



# Reformation Day

October 27, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

*ELW Setting 4*

*“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)

**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.

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

\*Please stand as you are able.

**GATHERING**

**Prelude**

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

arr. Diane Bish

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Gathering Song:**

*Rise, Shine, You People!*

Hymn 665

**\*Greeting**

A: 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**

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**\*Hymn of Praise**

*This is the Feast*

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**\*Prayer of the Day**

**C: Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Children's Sermon**

Carol Elkins

**WORD**

**First Reading**

Jeremiah 31:31-34

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**

Psalm 46

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.

<sup>6</sup>**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

<sup>8</sup>**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

<sup>9</sup>behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup>**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

<sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

## Second Reading

Romans 3:19-28

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

**R:** The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Kids of the Kingdom** (8:30)

*God’s Wondrous World*

arr. Terra Patris

**Gospel Acclamation** (11:00)

*Alleluia*

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## \*Gospel

John 8:31-36

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

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

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup>They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

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

**Sermon**

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

**Hymn of the Day:**

*The Church's One Foundation*

Hymn 654

**\*Nicene Creed (8:30)**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## \*Affirmation of Baptism (11:00)

### \*Prayers of Intercession

A: Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

A: Lord of all, we give thanks for the whole church throughout the world. Open wide the paths toward unity between denominations so that all followers of Christ may join in shared worship and mission. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Renewing God, as the dying leaves display their beauty, we are reminded that nature's cycle of life includes and requires both life and death. Instill in your people a mission of preservation and appreciation for trees, animals, and waterways threatened by climate collapse. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Gracious God, in the spirit of reformation we pray for all who cry out for relief from systemic oppression. May the hearts of those who occupy seats of power be reformed so that peace becomes the center of our life together. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond, especially Susie, Julie, Marge, Jenna, Jerry, June, Steve, Tom, Adam and Family, Todd, Sandi, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Divine Guide, continue to challenge this community to be ever reforming in our ministries and outreach efforts. Inspire creative ideas among us so that the communal, grace-filled word of God remains at the heart of our ministry. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Almighty God, in Christ's resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

A: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**Luther Choir**

*A Mighty Fortress (8:30)*

arr. David N. Johnson

*You Called Me (11:00)*

**Offertory Response**

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

Hymn 184

**\*Offertory Prayer**

P: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Great Thanksgiving**

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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**

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**\*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: Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, take, and eat.

**\*Lamb of God**

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**Communion Hymn:**

*That Priceless Grace*

Hymn 591

**\*Prayer after Communion**

P: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*Blessing**

P: God all mighty, God most merciful + bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sending Song:**

*Built On a Rock (8:30)*

Hymn 652

*A Mighty Fortress (11:00)*

Hymn 504

**\*Dismissal:**

A: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Postlude**

*Fanfare*

arr. David Paxton

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**WORSHIP SERVANTS**

Acolytes:	8:30 - Faith Taraschke	11:00 - Emma Kotick
Reader:	8:30 - Judy McLaughlin	11:00 - Beth Johnson
Ushers:	8:30 - Alan & Delores Ivan Bruce Reed	
Communion Servers:	8:30 - Helen Graf Scott Johnson	11:00 - Helen Graf Julie Shrader
Sound:	8:30 - Joe Obermeier	11:00 - Larry Mohler
Video:	Melody Costello	
Altar Guild:	Becky Malloy & Julie Shrader	
Assisting Minister:	Jen Knaggs	
Trumpet:	Rachel Knaggs	



## PRAYERS

**Altar Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God by Larry and Connie Mohler.

**Memorial Flowers This Morning** are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for and in celebration of the life of her son, Ben Reber (1980-2017), by Judy Reber McLaughlin. "He has gone no further from us than to God, and God is very near."

**Prayers for Healing:** Susie Siebert, Julie, Marge Murray, Jenna Saleker, Jerry Jakovcic, June Trenty, Steve Combs, Tom Thornton, Adam and Family, Todd Costello, and Sandi.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

**Reformation Sunday**, we worship in person and livestream at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with ELW 4 and holy communion.

**Reception for Confirmands** 9:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Confirmands are Dublyn Alt, Eli Cooper, Evan Hogan, Devin Shrader, and Annabelle Thompson.

**Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)** at the 11:00 service.

**Looms of Love**, 9:45 a.m., Library.

**Loads of Love**, 1:00-4:00 p.m., North Court Laundromat.

## NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, AT ST. MATTHEW

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

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Adult Sunday School** - There will be no adult Sunday School today. We will resume on November 3 to continue discussing and learning about ELCA Social Statements and Messages. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall. If you are not able to come every week, that's okay! Come when you are able. Discussions are ongoing.

**Looms of Love Update** - A total of 182 hats were sent to those in North Carolina that were affected by hurricane Helene. There were 69 adult hats, 45 youth hats, and 68 baby hats. Thank you to A.J. Nagel Electric on Stone Ridge Road in Avon, Ohio for transporting the hats and other donations to aid the community. Thank you to our Looms of Love group for their dedication to making hats to help others, and to Melody for finding this company to deliver the hats. Looms of Love meets the **second and fourth Sundays** each month at 9:45 a.m. in the Library.

**Silent Book Club!** Meets the **first and third Mondays** each month at Faith House (432 N. Broadway). We have a few fun things planned in the upcoming months: Nov. 18-Book Club Food Drive, Dec. 16-Holiday Get Together. *We are still taking donations for the Free Library at Faith House.*

**Children's Sermons** - Is your talent sharing God's word with others-particularly children? Over the next 6 months (but actually always!), to assist Pastor Steve while Deacon Lindsay is on leave, would you be willing to share a children's sermon? These short sermons can be based on the day's scripture readings, personal stories, or just sharing the Good News in a way to help children understand. Please let Pastor Steve know if you would like to sign up! *"Your talent is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift back to God."* -Leo Buscaglia

**Come and Join the Kids of the Kingdom!!** We have a NEW MEETING TIME, Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We are always looking for new members and would love for you to join us! Everyone from 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade is welcome! Contact Rachel Knaggs (330-591-7093) with any questions.

**Bible & Brews will resume** Thursday, November 14.

**Care Package ministry Collection** -The Care Package Ministry Team is making preparations for the next round of care packages for our college students! We are collecting gift cards, notes, and words of encouragement to include in the care packages. Monetary donations are also welcome and appreciated to help cover shipping costs and purchase items for the packages. There will be a container in the Narthex for notes, gift cards, and monetary donations. You can also purchase items directly from our Amazon wish list to help fill the packages! Simply use the link in the Shout-Out or on our website to view our Wishlist, add the item you wish to purchase to your cart, and select St. Matthew as the shipping address, and it will be delivered directly to the church to be included in the packages! **Updated Addresses Needed for College Students and Military Personnel!**

### **Have you seen the Brown Room recently?**

If so, you'll notice it's no longer brown, thanks to the recent painting and carpet replacement. We thought it might be fun to come up with a new, more fitting name. With that said, if you want to propose a name, or more than one, of how we might refer to the room in the future, please send your ideas to our office administrator, Deb Musil, at [office@stmatthewmedina.org](mailto:office@stmatthewmedina.org) or complete a form found at the back of the sanctuary, outside the offices, or in the "Brown Room" and return it by November 10. We will take a vote on November 17 at our Annual Congregation Meeting.

### **Youth Bulletin Board**

Let's support our youth!! Between Pastor Steve's and Deacon Lindsay's offices is a giant bulletin board. If you, as a youth, are involved in sports, the arts, or any other activity that includes a performance, we'd love for you to share it with the congregation by posting the schedule of dates of activity on the bulletin board so we can come and cheer you on! Parents, we encourage you to encourage your child to share! Our hope is that this will become a PERMANENT place to learn about our youths' extracurricular activities.

## **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](mailto:pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org)

Cell Phone: 740-525-6149

### **Church Office Hours**

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

Friday: Office Closed



Hearing Loop  
System available.