

Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's Sunday, October 31, 2021

"From the rising of the Sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised." (Psalm 113:3, NRSV) And so we gather to praise the Lord. Welcome.

Reformation Day:

By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.



Join us for Holy Communion at both services: All are invited to the Table of our Lord Jesus Christ to receive the real presence of Christ in bread and wine. Children are welcome to receive the sacrament with parental support. The ushers will invite you forward to receive communion at the Chancel in front of the church. We rejoice in resuming this practice on this special feast day.

Today's Adult Education: 9:45-10:45:

Facilitated by Pastor Ann and Pastor Sheila

The Protestant Reformation was the 16th-century religious, political, intellectual and cultural upheaval that splintered Catholic Europe, setting in place the structures and beliefs that would define the continent in the modern era. Reformers like Martin Luther challenged papal authority and questioned the Catholic Church's ability to define Christian practice. What were the cultural influences of the time that impacted the Reformation? And what are the cultural influences that are having an effect on reforms in the church today? Come with questions as we take a closer look at these themes on Reformation Sunday!

Altar Flowers have been provided by Trudy Zauner in memory of Richard Zauner who died in 1999.

Brass and Percussion players: Robert Hughes, Nick White, Susan Beekman, Abigail Hughes, Jack Dankwardt, Matthew Walker, Brian Smith.

Coffee Time "Sit and Sip" Beginning November 7th, we will offer seating in the Upper Commons and Library Commons for coffee time. Participants will be able to remove masks when seated at one of the tables. We look forward to resuming gathering for coffee in a safe manner, offering people an opportunity for fellowship after the 8:30 service.

Announcement Insert for 10-31-21

Today, October 31st: We begin our Fall Stewardship for 2022. “Forward Together... in Faith” This week, you should have received by email an invitation to pledge, with instructions for how to make your 2022 financial pledge online, and how to serve by completing an “Activities and Ministries” form. Paper copies are available if you wish to make your commitment in that way. There will also be assistance available on Sunday mornings, with answers to any questions you may have. Please make your commitments by November 21st, when there will be a consecration of our commitments during worship services. Thank you for your commitment to the future of St. Matthew’s and our ministries together.



Next Sunday’s Adult Education (November 7, 9:45-10:45): Who are the Saints in your lives? Join us as we gather and share what feels “saintly” about those most important to us, sharing stories about the ways we’ve noticed saints and what gives us hope even in the midst of death. Sharing is optional, but all are encouraged to gather among the great cloud of witnesses among us.

Next Sunday, Nov. 7, is also when DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME begins, when we **turn back** our clocks one hour before retiring on Saturday evening.

NEW Mount Meru Coffee: Now available! A new coffee for Autumn. This is a coffee that has subtle flavors of dark chocolate, citrus and honey. These are not artificial flavors but occur naturally in the coffee plant developed by a small group of farmers and is roasted in small batches to bring out these flavors. This is available in limited supply in regular bean or grind for \$15 in a 12 oz size. As always, our standard Mt. Meru coffee is available in regular or decaf at \$10 for 12 oz. Remember, the Mt. Meru coffee project has been improving the standard of living in the Meru region for 22 years. Justice never tasted so good!

First Fridays Book Discussion Group: Discussions begin at 7 p.m. on the dates listed. For now, the meetings will continue through the use of Zoom to reduce the risk of virus transmission. All are welcome for any of the books of interest to you.

Nov 5, 2021 Montaigne in Barn Boots: An Amateur Ambles Through Philosophy, by Michael Perry (240 pages)

Dec 3, 2021 The Death and Life of the Great Lakes, by Dan Egan (384 pages)
More information available from Fred Heim, Book Group Coordinator. Contact the church office if you need contact information.

Church Office Update: Jill Due, our office assistant for these past 16 years, is retiring at the end of this year, joining her husband, Brian, in retirement. We are grateful for her years of caring service to our congregation.

Because of this we now have a unique opportunity available to work in the office at St. Matthew's, approx. 17 hours/week. Office assistant is responsible for preparing and completing the bulletins for Sunday Service; preparing and completing special mailings; serving as the office receptionist; and other duties as needed. Schedule is flexible with Wednesday and Thursday being preferred days.

Candidate should be compassionate, cooperative and welcoming; basic computer skills necessary for the preparation of the weekly bulletin, with knowledge of Microsoft Office, especially MS Word preferred. Will need to welcome and assist people in person or on the phone in a friendly manner, with a willingness to work with others and be part of team ministry. Flexibility in hours and a positive, mission-centered work environment are benefits. Contact Sonja Mohr at office@stmatthslutheran.org or 414.774.0441 weekdays to receive job description or to provide resumé.

Progress toward a New Lead Pastor: Now that the Ministry Site Profile is complete, the Synod Office can begin to give our Call Committee names of potential candidates. While we are hopeful that we can call a new pastor as soon as possible, this will take some time, in order to find the right candidate, and to schedule the interviews and conversations. Please keep the Call Committee in your prayers as this work begins.

Members of the Call Committee: Nancy Bowen, Andrew Cherney, Diane DuBois, Brian Due, Natalie Ford Sajdak, Michael Wolaver.



If you wish to see the Ministry Site Profile, which contains detailed information about St. Matthew's ministry setting pertinent to calling a new pastor, here is a link to it:

<https://bit.ly/2YqkJW9-MSP>

Wednesday Bible Study is now underway with Pastor Ann Williams from 10:00-11:00 a.m. each Wednesday, now in the Upper Room. Anyone is welcome to join in at any time.

Reformation Lutheran Church In-Person and Zoom Community Bible Study: You're invited to attend this study beginning Nov. 4th at 10:00 a.m. and every Thursday morning. The book being discussed is "The Color of Compromise" by Jemar Tisby. Books and companion study guides are available on Amazon. Reformation Lutheran Church is located at 3806 W. Lisbon Avenue, Milwaukee.

The Library is now open Sundays during the Education Hour, 9:45-11:00 a.m. Please feel free to visit! The Library has almost 4000 books and DVDs available for check out. It is staffed by members of the Library committee that can assist you in finding books on a specific topic as well as help you with the self check-out system.

Used medications being collected for Cross Medical Clinic in the church office.

Specific needs:

Vitamin D • Calcium • Baby Aspirin

The next time you're out shopping, please consider picking up some at your favorite discount store and bring them to the church office for donation to Cross's clinic. Thank you!

Guest House Meal Ministry in need of additional volunteers. The program accepts volunteer-prepared meals dropped off at the Guest House. Carl Johnson will provide aluminum foil pans and covers to you, and pick up the prepared food from your home. Main course dishes, side dishes, salads and desserts are welcome. Please contact Carl Johnson at carljohnson1023@outlook.com or at 414-771-1023.

Altar Flower & Library Book Sign-Up: You are invited to sign up for altar flowers or a library book for a special occasion which will be noted in the bulletin. Flowers are \$35 and will be ordered by the office staff. Please make out a check and mark it for altar flowers. You can sign up to donate a book to the library. A book will be chosen for the occasion and you will be notified of which book was chosen. Library books are \$20. This is a great way to support St. Matthew's worship and library ministries in a meaningful way. The Sign-up Book is outside the Upper Room, in a binder on the table.

What should I consider for returning to worship?

1) **If you are a little bit sick**--maybe with a cold, or you're not sure what it is--**please stay home!** This is the best way to care for those around you and be a responsible citizen in our community.

2) Not vaccinated? **Please strongly consider taking one of the vaccines**, for yourself, and for the future of mitigating the effects of this virus. Vaccines are proving to be effective against the variants, and especially against severe illness requiring hospitalization.

3) Still not sure it's safe? **Remember our Livestream** of Sunday Services at this link: **bit.ly/StMattsLive** (at the time of the services)

Pastoral Staff

Karen Natterstad, Interim Lead Pastor
Ann Williams, Associate Pastor
Sheila Rawn, Interim Associate Pastor

Office Staff

Al Van Lith, Jill Due, Sonja Mohr