

PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

July 9, 2023

Pentecost 6
Sunday, July 9, 2023
(indicates the assembly stands)*

Gathering

Prelude

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Hymn 765

"Lord of All Hopefulness"

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Solo

"Sonata #3: Largo"

J. S. Bach

Word

Psalm 145: 8-14 (see page 4)

(read responsively)

*Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia!"

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*Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:16-19

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day 611

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

Healing

Introduction

Prayers of Intercession

A: hear us, O God.

Laying on of Hands

Hymns during Laying on of Hands 220, 614

*Blessing

*Peace

Meal

*Offering Hymn 184

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

*Offering Prayer

*Great Thanksgiving

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*Holy, Holy, Holy

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*Thanksgiving at the Table II

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

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Lamb of God

p. 208

Communion Hymns 777, 482

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 769

"If You but Trust in God to Guide You"

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

Psalm 145: 8-14

⁸The Lord is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

⁹**Lord, you are | good to all,
and your compassion is over | all your works.**

¹⁰All your works shall praise | you, O Lord,
and your faithful | ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom
and speak | of your power,**

¹²that all people may know | of your power
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- | out all
ages.**

You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works.

¹⁴The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

Leading Worship Today

Minister and violinist: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Guest Organist: Dr. Peter Nikiforuk

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

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

Worship Notes

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

All are welcome at the meal where Jesus is present loving you and forgiving you. The pastor will distribute communion wafers using tongs. Gluten-free wafers are also available; please indicate this request to the Pastor. You may then take a pre-poured wine cup from the larger tray or a juice cup from the smaller tray. 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.

Rite of Healing/ Anointing/ Laying on of Hands

During today's worship service, an option will be offered for the congregation to participate in a rite of healing and anointing. We intend to offer this option on a monthly basis for the time being.

"The order for healing is an expression in worship of the church's ministry of healing. Here all who would sense the need for God's healing in any aspect of their lives may join in prayer for others and themselves. Here each person may come to receive a word of blessing and prayer. Here each one may also receive a physical gesture of healing; the laying on of hands, which may be accompanied by anointing with oil. These signs, first given to us in baptism, tell us again that we are sealed by the Holy Spirit and

marked forever with the cross of Christ, who is health and salvation for the whole world." –excerpt from Evangelical Lutheran Worship p. 276.

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.
- **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.
- **Ministers** will be greeting worshippers after the postlude in the Narthex.
- **Please join us for Fellowship Time** after worship in the Fellowship Hall! Use the door nearest to the piano, and follow the signs.

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.

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

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