

REIGN OF CHRIST

A REIGN OF LOVE AND PEACE

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

November 23, 2025

Christ the King
Sunday, November 23, 2025
(indicates the assembly stands)*

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"Toccata in G"</i>	D. Buxtehude
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 431	<i>"O Christ, What Can it Mean for Us"</i>	
Baptisms of Natalie Haase and Hendrix Bradley Haase		p. 227
Baptismal Acclamation 212	<i>"You Belong to Christ"</i>	
*Baptismal Hymn 454	<i>"Remember and Rejoice"</i>	
*Greeting		
*Prayer of the Day		
Anthem	<i>"Ave Verum"</i>	W.A. Mozart

Word

First Reading		Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalms 46 (see page 4)		<i>(sung responsively)</i>
Second Reading		Colossians 1:11-20
*Gospel Acclamation	<i>"Alleluia"</i>	p. 188
*Gospel Reading		Luke 23:33-43
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day 343	<i>"My Song is Love Unknown"</i>	
*Nicene Creed		p. 104
*Prayers of Intercession		A: your mercy is great.
*Peace		

Meal

*Offering Hymn WOV 778 v.1

“O Christ the Same”

*Offering Prayer

*Great Thanksgiving

p. 190

*Holy, Holy, Holy

p. 190

*Thanksgiving at the Table E

P: Your mercy endures forever.

A: Your mercy endures forever.

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

p. 191

Lamb of God

p. 191

Communion Hymns 476, 616

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

* Hymn 432

“The Head That Once Was Crowned”

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

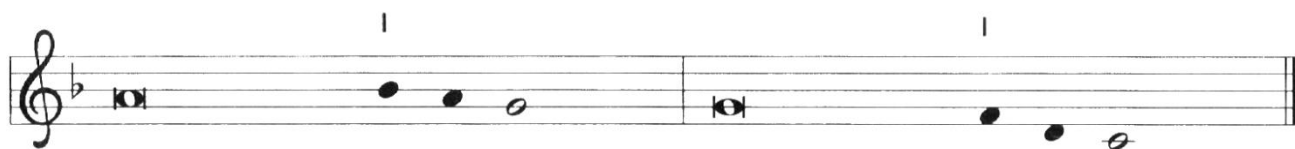
“Prelude and Fugue in F major”

D. Buxtehude

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Jeremiah’s promise of the execution of “justice and righteousness in the land” finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

Psalm 46



¹God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;

³though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,
the holy habitation of | the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.

⁶The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth | melts away.

⁷The Lord of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁸Come now, regard the works | of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

¹⁰“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”

¹¹The Lord of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

Leading Worship Today

Ministers: Pastor Sebastian Meadows-Helmer and Pastor Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Linda McLellan

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Siwderski, Lindsay Scott, Dylan Siebert, Drew Aarssen

Communion Server: Pat Giilck

Broadcast: Jamie Foley

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

Worship Notes

In our prayers Kevin, Betty, Anneke, Judy, Yvonne, Jeanette, Meaghan, Henry, Maureen and John.

Baptized today are Natalie and Hendrix Haase. Natalie's baptismal sponsors are Liz Jenson and Michelle Haase. Natalie's son, Hendrix's, baptismal sponsors are Kira Hannusch and Dustin Haase.

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.
- **Please join us for Fellowship Time** after worship in the Community Hall. Use any of the staircases (Narthex, west stair tower, parking lot tower) to go down.
- **Downstairs 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.

General Announcements

Annual Budget Meeting following the service on Sunday, December 7. Printed budgets as well as large-print versions will be available on November 23rd. All voting members are encouraged to attend this important meeting to discuss the 2026 budget and a motion regarding the Property Sale Tithe.



Calling All Bakers! Your St. Matthews Women of Faith Group is hosting next Sunday's (Nov. 30th) Advent Carol Service Reception. While most of the preparations are complete, there still remains a need for baked goods and sweets (cookies, squares, etc.). Any members of the congregation who would like to contribute any such

items are asked to either bring them down to the Community Hall before or after the Sunday morning service on November 30th, or to drop them off at the Hall before the beginning of the Carol Service, which starts at 7 pm. We would ask that any contributions be nut-free, and if you could plate them, that would be a great help! Please feel free to reach out to Marjorie Kuschnerit if you have any questions, and we thank you for any contributions you might be able to provide.



Lutheran food4Kids Ambassadors – Advent Food Drive - Nov 30 – Dec 21, 2025:
The Lutheran food4Kids Ambassadors are kicking off a food drive for Advent. Who are the Lutheran Ambassadors, you ask?

St. Luke's Kitchener, St. Peter's Kitchener, St. Matthews Kitchener, Third Space, Waterloo, St. Stephen Kitchener, and St. Peter's Cambridge have joined forces to help support food4Kids Waterloo Region.

food4Kids Waterloo Region is working to address the childhood hunger crisis by providing healthy food packages to local children—but their work is about so much more than food. It's about hope. It's about letting kids know that their community cares, that they matter, and that they are not alone.

The mission of food4Kids is to provide nutritious, culturally sensitive, allergy-aware food packages to children ages 1–14 from households facing severe food insecurity. These packages are provided on weekends and during school breaks—times when children cannot rely on school nutrition programs. Deliveries are made to schools during the school year and directly to homes during breaks, ensuring families can receive support without stigma. For more information, please go to this link <https://food4kidswr.ca>

And we need your help!

From November 30 to December 21, we are collecting food items listed on the attached posters. You'll also find some printed posters in the Narthex for you to pick up. If you'd prefer, you can also support the campaign by making a financial donation using the link provided.

Donations by Credit Card:

<https://give-can.keela.co/community-lutheran-churches-2025>

Donations by e-transfers:

<mailto:giving@food4kidswr.ca>

QR:



Our contributions will be combined with the five other Lutheran churches, and we will share the Grand Total at the end of the campaign.

Together, we can help ensure that no child in our community goes hungry.

Thank you for giving generously—and for spreading hope from the food4Kids Ambassadors,

St. Matthews Church – Kitchener

St. Peter's Church – Kitchener

St. Luke's Church – Kitchener

St. Stephens Church - Kitchener

Third Space - Waterloo

St. Peter's Church – Cambridge

Advent Carol Service

Mary's Song



featuring **Magnificat** H.79 by Marc-Antoine Charpentier
with Caroline Schmidt, mezzo-soprano; Drew Aarsen, bass
Allene Chomyn and Sebastian Meadows-Helmer, baroque violins

Sunday, November 30, 2025 at 7 pm
Freewill Offering

St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 54 Benton Street, Kitchener

stmattskw.com

ST. MATTHEWS

Advent Social

DECEMBER 3

11 AM - 2 PM

TURKEY LUNCHEON \$20

MEAL SERVED AT NOON

Join us for a festive social time with a turkey feast,
Christmas Sing-Along and good friends.

Holy Communion at 1:30 pm.

RSVP: By November 26
519.742.0462 or info@stmattskw.com

Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462 stmattskw.com

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer Ext. 3 pastorcarey@stmattskw.com

Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer Ext. 2 pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com

Deacon Scott Knarr Ext. 4 deaconscott@stmattskw.com

Leanne Vanderhout Ext. 6 lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



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Christmas Worship at St. Matthews

Christmas Eve (German)

December 24th at 5:00 pm

Christmas Eve (English)

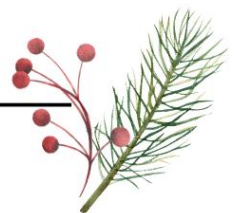
December 24th at 7:30 pm

Christmas Day

December 25th at 9:30 am

New Year's Eve

December 31st at 4:30 pm



Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

Sunday, November 30: Advent Carol Service (7 pm)

Wednesday, December 3: Christmas Social (11 am - 2 pm)

Sunday, December 7: Annual Budget Meeting following service.

Sunday, December 14: Sunday School Pageant

Sunday, December 21: Christmas Cabaret & Carol Sing (3 pm)

Wednesday, December 24: German Language Christmas Eve Service (5 pm)

Wednesday, December 24: English Language Christmas Eve Service (7:30 pm)

Thursday, December 25: Christmas Day Service (9:30 am)

Wednesday, December 31: New Year's Eve Service (4:30 pm)

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. The AED and a first aid kit are in the hallway by the office.

The St. Matthews Centre, our community hub, has a website which links all upcoming events, especially concerts of the KW Symphony and the Grand Philharmonic Choir.

Scroll down to "Upcoming Events"
at <https://www.stmatthewscentre.ca>

The St. Matthews Centre also has a Facebook page, which you can "follow" to get updates.





St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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