

PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

November 16, 2025

Pentecost 23 / Intergenerational Service

Sunday, November 16, 2025

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude

“Shall We Gather at the River”

J. Leavitt

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness (see page 4)

*Hymn 723

“Canticle of the Turning”

*Greeting

*Kyrie

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*Prayer of the Day

Anthem

“Living Our Blessings”

S. Knarr

Children's Message

Word

Reading

Malachi 4:1-2a

*Gospel Acclamation *“Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?”*

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*Gospel Reading

Luke 21:5-19

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day WOV 736

“By Gracious Powers”

*Apostles' Creed

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Duet

“Rondeau”

H. Purcell

*Prayers of Intercession

A: Your mercy is great.

*Peace

Thanksgiving

*Canticle of Thanksgiving

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*Thanksgiving for the Word

*Lord's Prayer (*Our Father in heaven...*)

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Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 439

"Soon and Very Soon"

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Weep Yet Awhile"

D. Aarssen

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The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

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.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be ...

Faithful God,

A: you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.

We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.

Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life.

Amen.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Pastor Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

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

Flute: Julia Crnko

Cellist: James Meadows-Helmer

Lector: Rev. Dr. Allen Jorgenson

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

Building Monitor: Steve Dickin (519-580-8407)

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

2026 Boxed Offering Envelopes are available for pick up from November 30 through December 31. After December 31, envelopes will be available from the Church Office.

Annual Budget Meeting following the service on Sunday, December 7. Printed budgets as well as large-print versions will be available on November 23rd. All voting members are encouraged to attend this important meeting to discuss the 2026 budget!

Church Breakfast Group: We meet next on Tuesday, November 18 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. Everyone is welcome. Our speaker will be Julie Walder, executive director of Marillac Place. This organization, located in downtown Kitchener provides housing and support to up to ten women who are either pregnant or parenting a child under 24 months of age. Julie is a member of St. Matthews Church.

Contact Information

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Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

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)

Advent Carol Service

Mary's Song



All are invited to join us for our annual Advent Carol Service which takes place on Sunday, November 30, 2025 at 7 pm. The featured work this year is the setting of the Magnificat (Mary's Song) by Marc-Antoine Charpentier. Charpentier was a French baroque composer during the reign of Louis XIV and extremely prolific with more than 800 sacred and secular works. We will be singing the "Third Magnificat" numbered H. 79 for trio with SATB chorus and accompanied by harpsichord and 2 baroque violins.

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

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