

EPIPHANY

CHRIST OUR LIGHT

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

January 21, 2024

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 21, 2024

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"Prière"</i>	G. Tanguay
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 817	<i>"You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore"</i>	
*Greeting		
*Canticle of Praise		p. 213
*Prayer of the Day		
Anthem	<i>"Be Thou My Vision"</i>	J. Enns

Word

First Reading		Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 62:5-12 (see page 4)		(sung responsively by full verse)
Second Reading		1 Corinthians 7:29-31
*Gospel Acclamation		p. 216
*Gospel Reading		Mark 1:14-20
*Hymn of the Day 798	<i>"Will You Come and Follow Me"</i>	
Sermon		
*Apostles' Creed		p. 217
*Prayers of Intercession		A: receive our prayer.
*Peace		

Thanksgiving for the Word

*Canticle of Thanksgiving	p. 219
*Thanksgiving for the Word	p. 220
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father in heaven...</i>)	p. 221

Sending

General Announcements

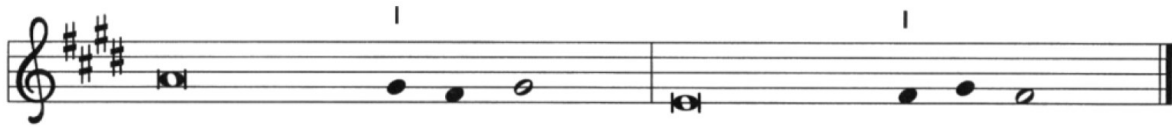
*Blessing	p. 221
*Hymn 314	<i>"Arise, Your Light Has Come"</i>
*Dismissal	A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>"Rondeau"</i> J. Mouret

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As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

Psalm 62: 5-12

Tone 5



5 For God alone I | wait in silence;
truly, my hope | is in God.

6 God alone is my rock and | my salvation,
my stronghold, so that I shall nev- | er be shaken.

7 In God is my deliverance | and my honor;
God is my strong rock | and my refuge.

8 Put your trust in God al- | ways, O people,
pour out your hearts before the one who | is our refuge.

9 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath;
those of low estate can- | not be trusted.
Placed on the scales together they weigh even less | than a breath.

10 Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no | empty pride;
though wealth increase, set not your | heart upon it.

11 God has spoken once, twice | have I heard it,
that power be- | longs to God.

12 Steadfast love belongs to | you, O Lord,
for you repay all according | to their deeds.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Ivan George

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

Broadcast: Gary Pootz

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

Worship Notes

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

General Announcements

Attention all Kitchen Users: Please join Bev in the kitchen after the service today for a run through of the new appliances and where directions and user guides can be found.

2024 Tithe Committee: There is opportunity to have a say in who will receive a Tithe donation in 2024. In order to have many voices involved in how St. Matthews distributes the Tithe, the current Tithe Taskforce will disband, and a new Taskforce will be struck. Please consider this important work and if you feel called to be involved, you can speak to the following people for further information. Jim Treusch, Lynda Karn, Sylvia McLeod, Tim Schaner, Kim Schaner, Mary-Ellen Winkler.

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.

2023 Tithe Recipients: This is the second year that St. Matthews has tithed a generous amount of money from the December 2021 sale of the 39 and 51 Church St. properties. In March of 2023 the Tithe Taskforce, (Jim Treusch, Lynda Karn, Sylvia McLeod, Tim Schaner) was established to brainstorm and generate a list of possible candidates to receive a monetary gift, which was narrowed down to six candidates. Each of the candidates fell into one or more of the categories that align with St. Matthews' mission and vision, which are: Indigenous Charities, Wider Church (Locally/Globally), Children/focus on programs for development for the future, Caring for the Marginalized and Caring for Seniors.

After careful, thoughtful consideration, St. Matthews is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2023 Tithe installment. The list below is in no particular order of importance.

- House of Friendship – Caring for the Marginalized - Support Shelter Care: **\$25,000**
- The Working Centre – Caring for the Marginalized - Support programs run by the Working Centre: **\$50,000**
- The Music for the Spirit – Indigenous Charities/ Children – Focus on Programs for Development for the Future: **\$25,000**
- Trinity Centres Foundation – Support the Wider Church – Locally Support Property Strategy Course: **\$25,000**
- Martin Luther University College – Wider Church – Globally: **\$100,000** – distributed equally over 4 years
- OneRoof Youth Services – Children and Caring for the Marginalized - Support trained staff position to work with youth in Mental Health and Addictions Program: **\$75,000**

Here are the responses we've received from some of the recipients:

House of Friendship: Thank-you to St. Matthews Lutheran Church for this kindness and ongoing support from our neighbours down the street. We are grateful to have you as one of our first churches to be a part of the Adopt-A-Room at ShelterCare.

The Working Centre: This is a beautiful Christmas gift. We are so grateful that the Tithe Taskforce has made this donation to The Working Centre's housing projects.

Martin Luther University College: This is a very important donation and will provide significant support for students. Thank you so much!!

The Music for the Spirit: I want to express, on behalf of the Music for the Spirit team, our profound gratitude for your generous donation to our program.

St. Peter's Breakfast Group is inviting St. Matthews to their monthly Breakfast group held at Kypreos restaurant on Lancaster St. The guest speakers provide interesting topics on various items. It's a great opportunity to connect with our brothers and sisters within our Grand River Ministry. If you are interested please use the link provided below to sign up. Kim Schaner - President - St. Matthews Board of Directors.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-peters-breakfast-club-tickets-802073713067?aff=oddtcreator>

Tuesday, February 20, 2024: Everyone is invited to participate in this group on Tuesday, February 20 at 9:00 a.m. at Kypreos Restaurant, 305 Lancaster St. W. Kitchener. Attendees will order from the menu and pay for their own meals. Our speaker will be Dr. Paul Georgopoulos of the Country Hills Chiropractic Centre in Kitchener. He will be accompanied by a massage therapist. Their presentation will focus on stress relief.

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 Lower Level Hall. Use any of the staircases (Narthex, west stair tower, parking lot tower) to go down.
- **Lower Level Sanctuary Washrooms** can be accessed via any of the staircases. There is one wheelchair accessible washroom, and the rest are all-gender washrooms. A further all-gender washroom is also available via the west stair tower door (front left of the Sanctuary) on the same level. Turn right at the hallway.



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