

PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

July 16, 2023

Pentecost 7
Sunday, July 16, 2023
(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Hymn 524

“What is This Place”

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Organ Solo

“The peace may be exchanged.” from Rubrics

Dan Locklair

Word

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-13

*Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13 (see page 4)

(spoken responsively by whole verse)

Second Reading

Romans 8:1-11

*Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia!”

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*Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day 679

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

*Prayers of Intercession

A: Your mercy is great.

*Peace

Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Thanksgiving 512

“Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

*Thanksgiving for the Word

p. 220

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

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Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 547

“Sent Forth with God’s Blessing”

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Guest Organist: Dr. Peter Nikiforuk

Lector: Linda McLellan

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

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



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Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13

¹You are to be praised, O ^l God, in Zion;
to you shall vows ^l be fulfilled.

²To you, the one ^l who answers prayer,
to you all ^l flesh shall come.

³Our sins are strong- ^l er than we are,
but you blot out ^l our transgressions.

⁴Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your ^l courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness ^l of your temple.

⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of ^l our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans ^l far away.

⁶You make firm the mountains ^l by your power;
you are girded a- ^l bout with might.

⁷You still the roaring ^l of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor ^l of the peoples.

⁸Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your ^l marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to ^l sing for joy.

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is ^l full of water.
You prepare the grain, for so you provide ^l for the earth.

¹⁰ You drench the furrows and smooth^l out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and^l bless its increase.

¹¹ You crown the year^l with your goodness,
and your paths over-^l flow with plenty.

¹² May the fields of the wilderness be^l rich for grazing,
and the hills be^l clothed with joy.

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak them-^l selves
with grain;
let them shout for^l joy and sing.

Space for your notes on today's service, for your personal reflection.

Worship Notes

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

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

Office: 519-742-0462 stmattskw.com

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer	Ext. 3	pastorcarey@stmattskw.com
Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer	Ext. 2	pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com
Deacon Scott Knarr	Ext. 4	deaconscott@stmattskw.com
Leanne Vanderhout	Ext. 6	lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



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St. Matthews Lutheran Church

54 BENTON STREET
KITCHENER
N2G 3H2
519.742.0462

stmattskw.com
info@stmattskw.com