

EASTER

JESUS IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 5, 2024

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"Variations on Hymn to Joy"</i>	J. Vandertuin
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 384	<i>"That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright"</i>	
*Greeting		
*Glory to God		p. 213
*Prayer of the Day		
Anthem	<i>"Living Our Blessings"</i>	S. Knarr

Word

First Reading		Acts 10:44-28
Psalm Hymn 726	<i>"Light Dawns on a Weary World"</i>	
Second Reading		1 John 5:1-6
*Gospel Acclamation		p. 216
*Gospel Reading		John 15:9-17
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day 708	<i>"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"</i>	

Thanksgiving

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

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing	A: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
*Hymn 595	<i>"Jesus Loves Me!"</i>
*Dismissal	A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!
Postlude	<i>"March in G"</i> E. LeBlanc

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This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: John Heil

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

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

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

Worship Notes

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

Chapel Rededication: Following worship this morning we will gather briefly in the Chapel. As the main function of the Chapel is now transitioning from a primarily liturgical and sacred space to a multipurpose/meeting space, we will rededicate it to mark the occasion.

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 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

St. Peter's Breakfast Group: We meet next on Tuesday, May 21 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 Franz Tschoegel of the City of Kitchener Fire Department. In light of the increasing number of tragic fires with loss of property and life, it is good for us to refresh our knowledge of fire safety. This is not only for our benefit and that of our families. We also need to consider the effect of fires on our neighbours, wider community and first responders. Looking ahead, our speaker on June 18 will be from Hospice Waterloo. **Please RSVP to the May event via Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-peters-breakfast-club-tickets-885650874607?aff=oddtcreator>) or by contacting Gary Schlueter, Willi Bauer or Sue Parker.**

Contact Information

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FEATURING PIANO PRODIGY
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Saturday May 11th at 7:30pm
St. Matthews Lutheran Church
54 Benton Street
Kitchener, ON



Space for your notes on today's service, for your personal reflection.



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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