

BLACK HISTORY MONTH SUNDAY

CELEBRATING CANADIAN HISTORY



UPLIFTING FUTURE GENERATIONS

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

February 1, 2026

Black History / Intergenerational

Sunday, February 1, 2026

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude	" <i>Njoo kwetu, roho Mwema</i> "	A. Krentz Organ
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 819		" <i>Come, All You People</i> "
*Greeting		
*Glory to God		p. 213
*Prayer of the Day		
Children's Message		
Anthem	" <i>What Does God Demand?</i> "	S. Knarr
Greetings from Christ Lifter International Church		

Word

First Reading		Micah 6:1-8
*Hymn 529		" <i>Jesus, We Are Gathered</i> "
Second Reading		1 Corinthians 1:18-31
*Gospel Acclamation	" <i>Alleluia</i> "	p. 216
*Gospel Reading		Matthew 5:1-12
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day (see page 4)		" <i>Welcome Table</i> "
*Prayers of Intercession		A: receive our prayer.
*Peace		

Thanksgiving for the Word

*Offering Hymn (see page 5)	" <i>Over My Head</i> "
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*Thanksgiving for the Word		p. 220
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)		p. 221
Duet	"The Joker"	A. Grechaninov
Sending		
General Announcements		
*Blessing		
*Sending Hymn 677		"This Little Light of Mine"
*Dismissal		A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	"Linstead Market"	M. Sedio

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Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

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.

Welcome Table

1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
 2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm goin' - a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: WELCOME TABLE, African American spiritual; arr. Mark Hayes, b. 1953
 Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

Over My Head

Over my head, I hear music in the air, (3x)
There must be a God somewhere.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

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

Piano: Bob Loebssack

Cello: James Meadows-Helmer

Violin: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Guest Speakers: Pastors Ann & Oluwakayode (Christ Lifter International Church)

Lector: John McLellan

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

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

Worship Notes

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

Worship Music Notes: North American composers have often sought inspiration from African music, especially Spirituals and Black Gospel tunes that are popularized in African American communities. Lutheran composers Anne Krentz Organ and Mark Sedio have arranged organ voluntaries based on well-known tunes from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, which have their roots in Black communities. "Njoo kwetu, roho Mwema" is hymn #401 Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

composed by Tanzanian Lutheran Pastor and Musician Wilson Niwagila. "Linstead Market" is the tune for hymn #674 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, a text by Fred Kaan to this catchy Jamaican folk song. "Over My Head" may be new to us as it does not appear in our hymnbook. The song was an important contribution during the civil rights movement of the 1960s when Bernice Johnson Reagon added the text "I see freedom in the air". We continue to pray for freedom for all peoples and places in our world today.

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.

Contact Information

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Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

Sunday, February 8: 122nd anniversary with guest preacher Rev. Katherine Gohm (Altenburg)

Friday, February 13: Dinner & Games at 5:30 pm

Tuesday, February 17: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at 5 pm

Wednesday, February 18: Ash Wednesday Service at 7 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 www.stmatthewscentre.ca.

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





St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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