

# PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW



**St. Matthews Lutheran Church**

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

August 20, 2023

**Pentecost 12**  
**Sunday, August 20, 2023**  
(\* indicates the assembly stands)

**Gathering**

Hymn Sing

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

\*Hymn 558

*“Lord God, We Praise You”*

\*Greeting

\*Prayer of the Day

Piano Solo

**Word**

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1,6-8

Psalms 67 (see page 4)

*(read responsively by full verse)*

Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

\*Gospel Acclamation

*“Alleluia!”*

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\*Gospel Reading

Matthew 15:21-28

Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day 588

*“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”*

\*Prayers of Intercession

**A: Your mercy is great.**

\*Peace

**Thanksgiving**

\*Canticle of Thanksgiving

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\*Thanksgiving for the Word

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

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**Sending**

General Announcements

\*Blessing

\*Hymn 434

*“Jesus Shall Reign”*

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**In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer** for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

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**Leading Worship Today**

**Guest Minister:** Rev. Monika Wiesner

**Guest Organist:** Corinne Dutton

**Lector:** Karen Farrell

**Broadcast:** Gary Pootz

**Building Monitor:** Steve Dickin (519-580-8407)

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## Psalm 67

<sup>1</sup>May God be merciful to <sup>l</sup> us and bless us;  
may the light of God's face <sup>l</sup> shine upon us.

<sup>2</sup>Let your way be known <sup>l</sup> upon earth,  
your saving health a- <sup>l</sup> mong all nations.

<sup>3</sup>Let the peoples praise <sup>l</sup> you, O God;  
let all the <sup>l</sup> peoples praise you.

<sup>4</sup>Let the nations be glad and <sup>l</sup> sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- <sup>l</sup> tions on earth.

<sup>5</sup>Let the peoples praise <sup>l</sup> you, O God;  
let all the <sup>l</sup> peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup>The earth has brought <sup>l</sup> forth its increase;  
God, our own <sup>l</sup> God, has blessed us.

<sup>7</sup>May God <sup>l</sup> give us blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth <sup>l</sup> stand in awe.

## Worship Notes

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

### 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.

### 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.

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

**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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