

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

# *Praise* service

*Third Sunday in Pentecost*

June 18, 2023  
9:30 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**

#### **Father's Day Litany**

- P: For fathers everywhere, who have given us life and love, that we may show them respect and love.
- C: Holy God, hear this prayer for our fathers.**
- P: For fathers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them.
- C: Holy God, hear this prayer for our fathers that mourn.**
- P: For men who may or may not have children of their own, but act like a father to someone in need of advice, support, nurturing, and love.
- C: Holy God, hear this prayer for our father figures.**
- P: For step-fathers who have assumed that role with love and joy, who have loved the children of another as their own, and created a new family.
- C: Holy God, hear this prayer for step-fathers.**
- P: For adoptive fathers, who have heard the call of God to lovingly step forward for those that need their care.
- C: Holy God, hear this prayer for adoptive fathers.**
- P: For fathers who have been unable to be a source of strength, who have not responded to the needs of their children, and have not sustained their families.
- C: Holy God, have mercy on absentee fathers.**
- P: For fathers who struggle with temptation, violence, or addiction. For those who do harm, and for those whom they have harmed.
- C: Holy God, have mercy on fathers that struggle.**
- P: For new fathers, full of hope. For long-time fathers, full of wisdom. For the fathers yet to be, and fathers soon to be.
- C: Holy God, hear our prayer for the fathers of your Church.**

P: For those that have shaped our lives without claim of family or kinship. For those who have taught us, guided us, shaped us and molded us into servants of Christ our Lord.

**C: Holy God, hear our prayer for the fathers of our faith.**

P: God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Gathering Song**

*Holy Spirit*

**\*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: God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Children's Message**

Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach

## **WORD**

**First Reading**

Exodus 19:2-8a

<sup>2</sup>The Israelites had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.<sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup>You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

<sup>7</sup>So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. <sup>8a</sup>The people all answered as one: "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do."

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

<sup>1</sup>Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all you lands!

<sup>2</sup>Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.

<sup>3</sup>**Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom we belong;  
we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.**

<sup>4</sup>Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;  
give thanks and bless God's holy name.

<sup>5</sup>**Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is everlasting,  
whose faithfulness endures from age to age.**

## Second Reading

Romans 5:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

<sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel

Matthew 9:35 --10:8-23

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth and tenth chapters.

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

<sup>35</sup>Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

<sup>10:1</sup>Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.

<sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the

lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>8</sup>Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. <sup>9</sup>Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, <sup>10</sup>no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. <sup>11</sup>Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. <sup>12</sup>As you enter the house, greet it. <sup>13</sup>If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup>If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

<sup>16</sup>"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; <sup>18</sup>and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; <sup>20</sup>for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup>Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; <sup>22</sup>and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

Pastor David Connor

**Hymn of the Day:** *Jesus, What a Beautiful Name*

**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**

P: Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

P: For the church here and around the world, we pray. Seek out disciples and send them out with authority to proclaim good news, bring healing where there is pain, and counter the forces of evil. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: For the earth and all its creatures, we pray. Equip farmers, farm workers, and all who labor on the land to produce a harvest. Nourish crops with ample rainfall and abundant sunshine. Restore lands ruined by pollution or misuse. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: For those who govern, we pray. Empower those who seek peaceful solutions to conflict and embolden those who advocate for all who are oppressed. Work through systems of government to establish justice throughout the world. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: For those who suffer, we pray. Accompany those who feel helpless, alone, or abandoned. Embrace any who long for successful treatment for mental illness or freedom from addiction. Heal those who are sick, especially Pat, Ann, Adam and Family, Carl, Loretta, Dorothy, Leithea, Lindsay, Al, Heidi, Becky, Sandi, Judy, Steve, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: For fathers and father figures, we pray. Console all who long to be fathers, children estranged from their fathers, anyone grieving the death of a father, and fathers who have lost a child. Draw near to all for whom this day stirs up difficult emotions. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: For all the saints, we give thanks. Receive into your eternal care all those who have died and fill us with hope that does not disappoint. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

D: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**Offering**

*How Great Thou Art*

Rachel Knaggs, Trumpet

**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**

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 Solo**

*Broken Vessels*

**\*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:**

*This is Amazing Grace*

**\*Dismissal:**

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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Vocalist: Heather Rohde

Guitar: Scott Schwandt

Drums: Lennie Davis

Bass: Karl Hermann



## PRAYERS

**Altar Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God in celebration of their 26<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by Todd and Melody Costello.

**Prayers for Healing:** Pat Straub, Ann Kolzing, Adam and Family, Carl Ulich, Loretta Thornton, Dorothy Ulich, Leithea Obermeier, Deacon Lindsay, Al, Heidi Jones, Becky, Sandi, Judy McLaughlin, and Steve Combs.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

**Happy Father's Day!**

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

**Welcome and Thank You** to Pastor David Connor for leading us in worship this morning along with Deacon Lindsay.

## NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 25, AT ST. MATTHEW

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

## WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolytes:	Devin Shrader
Reader:	Kristin Weight
Ushers:	Neururer Family
Communion	Nancy McNeal
Servers:	Julie Shrader Kristin Weight
Sound:	Joe Obermeier
Video:	Rex Rickly
Altar Guild:	Becky Malloy & Julie Shrader

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Pastor Steve away for Continuing Education** - June 17-24.

**Office Closure** - The office will be closed Monday, June 19 in observance of the Juneteenth holiday.

**NEEDED - Nursery Attendant** - In order to keep the nursery open for our young members of St. Matthew and young guests, we are in need of a nursery attendant on **June 25 and July 23**. If you are willing and able to sit with the children at 9:30 to 10:30, please call Barb Woodard at [barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com](mailto:barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com). If we don't have an attendant, the nursery will be open for parents to sit with their children.

**Akron Rubber Ducks** - Calling all St. Matthew families and friends ... it's almost summertime and time for baseball! Please join us on Friday, June 23 for a Friday Night Akron Rubber Ducks doubleheader and fireworks. Game time is 5:05 p.m. Discounted tickets are only \$12. Go to <https://fevogm.com/event/saintmatthew> to purchase tickets. Hope to see you there!

**Blood Pressure Screening** - Sunday, June 25. Before and after worship in Brenda's office.

**Vacation Bible School** - For children who have completed Pre-School through 5th grade. June 26-30, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

**Blood Drive** at St. Matthew, Saturday, July 1, 8 am - 1 pm. (last appointment time is 12:45). If you're a donor, please consider giving and supporting this drive. New donors are always welcome! You can schedule at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time> or download the Blood App on your phone and schedule/create a profile. If you any questions, please contact Melody.

**Iced Coffee & Smoothies** will be offered before and after worship on Sunday, July 2. We will serve patriotic iced coffee with toppings, smoothies, and other goodies. Please note: we will NOT serve hot coffee this day.

**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.

**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) 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.

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

St. Matthew had the following donations received and expenses for Year 2023

	<i>Month of April, 2023</i>	<i>Month of May, 2023</i>	<i>Year-to-Date January-May, 2023</i>
Total Income	\$ 29,820.54	\$ 24,525.18	\$ 148,995.57
Total Expenses	\$ 45,845.88	\$ 35,262.24	\$ 205,659.71
Net Operating Income or (Loss)	\$ (16,025.34)	\$ (10,737.06)	\$ (56,664.14)

**Financial Update:** *St. Matthew Lutheran Church had the detailed contributions and expenses 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.*

*With the summer months upon us, online giving one-time or recurring donations are convenient to set-up and continue even from the beach, on the road or right at home. Your generous donations continue to support our mission, operations and the many ministries of our congregation. By setting up recurring donations online, you enable us to maintain financial stability and plan for the future of St. Matthew.*

## 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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Cell Phone: 440-376-8338



Hearing Loop  
System available.