



Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Now the Feast & Celebration

"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. Mathew 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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Now the Feast and Celebration

Marty Haugen

"Pages" found in the Now the Feast and Celebration booklet.

"Hymns" found toward the back of the red hymnal.

(* Please stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

- *Confession and Forgiveness Page 2
- *Gathering Song *This Is the Spirit's Entry Now* Hymn 448
- *Greeting Page 2
- *Kyrie Page 3
- *Song *Now the Feast* Page 4
- *Prayer of the Day

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, 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

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

WORD

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

¹The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

^{4a}So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

- ¹I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
- ²**My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.**
- ³The LORD will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
- ⁴**Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**
- ⁵the LORD watches over you;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
- ⁶**the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**
- ⁷The LORD will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.
- ⁸**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

Second Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.***Gospel**

John 3:1-17

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

Hymn of the Day

God Loved the World

Hymn 323

***Apostles’ Creed**

Page 9

***Prayers of Intercession**

P: Sustained by God’s abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: O God, you so love your church. Raise up leaders who care for your people. Bless lay theologians, seminary and college professors, and all who are called to the ministry of teaching, that they form and inspire us for the work of the gospel. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, you so love your creation. Breathe new life into our planetary home. Guide the work of researchers, scientists, and activists who love your earth and who inspire us to care for the natural world. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, you so love the world. Uphold leaders who resist tyranny and oppression. Strengthen organizations that promote peace and harmony. Direct their work to alleviate human suffering and to address its root causes. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, you so love your people. Draw near to all who live with mental illness, depression, or addiction, and accompany them in healing and recovery. Hear the cries of those who look to you in their distress especially Arline, Adam and family, Bill, Carl, Pat, Dorothy, Sandi, Judy, Steve, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, you so love your children. Bless the young in our midst, and delight us with their joy, wonder, and curiosity. Strengthen our ministries with children and youth and equip us all for faithful discipleship. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, call us into a deeper relationship to be your church for the sake of the world. Help us to see with new eyes the injustices within church and society. Call us to have a loving heart that respects and uplifts the humanity and dignity of every person; open our ears to listen to and learn from the experiences of people of color. Open our mouths to speak up and about injustices. Join us with others to work for racial equity and inclusion for all people. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, you so love your saints. As our ancestors in the faith have been a blessing to us, so inspire us by their example of holy living to be a blessing to those who come after us. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
C: Amen.

***Peace**

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

PRAYERS

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

Prayers for Healing: Arline, Adam and Family, Pastor Bill Lucht, Carl Ulich, Pat Straub, Dorothy Ulich, Sandi, Judy McLaughlin, and Steve Combs.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

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

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

First Communion Instruction - 12:15 - 1:00 p.m. in the Brown Room.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, AT ST. MATTHEW

Lenten Meal/Gathering, 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Lenten Worship - 7:00 p.m.

Luther Choir - 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 12, AT ST. MATTHEW

Daylight Saving Time Begins!

Next Sunday, Third Sunday in Lent, we will worship in person at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with *ELW Setting 3* and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30 a.m.

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

First Communion Instruction - 12:15 - 1:00 p.m. in the Brown Room.

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolyte: 8:30 - Aubrey Terihay
11:00 - Trevor Terihay
Reader: 8:30 - Melody Costello
11:00 - Julie Shrader
Ushers: 8:30 - Alan & Delores Ivan
11:00 - Jen & Sophie Hogan; Julie & Devin Shrader
Communion
Servers: 8:30 - Melanie Brown, Melody Costello, & Delores Ivan
11:00 - Sandy Andrews, Jen Knaggs, & Nancy McNeal
Sound: 8:30 - Joe Obermeier
11:00 - Larry Mohler
Video: (8:30 only) - Brian Harris
Altar Guild: - Becky Malloy & Julie Shrader

NEW WORSHIP SERVICE ROTATION

Week 1	Now the Feast	- Both services
Week 2	ELW	- Both Services
Week 3	Praise	- Both Services
Week 4	ELW	- Both Services
Week 5	Rhythm & Blues	- Both services

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Looking for a reliable vehicle. If you know of a vehicle, free or for which payments can be made, please contact the office.

Thank you...Thank you...Thank you!! We received so many gift cards that each college student is receiving three cards from different places! And everyone had a few hand written notes. So excited for our college students to get some love from their St. Matthew family as they work through their semester. *Jen Knaggs*

St. Matthew Wine Night - Friday, March 10, 7pm. Forest Meadows Villa, 574 Leisure Lane, Medina. You **MUST** be 21 or older to attend. Please bring two of the same bottles of your favorite wine to share and taste test. We will hold a separate taste testing for beer for those interested. Please provide either an appetizer or dessert to share for the event. We will plan a St. Patrick's Day/Mardi Gras theme. Sign up in the Narthex or at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A45AFAE2CABFF2-stmatthew2>. Games and activities planned. See you there!

Attention Thrivent Members! There will be a catered luncheon at the church on April 23 at 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Pastor Steve by Easter, April 9.

Progressive Dinner - St. Matthew is hosting an adult Progressive Dinner on Saturday, April 29, beginning at 4 pm. All adults are welcome. There will be three courses: appetizer, soup/salad or entree and we all come together for dessert. Please sign up on the poster in the narthex or this Sign Up Genius and mark if you are willing to host at your home or assist a host. **YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO HOST IN YOUR HOME** as there are many other ways to participate such as: making an appetizer, being a driver for others as needed, etc. Everyone will have a role in some capacity, nothing is too small. If you have a concern about driving, let a member of Small Groups know and we will make arrangements for you to pair up with someone.

Please sign up no later than April 9th. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A45AFAE2CABFF2-progressive>The week prior to the dinner, you will be contacted with your location for the first two courses. *continued on next page*

We are working on babysitting services at the church and are planning to provide very capable teenagers at our church with fun games and activities for the kiddos. Stay tuned on that component.

Worship assistants are needed each week to help make our services run smoothly. We need readers, ushers and communion assistants for each service. Please consider how you or your family can help (kids are welcome to help usher). Sign up in the narthex or scroll to the link below. If you have questions about any of the opportunities, please see Sandy Andrews or Melody Costello.

Hearing Assistance Available - We have upgraded our audio equipment in the sanctuary to include a hearing Loop System. Most persons with hearing aids can tune in to the Loop. Some 85% of hearing aids have a T-coil channel already installed. You may need to have your hearing aid specialist activate the T-coil in your hearing aid. Look for the Hearing Loop symbol around town. Other venues have also installed the loop system and we are happy to be on board. If you don't have assistive devices or an active t-coil, we have temporary devices to wear during a church service. Ask an usher for assistance.



Electronic Giving – To set up an online giving account or to make changes to your online giving, scan the QR code or go to stmatthewmedina.org, click on the Give tab, scroll down to “*How Can I Give?*” and click on Give Here. If you already have an account, log in. You can then update any of your information (contact information, giving amount, and which funds you support). If you wish to *begin* donating electronically, click on Sign Up. You will fill each field as you are prompted to set up your account. If you have any questions, please contact our Finance Director, Bruce Reed at financedir@stmatthewmedina.org or 412-848-0219.



Lost & Found - If you think you may have left something behind at church, don't forget to check our lost and found basket in the narthex, under the coffee bar. ***There are a couple pairs of reading glasses that were left behind...if you think they may be yours, please check the table in the narthex, in front of the coffee bar.***

Lenten Worship Schedule

Lenten Worship - Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

*Meal at 6:00 p.m. Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday - April 2, Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday - April 6, Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday - April 7, Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday - April 9, Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

***Wednesday Lenten Meals** - Each week for Lent (March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29) we are requesting four pots of soup to share, two people to help set up each week (need to arrive at 5:40 pm) and one person to provide bowls and spoons.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A45AFAE2CABFF2-lent1>

Please BYOB and bring any extra food items you wish to partake for solely yourself and/or family. If you have any questions please contact a member of Small Groups or Congregational Life. Thank you!

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. Steven Mahaffey	Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Bailey	Director of LGL 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

Cell Phone: 740-525-6149.

Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information

Email: lindsay@stmatthewmedina.org

Cell Phone: 440-376-8338

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Friday 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM



Hearing Loop
System available.