

November 12, 2023

Sunday Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 am

Education Hour from 9:45 - 10:45 am

Pastors: Karen Natterstad (Interim Lead) and Ann Williams

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St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

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November 12, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 Services

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Ann Williams

Stewardship Video

"What I Love about St. Matthew's"

Anthem

(11:00)

Beginning Praise by Anna Laura Page
Godsbells

Please stand as you are able.

Call to Worship

God calls us into God's presence with love.

God welcomes us as a mother welcomes her beloved children.

Let us open our hearts to God's instruction.

Let us be comforted in God's loving arms.

We Are Standing on Holy Ground (*We will sing two times.*)

We are stand - ing on Ho - ly Ground, and I know that there are an - gels all a - round; Let us praise Je - sus now. We are stand - ing in his pres - ence on Ho - ly Ground.

Text: Geron Davis, b. 1960. © 1983, Meadowgreen Music. Co./Songchannel Music Co. Music: Geron Davis, arr. Nolan Williams, Jr., b. 1969. Tune: Holy Ground. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

Confession and Forgiveness

We confess our sins before God and one another

Pause for silence and reflection.

God whose reign is just,

We acknowledge that our actions and inactions have led to the oppression of our neighbors. We have willingly benefitted from privileges that cause harm to others. We have failed to heed your call to lead from a place of humility, and to care for our communities in a way that makes it possible for all to flourish. Forgive us our fear of scarcity and love of power, and keep us ever mindful of the needs of others.

The reign of God has come near to you! In Christ Jesus, we are reconciled to God, and therefore God forgives us all our sins. Let God guide us to work for God's justice.

Amen.

Gathering Song

#825 You Servants of God

Opening Litany

We are God's children, wholly beloved.

We can learn kindness and compassion.

God loves us, draws us into God's arms, and promises us the kingdom.

We can forget what God has told us.

We hurt ourselves and others.

God loves us, draws us into God's arms, and promises us the kingdom.

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Mothering God,

You love us in spite of ourselves and pick us up when our poor choices get us into trouble. Teach us to follow in your way, that we might grow and flourish in all we do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Please be seated.

Anthem

11:00

Come, Sing Your Thanks to the Lord
by Terry Taylor

New Creation & New Generation Choirs

Come, sing your thanks to the Lord, enter God's presence with songs of gladness. Come, sing your thanks to the Lord, joyful voices raise!

Sing out your thanks to the Lord, let all the people rejoice together. Sing out your thanks to the Lord, alleluias raise to God.

Now thank we all our God, with hearts and hand and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices; who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

Word

Today's Bible reading, Hosea 11:1-9, can be found in your pew bible beginning on **page 653**.

Call to Listen to the Word of God

Our Lord and our God, now as we hear your Word, fill us with your Spirit.

Soften our hearts that we may delight in your presence. Sharpen our minds that we may discern your truth.

As we listen, may our ears be attuned to you.

As the Word is spoken, may you speak to us. May all we hear lead us to you.

Reading

Hosea 11:1-9

Leading up to this passage in Hosea, God grieves the mistakes, shortfalls and transgressions God has seen in God's people. Here, God shifts the focus from what they have done to what God will do—namely, to keep loving God's people in and through everything.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Ann Williams

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him

(Prayer Cards, which can be found in the pew racks, will be collected during the Hymn of the Day)



1. God is Love, let heav'n a - dore_ him; God is Love, let earth re - joice;
2. God is Love; and love en - folds_ us, all the world in one em - brace:
3. God is Love; and though with blind - ness sin af - flicts all hu - man_ life,



Let cre - a - tion sing be - fore_ him and ex - alt him with one_ voice.
 With un - fail - ing grasp God hold_ us, ev - 'ry child of ev - 'ry_ race.
 God's e - ter - nal lov - ing kind - ness guides us through our earth - ly_ strife.



God who laid_ the earth's foun - da - tion, God who spread the heav'n's a - bove,
 And when hu - man hearts are break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod,
 Sin and death_ and hell shall nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain;



God who breathes through all cre - a - tion: God is_ Love, e - ter - nal_ Love.
 then we find_ that self - same ach - ing deep with - in_ the_ heart of_ God.
 God is Love_ so Love for ev - er o'er the_ un - i - verse must reign.

Text: Timothy Rees, 1922. Music: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732-1809. Tune: Austria 87 87 D.

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Profession of Faith

The Apostles' 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.**

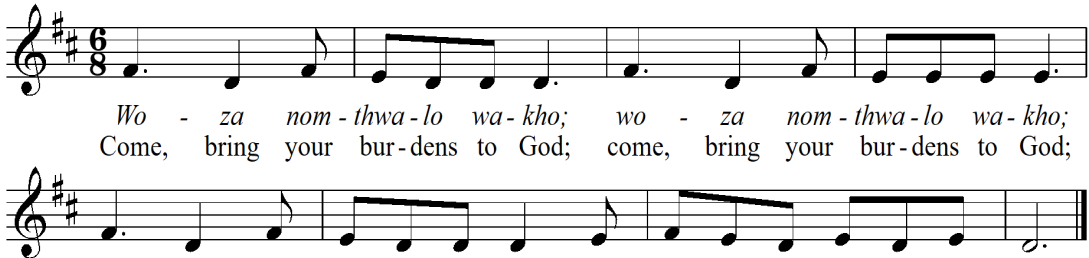
Usher Volunteers gather for Offering Collection at the Welcome Center.

Prayer of Intercession

With confidence that God's justice is sure, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Call to Prayer

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God



Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho;
 Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God;

wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho, U - ye - s'a - ka - so - za - thi hayi.
 come, bring your bur - dens to God, for Je - sus will nev - er say no.

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...God of Justice.

In mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, we turn all these things over to your tender care, trusting that you hear and answer all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Welcoming of New Members (8:30 service)

Calling Forward our New Members

Welcoming our New Members

We are here this morning to welcome these new members into the community which is St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. We are not a building, but the gathered family of God. We are siblings in Christ, given this new identity through our baptism into Jesus' death and resurrection. Today we welcome you as members of this family in the larger body of Christ.

And so we ask, do you desire to join the membership of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church?
If so please answer: "We do."

Gracious God, as you called James and John, Simon and Andrew to fish for people, so you have called us to serve you with our own talents and resources. We thank you for bringing to us these new members. You have told us that wherever two or more are gathered in your name, there you are with them. Help us, we pray, to see and feel that presence and that others may come to know you through their interactions with us. **Amen.**

As active followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to spread the Good News. We encourage you to accept that call through your involvement in the church.

We welcome you in Christ, and thank God for this unique opportunity to serve God and one another. May the God to whom we belong equip us for every good work that we do together in God's name.

Please stand as you are able.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Meal

Musical Offering

8:30 *Faithfulness* by Joel Raney – Senior Choir

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not, as Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in manifold witness, to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed Thy hand hath provided, great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

11:00 *Jubilee!* By Arnold Sherman –
Righteous Ringers

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Response

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vine-yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing.

Ga - ther a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Ga - ther the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer now.

Grace our ta - ble with your pre - sence, Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: With One Voice Bread of Life Setting 5. Contributors: John W. Arthur, Jeremy Young. Music: © 1995, Augsburg Fortress Text: © 1978, Augsburg Fortress. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

Offertory Prayer

Loving God, in your infinite grace you provide for us all that we need. Receive these gifts we now offer in gratitude for all that you have given us. Use them for the sake of those in need.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving - Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

God who loves and nurtures us as children now nourishes us in the body and blood of Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection carries the promise of forgiveness of sin and eternal life. Come to the table, for all is prepared.

We come and share with one another this holy meal. There is a place and enough for all.

Please be seated.

Fruit juice is offered as an alternative to wine. Juice is in the center of the communion tray.

Lamb of God

page 174

Communion Hymn

Seed, Scattered and Sown

Refrain

Seed, scat-tered and sown; wheat, gath-ered and grown;
 bread, bro-ken and shared as one, the Liv-ing Bread of God.
 Vine, fruit of the land; wine, work of our hands; one cup that is
 shared by all; the Liv-ing Cup, the Liv-ing Bread of God.

Verses



1. Is not the bread we break a shar - ing in our Lord?
2. The seed which falls on rock will with - er and will die.
3. As wheat up - on the hills was gath - ered and was grown,

to Refrain



Is not the cup we bless the blood of Christ out - poured?
 The seed with - in good ground will flow - er and have life.
 so may the church of God be gath - ered in - to one.

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Please stand as you are able.

Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his light and grace.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy
 and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world
 to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we
 pray.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing

May the love of the Creator enfold us, the wisdom of the Redeemer enlighten us, the fire
 of the Sustainer kindle us; and may the blessing of the Lord God come down
 upon us and remain with us always.

Amen.

Sending Song

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines

1. Glo - ry to God, _____ whose good - ness shines on me,
 2. World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, _____ whose grace has par - doned me,
 World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, _____ whose love has set me free.
 World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is
 now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

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Dismissal

May the power of God set us free
To love and serve all God's people.

Postlude

A Healing Liturgy will follow the 11:00 worship service.