

Diaconal Sunday



February 25, 2024

Meal

*Offering Hymn 188	<i>"Create in Me a Clean Heart"</i>	
*Offering Prayer		
*Great Thanksgiving		p. 107
*Holy, Holy, Holy		p. 108
*Thanksgiving at the Table IV		p. 111
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father in heaven...</i>)		p. 112
Lamb of God		p. 112
Communion Hymn 757	<i>"All My Hope on God Is Founded"</i>	
Table Blessing		
Prayer after Communion		

Sending

General Announcements		
*Blessing		
*Hymn 712	<i>"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"</i>	
*Dismissal		A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>"God Moves in a Mysterious Way"</i>	G. Dyson

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Diaconal Sunday, Feb. 25: With our sister congregations throughout the ELCIC, we celebrate today the work of Deacons in our churches. We're pleased to have as guest preacher Deacon Sherry Coman, who is Associate Professional Faculty at Waterloo Lutheran University College and founding Director of its Centre for Spirituality and Media.

*Kyrie

Refrain

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Chri - ste e - lei - son,

5
Ky - ri - e e - lei - - - son.

O God, help us to take action with those who live in fear. Strengthen our hearts to listen to the painful cries we hear. *Refrain*

O God, meet us in our longing for the friends and things we know. Root us in love that sustains us; show us where we must let go. *Refrain*

O God, weave our lives together; may we chase away despair! Give us the tools to fight privilege, speaking truth with utmost care. *Refrain*

Sanctuary

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.

Leading Worship Today

Guest Preacher and Assisting Minister: Deacon Sherry Coman

Minister: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Communion Server: Jeanette Harrop

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

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.

PRAYER FOR DEACONS

(from *Speak It Plain* by Meta Herrick Carlson)



The call is to stand between,
in the liminal and fuzzy boundaries
where church and world blur,
coaxing folks out of stark categories
and into real life where proclaiming the gospel
and serving the neighbor are never separate.

You are ordained for action
that embodies God's love on the margins
and moves people toward purpose and love
that do not require a crucifix, font or altar.

Instead you show them how God lived in a body,
wrapping a towel at your waist,
stooping down to fill a basin with water,
washing and drying your neighbor's feet
with such care, they are certain
they've seen Jesus.

Amen.

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.

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.

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.

General Announcements

Special Congregational Meeting: Following the service in the Sanctuary on Sunday, March 3rd, there will be a meeting regarding a partial pew removal. For more information, read the February Signal.

World Day of Prayer

WDP Palestinian Christian Women's Committee
I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love" (Ephesians 4:1-3)



Friday, March 1

11:00 am Service; Reception to follow

St. George's of Forest Hill Anglican Church

<https://www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com/>

Livestream Link: <https://livestream.com/accounts/4258>



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2024 MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

St. Paul's Bridgeport



Reception at 6 pm

ELW Night Prayer (Compline)
7:00 pm

Preacher: Rev. C. Meadows-Helmer

FEB
28

St. Matthews Kitchener



Soup Supper at 5:00 pm

Recital 7 pm
Sopranos C. Linforth & H. Swiderski

Holden Evening Prayer
Preacher: Rev. M. Hryniewicz

MARCH
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DIACONAL MINISTRY

in the ELCIC

The work and identity of **deacons** is grounded in *faith, education & theology*.

Deacons in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) are baptized and theologically trained persons who are called and ordained into a rostered ministry of Word and Service which gives particular attention to where the church intersects with the world.

Deacons use their prophetic voice to boldly speak the needs of God's world to the church and to faithfully work alongside all the baptized and people of goodwill to bring actions of God's grace to those in need.

As servant leaders, **deacons** model the service they encourage in others and equip the baptized to live out their own call to *diakonia*: to serve, advocate, work for social and climate justice, and bear witness to God's love in the world.

DEACONS



With sustaining hope in the expansive wholeness of God, **deacons** create pathway for connection, action, compassion and care through deep listening and prophetic action.



Interested in learning more about **DIACONAL MINISTRY**?
Visit us at: <https://elcic.ca/diaconal-sunday/>

Holy Week



Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24 at 9:30 am

Celebrate with us Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with palm branches and song in an Intergenerational Service.



Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28

Soup Supper at 5:00 pm, Service at 7:00 pm

Gather to commemorate the Last Supper and the Footwashing.



Good Friday

Friday, March 29 at 9:30 am

Join us to observe the most solemn day of the church year; the day Jesus was crucified.



Easter Vigil

Saturday, March 30 at 8:00 pm

Come join us for the most important service of the entire year...celebrated for the first time in a long time here at St. Matthews!



Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31 at 9:30 am

Hallelujah! Christ has risen! This day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Sing hallelujahs and celebrate with great joy!

Contact Information

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