

REFORMATION

GOD OUR REFUGE AND OUR STRENGTH

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

October 26, 2025

Reformation Sunday/ Intergenerational Sunday

Sunday, October 26, 2025

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"As the Deer / Beautiful Saviour"</i>	M. Hayes
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Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness p. 116

*Hymn 857 “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Anthem	<i>"Flying Free"</i>	D. Besig
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Children's Message

Word

Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34

*Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia” p. 151

*Gospel Reading John 8:31-36

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day (see page 4) *“God Makes Us Free”*

***Prayers of Intercession** **A: receive our prayer.**

*Peace

Meal

*Offering Hymn 885 *"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"*

*Offering Prayer

*Great Thanksgiving p. 152

*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 153

*Thanksgiving at the Table I	p. 153
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)	p. 154
Lamb of God	p. 155
Communion Hymns 598, 453	
Table Blessing	
Prayer after Communion	
Sending	
General Announcements	
*Blessing	
*Hymn 505	<i>"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"</i>
*Dismissal	A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>"We Come to the Hungry Feast"</i> D. Cherwien

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Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church is continually being reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. God makes us free through Christ's redemptive work on the cross and the Holy Spirit gathers us together in baptism, communion, prayer and song. Showered in God's grace we share God's love with our neighbours and all the world in our daily lives.

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 Makes Us Free

Scott Knarr

1. Fear - ful, proud and a - lone, we hide our deep - est fail - ings far a -
2. Grace flows down from a - bove and fills our hearts with hope, and faith grows
3. Hid - den God on the cross who takes on hu - man form, who saves us

4
way. Seek - ing wealth and con - trol, we cling on tight - ly more ev - 'ry
strong. Je - sus shows us the way, a li - ber - a - ting Word: all be -
all. O - pen wide our hearts, de - stroy - ing all mis - trust: walls will

8 Refrain:
day. God makes us free to love our neigh - bour, Christ re - deems the world from
long!
fall.

12
sin, The Ho - ly Spi - rit ga - thers souls to - ge - ther, bring - ing peace for all with - in.

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Leading Worship Today

Preaching Minister: Deacon Scott Knarr

Presiding Minister: Pastor Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Linda McLellan

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, Dylan Siebert,
Drew Aarssen

Communion Server: Jeanette Harrop

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

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

Worship Notes

In our prayers Kevin, Betty, Anneke, Judy, 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.
- **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

Members of our choir will be joined by several of our handbell ringers and musicians at Trillium Lutheran this afternoon for a special service to highlight the appeal for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. Please join us October 26, 2025, at 3 pm at Trillium, 22 Willow St, Waterloo.

Coffee Hour Needs Your Help! Join our team of Coffee Hour hosts! We're looking for at least two more couples to help host coffee hour 4-5 times between November and June. Everything you need is provided — you just brew the coffee and tea; set out juice, water, cream, sugar, and cookies; enjoy the fellowship and help with cleanup. Written instructions are available, and Bev will walk you through the process. This is a wonderful way to serve our congregation and connect with others! If you can help, please contact Bev Roeder at 519-505-1594.

Remembrance Sunday, November 9 - This year, we will celebrate Remembrance Sunday, (likely for the first time since 2003) commemorating the 80th anniversary of the conclusion of WWII. We will remember military personnel, and particularly those who served or fell in the conflicts of the past hundred years. Rev. Hans Borch, retired Lutheran military chaplain, will be the guest speaker. If you have any names that you would like to have remembered as part of the service, please pass them on to Pastor Sebastian or Leanne by November 5th.

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

Today: Congregational Workshop & Luncheon: Priorities

Sunday, November 2: Daylight Savings Ends, All Saints Sunday, Sunday School, Confirmation

Sunday, November 9: Remembrance Sunday

Sunday, November 30: Advent Carol Service at 7 pm

Wednesday, December 3: Christmas Social (11 am - 2 pm)

Sunday, December 14: Sunday School Pageant

Wednesday, December 24: German Language Christmas Eve Service (5:00pm)

Wednesday, December 24: English Language Christmas Eve Service (7:30 pm)

Thursday, December 25: Christmas Day Service (9:30 am)

Wednesday, December 31: New Year's Eve Service (4:30 pm)

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.



Contact Information

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Advent Carol Service

Mary's Song



featuring **Magnificat** H.79 by
Marc-Antoine Charpentier
with Caroline Schmidt, mezzo-
soprano; Drew Aarssen, bass
Allene Chomyn and Sebastian
Meadows-Helmer, baroque
violins

**Sunday, November 30,
2025 at 7 pm**

Freewill Offering



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

**54 BENTON STREET
KITCHENER**

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