

EPIPHANY

CHRIST OUR LIGHT

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

February 4, 2024

Epiphany 5 / Black History Sunday

Sunday, February 4, 2024

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"Poor Wayfaring Stranger"</i>	
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
Lamenting Racism		A: hear our lament, O Lord.
*Hymn 787		<i>"On Eagle's Wings"</i>
*Greeting		
*Canticle of Praise		p. 213
*Prayer of the Day		
Anthem	<i>"Stop by, Lord"</i>	D. Bettis

Word

First Reading		Isaiah 40:21-31
*Hymn 1050 (see pg. 4)	<i>"Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping"</i>	
Second Reading		1 Corinthians 9:16-23
*Gospel Acclamation	<i>"Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?"</i>	p. 215
*Gospel Reading		Mark 1:29-39
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day 987 (see pg. 5)		<i>"Guide My Feet"</i>
*Apostles' Creed		p. 215
*Prayers of Intercession		A: you receive our prayer!
*Peace		

Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Thanksgiving 1000 v. 1-2 (see page 6)

“God’s Work, Our Hands”

*Thanksgiving for the Word

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

p. 221

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 677

“This Little Light of Mine”

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“This Little Light”

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In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus’ healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon’s mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping



1 Some-times our on - ly song is weep - ing; our on - ly
2 Some-times we catch the faint-est hum - ming, a far - off



sound is gasp - ing breath. Some-times it seems that God is
tune our hearts know well. Some-times we sense the Spir - it



sleep - ing while our brief lives are bound in death.
com - ing. Our song re - turns; our voic - es swell.



Who hears the song our sor - rows swal - low and of - fers
The Spir - it sings though we are shak - en, and Christ has



hope to calm our fears? When all our words seem frail and
shared our heart - felt cries. Re - stored, our wea - ry souls a -



hol - low, God heeds the prayers with - in our tears.
wak - en to join God's song that nev - er dies.

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979

Music: WAYFARING STRANGER, North American traditional

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Guide My Feet

Leader

All

1 Guide my feet
2 Hold my hand
3 Stand by me while I run this race.
4 I'm your child
5 Search my heart

Yes, my Lord!

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race.
I'm your child
Search my heart

Yes, my Lord!

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race,
I'm your child
Search my heart

for I don't want to run this race in vain.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual; arr. *This Far by Faith*

Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

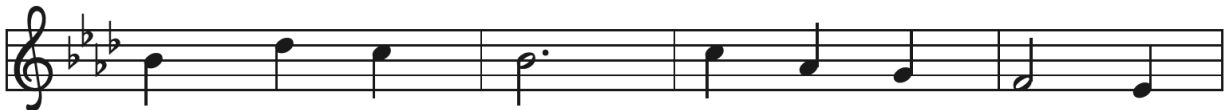
God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Kim Schaner

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

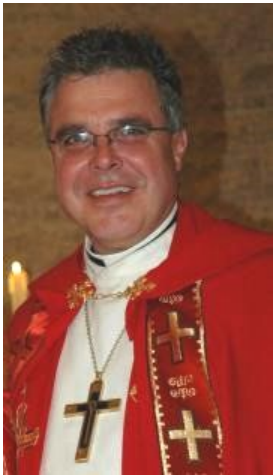
Broadcast: Jason Smolak

Building Monitor: Ron Roeder (519-895-6833)

Worship Notes

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

General Announcements



120th anniversary Service, February 11

On this Sunday we'll celebrate a milestone of the founding of our congregation in 1904 with special guest, Synod Bishop Michael Pryse.

This will likely be the last time he will visit us as Bishop, as he is stepping down this June.

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.

Who's inside the organ case?



120th Anniversary Concert

featuring

St. Matthews Sanctuary Choir

Scott Knarr, organ

Sebastian Meadows-Helmer, violin

John Waterfield, piano

Sunday, February 11, 2024 at 3 pm

Suggested Donation: \$30

What is going on inside the organ case? We are preparing for a concert to celebrate 120 years of ministry and also to raise funds to upgrade our organ.

What's wrong with the organ? After many decades of service the 1944 cables and switching system are showing their age. Even the first generation of solid state console electronics from the 1990s is now unreliable and organ stops can change sounds without warning.

This Spring we will embark on a complete overhaul of the organ console and wiring which connects the console to the pipes. Join us on February 11 for an afternoon of beautiful music featuring our choir and organ, as well as violin and more!

NOONTIME OASIS

EVERY WEDNESDAY NOON - 1 PM

TAKE A
breath

Lent

Feb. 14 - March 17

ALTERED

by the spirit

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. MATTHEWS LUTHERAN CHURCH

SHROVE TUESDAY DINNER

FEBRUARY 13, 2024

Doors open at 4:30 pm. Dinner 5 - 7 pm.



Pancakes, sausage, fruit and beverages.

HOSTED IN THE NEW LOWER LEVEL.
ENTRY OFF OF BENTON STREET PARKING LOT.

54 BENTON STREET, KITCHENER

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

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