

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

Praise service

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 19, 2025
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

“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

Please note: The 8:30 a.m. 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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GATHERING

** Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Song** *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

***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.

***Prayer of the Day**

C: Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 62:1-5

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

² The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 36:5-10

⁵ Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
⁶ **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep;
you save humankind and animals, O LORD.**
⁷ How priceless is your love, O God!
All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
⁸ **They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**
⁹ For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.
¹⁰ **Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.
⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another

prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

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

***Gospel**

John 2:1-11

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ!

Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

***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**

A: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: Giver of gifts, you form each member of the church to serve. Inspire us to boldly use gifts of welcome and healing, service and teaching, leading and preaching, for the sake of your work in the world. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Refuge of creatures, you place all the living under the shadow of your wings. Lead us in ways that tend to the needs of wild and domestic animals, creatures threatened by extinction, and the environment we share. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Voice of the oppressed, you call prophets throughout time. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a voice for racial and economic justice and for peace. Guide our nation in continuing to heed your prophetic call. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of steadfast love, as Jesus celebrated at Cana, nurture marriages and relationships in mutual care; in times of separation or divorce hold tenderly broken hearts and broken dreams. Be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need, especially Ed, Judy, Susie, Julie, Marge, Jenna, Jerry, June, Tom, Todd, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Spirit of peace, celebrating this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray for neighboring congregations and ministry sites. Nurture our shared commitment to embody Jesus' love, justice, and healing. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Wellspring of life, in living and dying we trust in you. We give thanks for the saints. Guide us in our living until, at last, we rest in you. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

A: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

Offertory Prayer

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

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.**

Communion Song

Communion Song

***Prayer after Communion**

P: Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

***Blessing**

P: The Spirit of the triune God bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen.

***Sending Song:**

Your Grace is Enough

***Dismissal**

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Praise Band

Vocals: Caroline Kane

Guitar/Vocals: Scott Schwandt

Drums: Lennie Davis

Pianist: Cindy Piovarchy

WORSHIP SERVANTS

THIS WEEK

NEXT WEEK

Acolytes:	8:30 - Lucy Brown-Serban	8:30 - Reagan Stuchal 11:00 - Brooke Haycook
Reader:	8:30 - Adam Scheid 11:00 - Julie Shrader	8:30 - Judy McLaughlin 11:00 - Fran Koenig
Communion Servers:	8:30 - Sandy Andrews Sue Schwab 11:00 - Julie Shrader Peg Huber	8:30 - Melanie Brow Delores Ivan 11:00 - June Trenty Jen Knaggs
Ushers:	8:30 - Grice Family	8:30 - Taraschke Family
Sound:	8:30 - Joe Obermeier 11:00 - Larry Mohler	8:30 - Joe Obermeier 11:00 - Larry Mohler
Assisting Minister:	Helen Graf	Kristin Weight
Video:	Bobby Forsythe	
Altar Guild:	Becky Malloy & Liz Linden	

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE	
8:30 - 61	11:00 - 31

PRAYERS

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

Prayers for Healing: Ed, Judy Weir, Susie Siebert, Julie, Marge Murray, Jenna Saleker, Jerry Jakovcic, June Trenty, Tom Thornton, & Todd Costello.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Second Sunday after Epiphany, we will worship in person at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. with Praise and holy communion., *Livestream at 8:30 a.m.*

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

Luther Middles Toboggan Outing - Lunch at the church at 12:15 p.m. Leave for The Chalet at the Mill Stream Run recreation area in Strongsville at 1:00 p.m. We will return to St. Matthew at 4:30 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Third Sunday after Epiphany, we will worship in person at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. with ELW 4 and holy communion., *Livestream at 8:30 a.m.*

Blood Pressure Screening before and between services in Brenda's office.

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

Looms of Love at 9:45 a.m. in the Library.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Luther Middles Souper Bowl of Caring - On Sunday, **February 9**, the Luther Middles will be collecting monetary donations for ELCA World Hunger as a part of the Souper Bowl of Caring effort to help end world hunger. Youth will be present in the Narthex following each service to collect your donations. Thank you for helping us tackle hunger!

We are in need of some strong arms to move furniture out of Faith House to the church. We are planning on **February 1** at 9:30 a.m. If the weather is bad, the snow date will be Saturday, February 8. Please contact Bruce Reed, 412-848-0219 or Joyce Davis, 216-780-0965. Thank you!

Egg Cartons - We are suspending the collection of egg cartons through the winter months. We will resume collection in May 2025.

2025 Altar Flowers - The 2025 Altar/Memorial Flowers charts are displayed in the narthex and available for you to pick your preferred dates. When you sign up for altar flowers, please fill out a form for the office with the information you would like printed in the bulletin. The forms are available at the bottom of the Altar Flowers chart. *Place the postcard and payment in the office administrator's mailbox. Checks made payable to St. Matthew Lutheran Church.*

Looms of Love meets the **second and fourth Sundays** each month at 9:45 a.m. in the Library.

Men's Breakfast meets the **third Monday** of the month at 8:00 a.m. at Yours Truly restaurant. *They will not meet this month, January 20, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.*

Kids of the Kingdom Choir (youth) meets **each Tuesday** at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. New members are always welcome! Please join us.

Luther Choir (adults) meets **each Wednesday** at 6:00 p.m. in the Upper Room. New members are always welcome! Please join us.

Bible & Brews meets **each Thursday** at 7 p.m. at Forest Meadows. Watch your bulletin announcements and Shout-Outs for occasional location changes.

Vision Discussions

Sunday February 2, 2025 and Sunday February 9, 2025 – during Sunday School Hour in the Fellowship Hall.

Please come and share your thoughts, ideas, enthusiasm as to how we as a congregation can begin to build off the information provided by the survey for the utilization of the Promise Place funds and how best we can steward these funds. And prayerfully consider if there is something you perhaps feel strongly about spearheading.

Of the 80 responses that were given – this is a break-down of how the majority of people recommend the funds be put to use.

50% - Property Renovations

20% - Investments

10% - Youth Ministry

10% - Social Ministry

10% - General Operating expenses

We look forward to seeing you there!

St. Matthew Finance Committee

** Reminder to the congregation that **Congregational Council Meetings** are open to all - the dates for 2025 are below. If you wish to attend via Zoom, please contact the Church Office for the link. The contact information for the Congregational Council Members are also listed below. We are striving for open, healthy, productive conversations and dialogue, so please do not hesitate to reach out to a Council Member or our Rostered Leaders. **

2025 Meeting Dates

January 21, February 18, March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18, and December 16.

2025 Congregational Council

President - Jennifer Knaggs

Vice President - Kristine Neate

Secretary - Delores Ivan

Treasurer - Teri Uttech

At-Large - Amanda Kotick, Bruce Reed, & Marcia George

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. Steven Mahaffey	Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach	Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Cindy Piovarchy	Organist
LaVonne DeBois	Associate Pianist
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
Scott Schwandt	Praise Team Leader

Pastor Steve's Contact Information

Email: pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org

Cell Phone: 740-525-6149



Hearing Loop
System available.

Church Office Hours

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

Friday: Office Closed