

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

THIS IS MY BELOVED

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

January 11, 2026

Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 11, 2026

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"Basse de trompette"</i>	J. Guilain
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 304	<i>"Christ, When for us You Were Baptized"</i>	
*Greeting		
*Glory to God		p. 213
*Prayer of the Day		
Children's Message		
Solo	<i>"We Walk With God"</i>	M. Caldwell

Word

First Reading		Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29 (see page 4)		(sung responsively)
Second Reading		Acts 10:34-43
*Gospel Acclamation	<i>"Alleluia"</i>	p. 188
*Gospel Reading		Matthew 3:13-17
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day (see page 5)		<i>"Down Galilee's Slow Roadways"</i>
*Prayers of Intercession		A: receive our prayer.
*Peace		

Meal

*Offering Hymn 456 vs. 1, 3		<i>"Baptized in Water"</i>
*Offering Prayer		
*Great Thanksgiving		p. 190
*Holy, Holy, Holy		p. 190

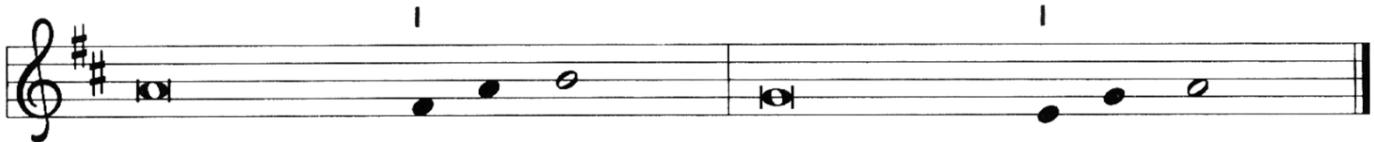
*Thanksgiving at the Table		
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)		p. 134
Lamb of God		p. 191
Communion Hymn 459		"Wade in the Water"
*Table Blessing		
*Prayer after Communion		
Sending		
HopeSpring Sharing		
General Announcements		
*Blessing		
*Sending Hymn 538		"The Lord Now Sends Forth"
*Dismissal		
Postlude	"Allegro from Sonatina in G, Op. 59 No. 2"	O. Bolock

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In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

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.

Tone 1



¹Ascribe to the ¹ LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- ¹ ry and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory ¹ due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- ¹ ty of holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of ¹ glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the ¹ mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is a ¹ powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a ¹ voice of splendor.

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the ¹ cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ¹ cedars of Lebanon;

⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip ¹ like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a ¹ young wild ox.

⁷The voice ¹ of the LORD
bursts forth in ¹ lightning flashes.

⁸The voice of the LORD ¹ shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- ¹ ness of Kadesh.

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the ¹ forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are ¹ crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned a- ¹ bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- ¹ evermore.

¹¹O LORD, give strength ¹ to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- ¹ ings of peace.

Down Galilee's Slow Roadways



1 Down Gal - i - lee's slow road - ways a strang - er trav - eled on
2 A - ris - ing from the riv - er he saw the heav - ens torn;
3 We too have found a road - way; it led us to this place.



from Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John.
it seemed the sky so o - pen re - vealed the Spir - it's form.
We all have had to trav - el in search of hope and grace.



He went down to the wa - ters like sol - dier, scribe, and slave,
The ho - ly dove de - scend - ed a - mid a glo - rious voice:
But now be - side this wa - ter a - gain a voice is heard.



but there with - in the riv - er the sign was birth and grave.
"You are my own be - lov - ed, my child, my heart, my choice."
"You are my own, my cho - sen, be - lov - ed of your Lord."

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: MERLE'S TUNE, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

Sunday, January 18: Special Congregational Meeting

Wednesday, January 21: Christian Unity Gathering at 7 pm

Saturday, January 31: Spirituality & Healthy Ageing at 10 am

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Bob Loeksack

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Choral Scholar: Hannah Swiderski

Communion Server: Jeanette Harrop

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

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

Worship Notes

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

Today we welcome Shawn Hlowatzki from HopeSpring Cancer Support Centre, one of our tithe recipients and a space sharer in the building. He will share about the work of HopeSpring during worship.

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

Special Congregational Meeting January 18, 2026. Following worship on Sunday, January 18th, we will have a congregational meeting to vote on a motion regarding the sale of the 14 Church Street property. All voting members are encouraged to attend!

Christian Unity Gathering: An informal time of sharing, worship and fellowship. On Wednesday, January 21st, from 7-8 pm, come meet some of the many congregations that share space here: Anugrah Nepali Church, Bethel Christian Fellowship, Christ Lifter International Church and UNA Church. It is an incredible gift that we are all worshipping God in different ways and in different spaces throughout the week, and this is an opportunity to connect and mutually encourage ourselves in our mission in downtown Kitchener. We'll meet in the Community Hall. If you're planning on attending and can help with hospitality, please let Pastor Sebastian know.

Contact Information

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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 www.stmatthewscentre.ca. The St. Matthews Centre also has a Facebook page, which you can "follow" to get updates.



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