

PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS
September 10, 2023

Pentecost 15
Sunday, September 10, 2023
(indicates the assembly stands)*

Gathering

Prelude "Second Movement from Pastorale" J.S. Bach
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements
*Hymn 603 "God, When Human Bonds Are Broken"
*Greeting
*Prayer of the Day
Anthem "Jesus, Who Didst Ever Love Me" J.S. Bach

Word

First Reading Romans 13:8-10
*Gospel Acclamation "Alleluia!" p. 102
*Gospel Reading Matthew 18:15-20
Sermon
*Hymn of the Day 1043 (see page 4) "Spirit, Open My Heart"

Healing

Introduction
Prayers of Intercession **A: hear us, O God.**
Laying on of Hands
Hymns during Laying on of Hands: 218, 612
*Blessing
*Peace

Meal

*Offering Hymn 181 "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"
*Offering Prayer
*Great Thanksgiving p. 107
*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 108

*Thanksgiving at the Table I		p. 108
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)		p. 112
Lamb of God		p. 112
Communion Hymns 470, 471, 472		
Table Blessing		
Prayer after Communion		
Sending		
General Announcements		
*Blessing		
*Hymn 864	<i>"Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"</i>	
*Dismissal		A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>"Fantasia and Imitation"</i>	J.S. Bach

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Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

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Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Scott Kuschnerreit

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Communion Server: Grace Schuster

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

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

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

Worship Notes

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

Worship Service Changes: Communion and Peace: Starting today for Holy Communion services, a common cup station and a pouring chalice station will be reinstated. There will continue to be a small tray of pre-poured juice glasses. Masks will be worn by those distributing if they are sick or members of their household are sick. Tongs for wafer distribution will be discontinued. Likewise, starting today, ministers will again go down the aisles sharing the peace with those who want to participate.

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.

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-

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

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