make sure your message gets delivered complete, immediately, and effortlessly. We have many avenues of sharing your message (Shoutout, bulletin, slides, website, Facebook, newspaper, paid ads, etc.) and now you have only ONE place to go to share with all of them. Go to the new webpage, "Share Your News" to submit your message.



Please join us in showering Deacon Lindsay and Austin with love as they await the birth of their sweet daughter!

Sunday, October 6, 12:30 - 2:30
St. Matthew Fellowship Hall

Please RSVP via the link in the Shout-Out!

They are registered on Amazon.

We are asking for donations of food items to add to a large charcuterie board.

We are looking for the following items:
cheese, crackers, salami, pepperoni, prosciutto, almonds, walnuts, cashews, pretzels, chocolates, sunflower seeds, and candies.

Please sign up via the link in the Shout-Out and have the donations to Jen Knaggs by Wednesday, October 2.





FUN FELLOWSHIP

Fall
FESTIVAL

FUN FOR THE FAMILY

SUN. OCTOBER 20, 2024

CHILI COOK-OFF, HAYRIDE & PUMPKIN
PICKING, TRUNK OR TREAT FOR THE KIDS!

Richardson's Farm - 6984 Lafayette Road,
Medina 1:00 - 5:00 pm
MORE DETAILS TO COME - SAVE THE DATE!!



St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. Steven Mahaffey	Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach	Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Cindy Piovarchy	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

Email: pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org

Cell Phone: 740-525-6149.

Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information

Email: lindsay@stmatthewmedina.org

Cell Phone: 440-376-8338



Hearing Loop
System available.

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 am - 3:30 pm

Friday: Office Closed