

PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

July 6, 2025

Travels, Trips, and Journeys:
A Service of Word and Song for Summer
Sunday, July 6, 2025
(indicates the assembly stands)*

Hymn Sing

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Gathering Hymn 618

"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Psalm 139: 1-14 (see page 5)

(spoken)

1. Plans and Preparations

Reading

Ephesians 6:10-13a

Dialogue

L: What should we pack as we begin our journey?

A: What should we bring along?

L: The word of God to illumine our path.

A: The light of Christ to show us the way.

L: The gifts of the Spirit to share with those we meet.

A: The love of God to be our compass and guide.

L: Let us pray. God of our salvation,

Prayer

Hymn 514 (vs. 1 & 2)

"O Word of God Incarnate"

2. Setting Out

Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a,7-9

Dialogue

L: God called to Abraham:

A: "Go! Set out! And I will bless you."

L: God calls to us:

A: "Come! Feel the water on your head!"

L: Hear the promise of new life.

A: Spread my word through all the world."

Prayer

Hymn 446

"I'm Going on a Journey"

3. On the Road

Reading

Mark 1:35-39

Dialogue

L: On the Galilean road, Jesus stopped to reflect and pray.

A: We, too, long for rest and a balm for our souls.

L: Seeing those in need, Jesus healed, taught, and fed.

A: We are called to live as servants, loving our neighbours as ourselves

L: Holding the children close, Jesus blessed them;

A: for to such as these the kingdom of heaven belongs.

L: On the road to Bethlehem, the true light came into the world.

A: And the Word became flesh and lived among us and we have seen his glory.

Prayer

Hymn 636

"How Small Our Span of Life"

4. When the Way Becomes Hard

Reading

1 Kings 19:1-8

Dialogue

L: We sit like Elijah alone in the wilderness.

A: "It is enough, O Lord."

L: The troubles of life overwhelm our spirits.

A: "It is enough, O Lord."

L: The way seems too dark; the valleys, too deep.

A: "It is enough, O Lord."

L: God rescues us from despair and grants us strength.

A: "You are beloved, my precious child."

Prayer

Hymn 624 (vs. 1 & 4)

"Jesus, Still Lead On"

Joyful Homecomings

Reading

Philippians 3:12-16, 4:1

Dialogue

L: "Do not let your hearts be troubled."

A: We believe in God, we believe in Christ.

L: "I go to prepare a dwelling place for you."

A: You are the way, the truth, and the life.

L: "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you." Lord, we abide in your love.

A: for to such as these the kingdom of heaven belongs.

L: On the road to Bethlehem, the true light came into the world.

A: "You know the way to the place where I am going." Jesus, lead us in the path of your peace.

Prayer

Hymn 697 (vs. 1 & 2)

"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"

Reflection

*Hymn of the Day 808

"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"

*Prayers of Intercession

A: hear our prayer.

*Offering Song 756 (vs. 4)

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

*Thanksgiving for the Word

*Lord's Prayer

*Sending Song 545 (vs. 1 & 2)

"Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing"

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Cover image and Liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB142079

Psalm 139:1-14

¹LORD, you have ^l searched me out;
O LORD, ^l you have known me.

²You know my sitting down and my ^l rising up;
you discern my thoughts ^l from afar.

³You trace my journeys and my ^l resting-places
and are acquainted with ^l all my ways.

⁴Indeed, there is not a word ^l on my lips,
but you, O LORD, know it ^l altogether.

⁵You encompass me, behind ^l and before,
and lay your ^l hand upon me.

⁶Such knowledge is too wonder- ^l ful for me;
it is so high that I cannot at- ^l tain to it.

⁷Where can I go then ^l from your Spirit?
Where can I flee ^l from your presence?

⁸If I climb up to heaven, ^l you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you ^l are there also.

⁹If I take the wings ^l of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts ^l of the sea,

¹⁰even there your ^l hand will lead me
and your right hand ^l hold me fast.

¹¹If I say, "Surely the darkness will ^l cover me,
and the light around me ^l turn to night,"

¹²darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright ^l as the day;
darkness and light to you are ^l both alike.

¹³For you yourself created my ^l inmost parts;

you knit me together in my ^l mother's womb.

¹⁴ **I will thank you because I am mar- ^l velously made;
your works are wonderful, and I ^l know it well.**

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Pastor Carey Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Kim Schaner

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

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

Worship Notes

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

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.
- **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

Coffee Hour: Please note there is no coffee hour for the summer, see you in the fall!

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.

Upcoming Staff Holidays: Pastors Carey and Sebastian—Holidays July 28 - August 24. Pastors Carey and Sebastian will be on holidays during August. Rev'd Monika Wiesner will be leading worship on Sundays. **Deacon Scott**—Holidays July 14 - August 11. Chris Bramble will be the guest musician July 20 & 27. Bob Loeb sack will be the guest musician August 3 & 10. **Leanne**- Holidays July 21-25, August 25-29. Please contact Pastors Sebastian or Carey or someone from the Board of Directors during this time with urgent matters. Please note, the office will be closed.

Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462 stmattskw.com

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer	Ext. 3	pastorcarey@stmattskw.com
Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer	Ext. 2	pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com
Deacon Scott Knarr	Ext. 4	deaconsconfig@stmattskw.com
Leanne Vanderhout	Ext. 6	lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)



[Donate](#)

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.



JULY 7-10

Expanding Harmonies

3 CITIES
4 DAYS
8 CONCERTS
100 db

ORGAN FESTIVAL
CANADA

KITCHENER • WATERLOO • GUELPH



THE ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS
LE COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES



Conseil des arts du Canada
Canada Council for the Arts



WWW.RCCO.COM/OFC/TICKETS