

EPIPHANY

CHRIST OUR LIGHT

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

February 9, 2025

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany / Anniversary Sunday

Sunday, February 9, 2025

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"Marche Pontificale"</i>	C. Gounod
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 665		<i>"Rise, Shine, You People!"</i>
*Greeting		
*This is the Feast		p. 122
*Prayer of the Day		
Anthem	<i>"I Was Glad"</i>	K. Bissell
Children's Message		

Word

First Reading		Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalms 138 (see page 4)		<i>"With Grateful Hearts"</i>
Second Reading		1 Corinthians 15:1-11
*Gospel Acclamation	<i>"Alleluia"</i>	p. 124
*Gospel Reading		Luke 5:1-11
Sermon		
*Hymn 1038 (see page 5)		<i>"God We Gather as Your People"</i>
*Prayers of Intercession		A: hear our prayer
*Peace		

Meal

*Offering Hymn 307		<i>"Light Shone in Darkness"</i>
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*Offering Prayer	
*Great Thanksgiving	p. 129
*Holy, Holy, Holy	p. 130
*Thanksgiving at the Table	p. 130
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)	p. 134
Lamb of God	p. 135
Communion Hymns 483, 822	
*Table Blessing	
*Prayer after Communion	
Sending	
General Announcements	
*Blessing	
*Hymn 538	<i>"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"</i>
*Dismissal	
Postlude	<i>"Finale Jubilante"</i> H. Willan

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The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

With Grateful Heart



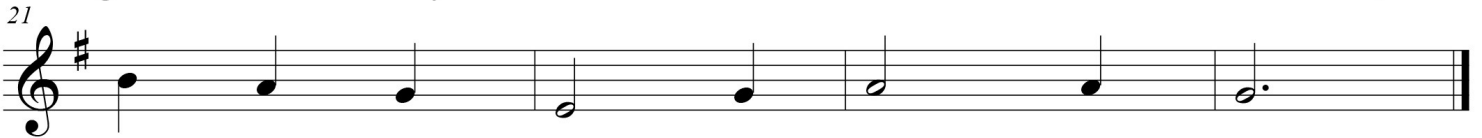
1. With grate - ful heart — my thanks I bring; be - fore the "gods" your
 2. I cried to you — and you — did save; your word of grace new
 3. O Lord, en - throned in glo - ry bright, you reign a - lone in
 4. You will stretch forth — your migh - ty arm to save me when my



praise I'll sing. I wor - ship in — your ho - ly place and praise you
 cour - age gave. The kings of earth shall thank you, Lord, for they have
 heaven ly height; the proud in vain your fa - vour seek, but you have
 foes — a - larm. The work you have for me — be - gun shall by your



for your truth and grace; for truth and grace to - geth - er shine
 heard your won - drous word; yes, they shall come with songs of praise
 mer - cy for — the meek. Through trou - ble though my path - way be,
 grace be ful - ly done. Your love for - ev - er will en - dure;



in your most ho - ly Word di - vine.
 for great and glo - rious are your ways.
 you will re - vive - rious and strength - en me.
 your mer - cy, Lord, is ev - er er sure.

words: Psalter, 1912, public domain

music: ST. CATHERINE Henri Hemy and James Walton, public domain

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.

God, We Gather As Your People



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we
that they nev - er have a rea - son to
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

Refrain



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e-nough for ev-'ry-one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

Text: David Lohman, b. 1961

Music: WELCOME BE OUR SONG, David Lohman

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Leading Worship Today

Minister: Pastor Carey Meadows-Helmer

Guest Preacher: Bishop Carla Blakley

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Communion Server: Pat Gillick

Lector: Rev'd Dr. Allen Jorgenson

Prayers of Intercession: Ivan George

Cross Bearer: Paul Gross

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, Sarah Hu-A-Kam, Dylan Siebert, Drew Aarssen, Emmanuel Dye

Celebration Bells: Julia Crnko, Jamie Cross, Mikala Hunt, Gwenanne Jorgenson, Christine Klaver-Schmidt, Linda McLellan, Kim Schaner, Chloe Schmidt, Sam Schmidt, Simon Thompson, Mary-Ellen Winkler

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

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

Worship Notes

In our prayers George, Anneke, Judy, Clare, Yvonne, Jeanette, Meaghan, Henry, Maureen and John.

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.

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

The 2025 Tithe Task Force is seeking a few more congregational member volunteers to become engaged in this year's selection process. They would be recommending donations to worthy community charitable and not-for-profit organizations from the pro-

ceeds of the property sale a few years back. If you have an interest to serve in this capacity please contact Pastor Sebastian, Jim Treusch or Tim Schaner.

Spiritual Discernment on the Election of a New National Bishop - At the 2025 ELCIC National Convention, delegates will elect a new National Bishop. The ELCIC's National Church Council invites members into a discernment process leading up to the election. Further information about the discernment process is available on the ELCIC website. As of January 2025, a form is now available for individuals to complete when they are ready to formally identify someone they feel has the skills and gifts for the call to serve as national bishop. Supporting materials and the form are available on the 2025 ELCIC National Convention section of the ELCIC website. If you have questions about the process, please submit them via email to *discernment@elcic.ca* .

Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462 stmattskw.com

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer	Ext. 3	pastorcarey@stmattskw.com
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Deacon Scott Knarr	Ext. 4	deaconscott@stmattskw.com
Leanne Vanderhout	Ext. 6	lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



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St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WINTER SOCIAL

FEBRUARY 19, 2025

1:00 – 3:00 PM

STAY WARM BY CONNECTING WITH FRIENDS
IN THE COMMUNITY HALL
WITH FOOD, CONVERSATION AND MUSIC
(COMMUNION AT 2:30 PM)

RSVP: 519-742-0462 / info@stmattskw.com

Church Breakfast Group: We meet next on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at Kypreos Restaurant, 305 Lancaster St. W. Kitchener. Attendees order from the menu and pay for their own meals. Everyone is welcome. Our speaker will be Shawn Hlowatzki, President of the Board of Directors for HopeSpring Cancer Support Centre. Since 1995 this non-profit organization has been providing support and resources to individuals affected by cancer. With local hospitals handling the medical aspects of cancer, HopeSpring offers a warm and inviting environment where individuals can focus on managing their mental and emotional well being through a variety of wellness programs which are offered free of charge. HopeSpring is now situated in the St. Matthews Church building. Shawn is a very engaging speaker who is eager to share his passion about HopeSpring's impact on our community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US

FEB. 7

SPAGETTI DINNER & GAMES

5:30 -7:30 PM

RSVP BY FEB. 4 TO PASTOR CAREY

FEB. 9

BISHOP VISIT & LUNCHEON

FEB. 19

WINTER SOCIAL 1 PM - 3 PM

MAR. 4

SHROVE TUESDAY DINNER 5- 7 PM

MAR. 5

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

**SUNDAY
SCHOOL**

JAN. 26, FEB. 9, 23, MARCH 9, 30

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK THE
WEBSITE, WEEKLY NEWS, OR CALL THE
OFFICE.**

ST. MATTHEWS LUTHERAN CHURCH

SHROVE TUESDAY DINNER

MARCH 4, 2025

Doors open at 4:30 pm

Dinner 5 - 7 pm

A variety of pancakes (flapjacks & potato), sausage and beverages.

HOSTED IN THE COMMUNITY HALL
ENTRY OFF OF BENTON STREET PARKING LOT

54 BENTON STREET
KITCHENER

Special Offering Dates for 2025

For those who do not use boxed offering envelopes, the following are the Special Offering dates for 2025.

01-Jan	Initial offering	04-May	Flowers for the Sanctuary
06-Jan	Epiphany	08-Jun	Pentecost
12-Jan	Out of the Cold	12-Oct	Thanksgiving
05-Mar	Ash Wednesday	26-Oct	Reformation
13-Apr	Palm Sunday	02-Nov	Out of the Cold
18-Apr	Good Friday	09-Nov	Building Improvements
20-Apr	Easter Sunday	24-Dec	Christmas Eve
27-Apr	Building Improvements	25-Dec	Christmas Day

Your consideration, and contributions are sincerely appreciated.
The white generic envelopes in the pew boxes may be used for your donations.
Please add your recording number to any envelope you chose to use
Thank you for your thoughtful generosity.



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