

# PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW

**St. Matthews Lutheran Church**

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

November 12, 2023

**Pentecost 24**  
**Sunday, November 12, 2023**  
(\* indicates the assembly stands)

**Gathering**

|  |                                  |                                    |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Prelude                                  | <i>"Folk Tune"</i>               | P. Whitlock                        |
| Words of Welcome & Service Announcements |                                  |                                    |
| *Confession and Forgiveness (see page 4) |                                  |                                    |
| *Hymn 880                                |                                  | <i>"O God Beyond All Praising"</i> |
| *Greeting                                |                                  |                                    |
| *Prayer of the Day                       |                                  |                                    |
| Anthem                                   | <i>"With Songs of Rejoicing"</i> | J.S. Bach /arr. Hopson             |

**Word**

|                          |                   |   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---|
| First Reading            |                   | Amos 5:18-24                                |
| Psalms 70 (see page 4)   |                   | <i>(sung responsively)</i>                  |
| Second Reading           |                   | 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18                     |
| *Gospel Acclamation      | <i>"Alleluia"</i> | p. 102                                      |
| *Gospel Reading          |                   | Matthew 25:1-13                             |
| Sermon                   |                   |   |
| *Hymn of the Day 488     |                   | <i>"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"</i> |
| *Apostles' Creed         |                   | p. 105                                      |
| *Prayers of Intercession |                   | <b>A: your mercy is great.</b>              |

**Peace**

**Meal**

|                              |  |                                      |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| *Offering Hymn 625 v.1,4     |  | <i>"Come, We That Love the Lord"</i> |
| *Offering Prayer             |  |                                      |
| *Great Thanksgiving          |  | p. 107                               |
| *Holy, Holy, Holy            |  | p. 108                               |
| *Thanksgiving at the Table I |  | p. 108                               |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| *Lord's Prayer ( <i>Our Father in heaven...</i> ) | p. 112  |
| Lamb of God                                       | p. 112  |
| Communion Hymn 262                                | <i>"Wait for the Lord"</i>                        |
| Table Blessing                                    |   |
| Prayer after Communion                            |   |
| <b>Sending</b>                                    |   |
| General Announcements                             |   |
| *Blessing   |   |
| *Hymn 439   | <i>"Soon and Very Soon"</i>                       |
| *Dismissal  | <b>A: Thanks be to God.</b>                       |
| Postlude  | <i>"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"</i><br>M. Hayes |

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**Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters.** Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

## **Leading Worship Today**

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

**Diaconal Minister of Music:** Deacon Scott Knarr

**Assisting Minister:** Scott Kuschnerleit

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

**Communion Server:** Gwenanne Jorgenson

**Broadcast:** Jason Smolak

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

## Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be ..

Holy One,

**A: we confess that we are not awake for you.**

**We are not faithful in using your gifts.**

**We forget the least of our siblings.**

**We do not see your beautiful image in one another.**

**We are infected by sin**

**that divides your beloved community.**

**Open our hearts to your coming,**

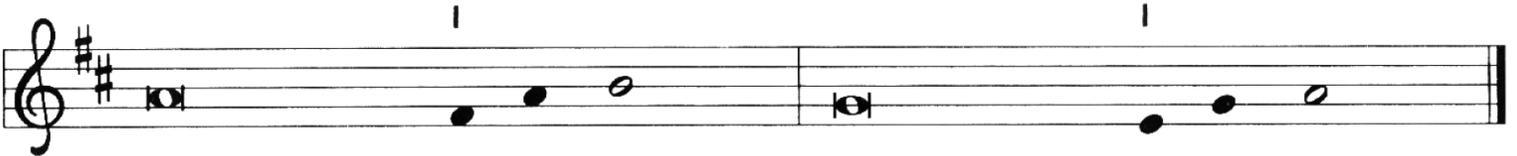
**open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,**

**open our hands to serve your creation.**

**Amen.**

## Psalm 70

Tone 1



1 Be pleased, O God, to de-| liver me;  
O LORD, make | haste to help me.

2 Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;  
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | be disgraced.

3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me  
turn back because | of their shame.

4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;  
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the LORD!"

5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick-| ly, O God.  
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, | do not tarry.

## Worship Notes

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

All are welcome at the meal where Jesus is present loving and forgiving us. For the wine, there is a common cup station and a pouring chalice station (please take an empty small glass). There is also a small tray of pre-poured grape juice glasses. Gluten-free wafers are also available; please indicate this request to the Pastor. 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.

## General Announcements

The 2024 Offering Envelope Boxes will be available for pickup starting Sunday, November 26, 2023, outside the church office.

Annual Budget Meeting will be held on Sunday Nov. 26th in the Fellowship Hall following worship. All voting members please consider attending!

2024 Draft Budget Copies: Copies of the budget will be available starting Sunday November 19th in the Narthex. If anyone would like to receive a copy, please contact the office and Leanne can either email you a PDF version starting November 15th or mail a hard copy.





# Advent Carol Service

featuring

## A Ceremony of Carols

by Benjamin Britten

Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 7 pm

Our annual **Advent Carol Service** takes place on Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 7 pm. The Sanctuary Choir will be joined by guest artist Lori Gemmell, harpist with the former Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, to present selections from Benjamin Britten's A Ceremony of Carols.

Lori Gemmell joined the former Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony in 1999 and was principal harpist with the KWS when it ceased to operate in September 2023. She received her Master's degree from the University of Toronto where she studied with renowned Canadian harpist Judy Loman. Lori is much in demand as a soloist, chamber musician and recording artist and is a harp instructor with the Wilfrid Laurier University music faculty.

**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.

## 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.

## Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462      stmattskw.com

|                               |        |  |
|-------------------------------|--------|--|
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