

EASTER

JESUS IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

May 11, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 11, 2025

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Prelude | <i>"Musette"</i> | R. Vaughan Williams |
| Words of Welcome & Service Announcements | | |
| *Hymn 394 (vs. Easter 1 & 2) | | <i>"Hail Thee, Festival Day"</i> |
| *Greeting | | |
| *This is the Feast | | p. 122 |
| *Prayer of the Day | | |
| Anthem | <i>"If We Believe That Jesus Died"</i> | J. Goss |

Word

| | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| First Reading | | Acts 9:36-43 |
| Psalms Hymn 778 | | <i>"The Lord's My Shepherd"</i> |
| Second Reading | | Revelation 7:9-17 |
| *Gospel Acclamation | <i>"Alleluia"</i> | p. 124 |
| *Gospel Reading | | John 10:22-30 |
| Sermon | | |
| *Hymn of the Day 419 (vs. 1, 2, 10, Last) | | <i>"For All the Faithful Women"</i> |
| *Nicene Creed | | p. 126 |
| *Prayers of Intercession | | A: Your mercy is great. |
| *Peace | | |

Meal

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| *Offering Hymn 388 | <i>"Be Not Afraid"</i> |
| *Offering Prayer | |

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|--|--------|
| *Great Thanksgiving | p. 129 |
| *Holy, Holy, Holy | p. 130 |
| *Thanksgiving at the Table IX | p. 68 |
| *Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, in heaven...</i>) | p. 134 |
| Lamb of God | p. 135 |

Communion Hymn 789

"Saviour Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

*Table Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Sending Hymn 502

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

*Dismissal

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

A: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

"Marche Héroïque"

H. Brewer

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The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those "who have come out of the great ordeal" in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Pastor Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Scott Kuschnereit

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Communion Server: Rev. Dr. Allen Jorgenson

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

Broadcast: Jamie Foley

Building Monitor: Don Robins (519-502-2099)

Worship Notes

In our prayers Kevin, Betty, 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.
- **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.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.

- **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

Save the Date – Town Halls

Our Pastoral Team and the Board of Directors invite you to two important Town Hall Meetings. Please save the following dates to attend.

May 25th – Purpose & Values—after Worship in the Community Hall – Lunch Provided. We will be exploring our Purpose & Values as a congregation. A survey was handed out at the AGM Meeting and would ask you to return by May 18th. The results of the Survey will be discussed at this meeting.

June 1st - Principles—after Worship in the Community Hall – Lunch Provided. We will follow-up from the Purpose & Values conversations from the previous Town Hall and reflect on some pondering questions regarding our Principles. We want our members to have the opportunity to tell us how you envision St. Matthews future.

We look forward to sharing our voices, St. Matthews Board of Directors and Pastoral Team.

Come and join Ron and Bev for a special coffee hour on Sunday May 18th, as we celebrate our 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Sunday, May 11. Join Menno Singers and Menno Youth Ensemble for a unique progressive concert and fundraising event in downtown Kitchener, 'Songs for a Healing City.' 1:30pm: Downtown Walk and Sing starting at St Matthew's Lutheran Church (54 Benton Street). Visit 4 downtown sites addressing housing challenges to hear stories from local partners and responses in song. 3:00pm: Concert back at the church. Donation by free-will offering with all proceeds to support partner organizations. For more information- www.mennosingers.com

Church Breakfast Group: We meet next on Tuesday, May 20, 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 speakers will be Deacon Scott Knarr of St. Matthews and Lana Moses. They will speak to us about the Feather and Cross program which brings together Lutherans and Indigenous folks in the urban context to learn and share with one another.

Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462 stmattskw.com

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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.



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.



Zac Perry grew up surrounded by music and community at St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Kitchener, where he first found his voice singing in the congregation and keeping rhythm as the drummer in the youth group band. His love for music and connection to faith took root there, shaping his early years.

After high school, Zac moved to London, Ontario, for school studying Music and Sound Design and eventually made his way to Toronto, spending the next 18 years on the road—exploring life, chasing opportunity, and growing both personally and musically. Now, after nearly two decades away, Zac has returned home to Kitchener and back to where it all began: the stage at St. Matthews. With a heart full of gratitude and a voice seasoned by the journey, he's thrilled to share his music once again with the community that first believed in him.

Zac Perry & Alex McVittie - Country Hits with a Twist! on Saturday, May 25 at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$30 each and available from Deacon Scott or www.kwtickets.ca Inter-mission snacks will be available!



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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