

# PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW

**St. Matthews Lutheran Church**

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

September 24, 2023

**Pentecost 17**  
**Sunday, September 24, 2023**  
(\* indicates the assembly stands)

**Gathering**

Prelude *"Prélude & Dialogue"* G. Nivers

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

\*Hymn 732 *"Borning Cry"*

\*Greeting

\*This is the Feast p. 101

\*Prayer of the Day

Children's Time

Anthem *"The Blue Green Hills of Earth"* K. Oler

**Word**

Reading Jonah 3:10--4:11

Psalm 145:1-8 (see page 4)

Reading Philippians 1:21-30

\*Gospel Acclamation *"Alleluia!"* p. 102

\*Gospel Reading Matthew 20:1-16

Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day 739 *"Touch the Earth Lightly"*

\*Peace

**Meal**

\*Offering Hymn 693 v. 1-2 *"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"*

\*Offering Prayer

\*Great Thanksgiving p. 107

\*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 108

\*Thanksgiving at the Table I p. 108

\*Lord's Prayer (*Our Father, who art in heaven...*) p. 112

Lamb of God

p. 112

Communion Hymn 484

*"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"*

Prayer after Communion

**Sending**

General Announcements

\*Blessing

\*Hymn 731

*"Earth and All Stars!"*

\*Dismissal

**A: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*"Fugue sur les jeux d'anches"*

F. Couperin

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**Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables** in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

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**Leading Worship Today**

**Minister:** Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

**Assisting Minister:** Linda McLellan

**Diaconal Minister of Music:** Deacon Scott Knarr

**Choral Scholars:** Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, Dylan Siebert, John Waterfield

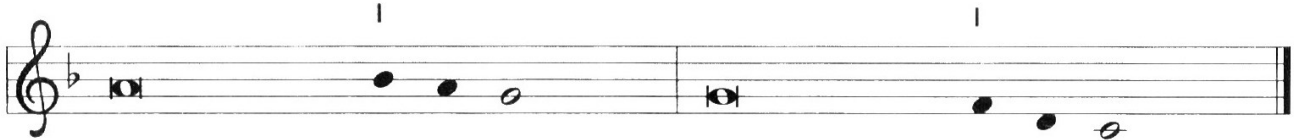
**Communion Server:** Rev. Dr. Allen Jorgenson

**Broadcast:** Gary Pootz

**Building Monitor:** Dennis Diebolt (519-571-4525)

## Psalm 145:1-8

Tone 2



<sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, my | God and king,  
and bless your name forev- | er and ever.

<sup>2</sup>**Every day | will I bless you  
and praise your name forev- | er and ever.**

<sup>3</sup>Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised!  
There is no end | to your greatness.

<sup>4</sup>**One generation shall praise your works | to another  
and shall de- | clare your power.**

<sup>5</sup>I will speak of the glorious splendor | of your majesty  
and all your | marvelous works.

<sup>6</sup>**They shall tell of the might of your | wondrous acts,  
and I will re- | count your greatness.**

<sup>7</sup>They shall publish the remembrance of | your great goodness;  
they shall sing joyfully | of your righteousness.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.**

## Worship Notes

In our prayers Jeanette, Bev, Meaghan, Henry, Marie, Grace, Maureen and John.

**All are welcome at the meal** where Jesus is present loving and forgiving us. For the wine, there is a common cup station and a pouring chalice station (please take an empty small glass). There is also a small tray of pre-poured grape juice glasses. Gluten-free wafers are also available; please indicate this request to the Pastor. If you would (also) like to receive a blessing, please approach the Pastor with your arms crossed over your chest. If you'd like to receive Communion in your pew, the pastor will come to you. Please let an usher or the pastor know before worship if possible.

**The Sunday school will gather today** in worship and go down to Scout Hall after the anthem for music, story and craft. The teachers today are Sue Laking and Pr. Sebastian.

## General Announcements

**West Tower Door for Emergency Only.** Due to the ongoing construction planning, when going in to the church house or washrooms, use the west stair tower door and stay on that floor. Use the hallway by the office to the stairway to the floor below. The stairs in the west tower are closed to the lower level sanctuary and should only be used in case of an emergency to exit the building.



### JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Get the newsletter and email updates on upcoming church events, announcements, reminders and service changes.

Contact [info@stmattskw.com](mailto:info@stmattskw.com) today!

## Alpha Course coming to St. Matthews!

Sharing your faith can be scary... but Alpha creates a space where you can simply invite a friend to explore their questions over some food, a video talk, and small group discussion. The rest is up to God.

**Who is this for?** 60+ non-regular churchgoers (e.g. attend church 0-3 times a year), people interested in what Jesus and faith is about. But if you're an active member you can attend if you bring a friend!

**When:** Thursdays Oct. 5 to Dec 14, 2023, 12-2 pm, & Sun. Nov. 19, 12-2 pm at 560 Queen Street South, Kitchener

Plus a **Retreat** at Crieff Hills Centre in Puslinch: Sat. Nov. 18th 10 am - 4 pm  
Lunch provided. No cost.

### Register/ more information:

Talk to Pastor Sebastian or

[pastorsebas-](mailto:pastorsebas-)

[tian@stmattskw.com](mailto:tian@stmattskw.com) or 519-

742-0462 x2

All members are asked to prayerfully consider who they might invite to join the Alpha Course this Fall!



## Important Information for today's worship

- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented at the High Altar during the service.
- **The Peace:** We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Please join us for Fellowship Time** after worship in the Fellowship Hall! Use the door nearest to the piano, and follow the signs.

**Fire Exits:** All Sanctuary fire exits remain operational during lower-level demolition and renovations. This includes the three Narthex (Entrance) doors, the mid-tower door (half-way up the right side), and the staircase at the front left, piano side.

**Church Fire Plan** For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.

## Contact Information

*Office:* 519-742-0462      [stmattskw.com](http://stmattskw.com)

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