

EPIPHANY

CHRIST OUR LIGHT

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

January 28, 2024

Epiphany 4

Sunday, January 28, 2024

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude "Basse et Dessus de Cornet" L.C. Clerambault

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Hymn 876 "Let the Whole Creation Cry"

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Music for Reflection "First Flight" J. Waterfield

Children's Message

Word

*Gospel Acclamation "Alleluia" p. 124

*Gospel Reading Mark 1:21-18

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day 1016 (see pg. 4) "Cast Out, O Christ"

Healing

Introduction

Prayers of Intercession A: hear us, O God.

Laying on of Hands

Hymns during Laying on of Hands 218, 614

*Blessing

*Peace

Meal

*Offering Hymn 885	<i>"Praise God, From Whom all Blessings Flow"</i>	
*Offering Prayer		
*Great Thanksgiving		p. 107
*Holy, Holy, Holy		p. 108
*Thanksgiving at the Table V		p. 65
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)		p. 112
Lamb of God		p. 113
Communion Motet	<i>"Thee, Lord, we magnify"</i>	B. Klein
Communion Hymn 507		<i>"O God of Light"</i>
Table Blessing		
Prayer after Communion		

Sending

General Announcements		
*Blessing		
*Hymn 673	<i>"God, Whose Almighty Word"</i>	
*Dismissal		A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>"Dialogue sur les grand jeux"</i>	L.C. Clerambault

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We encounter authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

Cast Out, O Christ

1 Cast out, O Christ, cast far a - way the
 2 Our rag - ing griefs, our jeal - ous fears are
 3 Once long a - go, from Gal - i - lee, you
 4 Your word breathes life and health and hope that
 5 So come, O Christ, and cast a - way the

de - mons that de - stroy: the haunt - ing dreads that
 Le - gion in their name. Our shack - led hearts im -
 sailed to storm - tossed shores. And still, in pow'r, you
 break through e - vil's thrall. You send us, strength - ened,
 de - mons that de - stroy. Trans - form our lives to

choke our souls, the hates that sti - fle joy.
 plore your grace to loose our bind - ing shame.
 brave new paths to breach our bolt - ed doors.
 home in peace to live your gos - pel call.
 sense your love and spread a - broad your joy.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929–2003

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Leading Worship Today

Minister and violinist: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Linda McLellan

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, John Waterfield.

Piano: John Waterfield

Communion Server: Lynda Karn

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

Building Monitor: Dennis Diebolt (519-571-4525)

Worship Notes

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

About today's Music for Reflection: First Flight is John Waterfield's first composition. John (our bass choral scholar) wanted to create an uplifting piece through the beauty of the violin, accompanied by piano. This is the second time it has been performed.

Rite of Healing/ Anointing/ Laying on of Hands

During today's worship service, an option will be offered for the congregation to participate in a rite of healing and anointing.

"The order for healing is an expression in worship of the church's ministry of healing. Here all who would sense the need for God's healing in any aspect of their lives may join in prayer for others and themselves. Here each person may come to receive a word of blessing and prayer. Here each one may also receive a physical gesture of healing; the laying on of hands, which may be accompanied by anointing with oil. These signs, first given to us in baptism, tell us again that we are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked forever with the cross of Christ, who is health and salvation for the whole world." –excerpt from Evangelical Lutheran Worship p. 276.

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

Black History Sunday, February 4 - We will be honouring the contributions of black Canadians and Christians on this Sunday. While we unfortunately don't have a guest speaker like last year, it will still be a memorable service.

Join us for our 120th Anniversary Concert with St. Matthews Sanctuary Choir, Pr. Sebastian on violin and choral scholar John Waterfield at the piano on Sunday, February 11 at 3 pm. It promises to be an afternoon of enjoyable music to raise funds for the upgrade of our organ console, electronics and switching combination action. Admission by donation.

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.

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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St. Matthews Lutheran Church

54 BENTON STREET
KITCHENER
N2G 3H2
519.742.0462

stmattskw.com
info@stmattskw.com