

# EPIPHANY

CHRIST OUR LIGHT



## St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

February 5, 2023

# Epiphany 5 / St. Matthews Foundation Sunday

Sunday, February 5, 2023

(\* indicates the assembly stands)

## Gathering

Prelude "Siciliano" W. Russell

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

\*Thanksgiving for Baptism

\*Hymn 532 "Gather Us In"

\*Greeting

\*Glory to God p. 167

\*Prayer of the Day

Solo "Light of the World" J. Dankworth

## Word

First Reading Isaiah 58:1-9a

Psalms 112:1-9 (see page 4) (sung responsively by full verse)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

\*Gospel Acclamation "Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?" p. 171

\*Gospel Reading Matthew 5:13-20

Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day 665 "Rise, Shine, You People"

\*Apostles' Creed p. 105

Music for Reflection "Ciaccona in D minor: Part IV" J.S. Bach

\*Prayers of Intercession **A: receive our prayer.**

\*Peace

## Thanksgiving

\*Offering Hymn 691, v.1&3 "Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring"

\*Thanksgiving for the Word

\*Lord's Prayer ("Our Father in heaven...")

p. 221

## **Sending**

General Announcements

\*Blessing

\*Hymn 815

*"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*

\*Dismissal

**A: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*"Fugue in C minor"*

S. Wesley

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**Light shines in the darkness for the upright**, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

**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.

# Psalm 112

Tone 11



<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD  
and have great delight in | God's commandments!

<sup>2</sup>**Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;  
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be | in their house,  
and their righteousness will | last forever.

<sup>4</sup>**Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and | full of com-  
passion.**

<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be | generous in lending  
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup>**For they will | never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in ever- | lasting remembrance.**

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**Their heart is established and | will not shrink,  
until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast forever;  
they will hold up their | head with honor.

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## Leading Worship Today

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

**Guest Organist:** Dr. Peter Nikiforuk

**Lector:** Kim Schaner

**Choral Scholar:** Grace Mason Soucie

**Broadcast:** Gary Pootz

**Building Monitor:** Don Robins (519-502-2099)

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## Worship Notes

In our prayers John, Marie, Grace, Maureen, Bernice, John and Nancy.

## General Announcements

**Did you know** that there is an organization here at St. Matthews that has been in existence for almost 40 years, controls almost \$1,000,000 in assets, and donated almost \$25 000 to St. Matthews last year? **Did you know** that this organization's mission is to allow you to build upon and cement the legacy you have already created here at St. Matthews? **Did you know** that this organization's mandate is help you maintain an active role is supporting St. Matthews, long after you are no longer able to remain an active member of the congregation? **And did you know** that by "long after" we mean FOREVER? **INTRIGUED?** If so, please join us after service today in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, where you can learn more about this "mystery organization", the St. Matthews Foundation, and how you can get involved in its good works!

**Deacon Scott and the choir** are away helping Mount Zion kick off Black History Month this morning.

**Our guest artist for February 12 Black History Sunday** is vocalist [Verese Vassell-Bowen](#). We are really excited about working with Verese and welcoming her to St. Matthews to honour the contributions of Black Canadians to our community. She is a regularly featured soloist with Waterloo Region Mass Choir, a recently formed Black Gospel choir in our region.

**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.

### **Important Information for today's worship**

- **Self-Screening:** Members are reminded to continue to perform self-assessments if they have COVID symptoms.
- **Masks:** We support people's choice to wear a mask, and we strongly encourage the following of current guidelines.
- **Physical distancing:** Members are encouraged to continue physical distancing where possible indoors.
- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented to 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.

- **Ministers** will be greeting worshippers after the postlude in the Narthex, without handshakes.
- **Thank you for helping to keep all of us as safe as possible during this pandemic, by following these directions!**



## 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!

### Contact Information

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