

EASTER

JESUS IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

April 26, 2026

Easter 4 / Good Shepherd Sunday

Sunday, April 26, 2026

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"Cantique"</i>	S. Vann
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 382		<i>"Christ Is Risen! Alleluia"</i>
*Greeting		
*This is the Feast		p. 187
*Prayer of the Day		
Children's Time		
Sharing: The Olive Branch for Children		
Anthem	<i>"The Lord Is My Shepherd"</i>	J. Rutter

Word

First Reading		Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalms Hymn 780		<i>"Shepherd Me, O God"</i>
Second Reading		1 Peter 1:3-9
*Gospel Acclamation	<i>"Alleluia"</i>	p. 188
*Gospel Reading		John 20:19-31
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day 778		<i>"The Lord's My Shepherd"</i>
*Prayers of Intercession		A: receive our prayer.
*Peace		

Meal

*Offering Hymn 367, vs. 4		<i>"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"</i>
*Offering Prayer		
*Great Thanksgiving		p. 190

*Holy, Holy, Holy	p. 190
*Thanksgiving at the Table	
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father in heaven...</i>)	p. 191
Communion Hymns 484, 789	
Table Blessing	
Prayer after Communion	
Sending	
General Announcements	
*Blessing	
*Hymn (see page 4)	<i>"Guide My Feet"</i>
*Dismissal	A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.
Postlude	<i>"Finale"</i> A. Moore

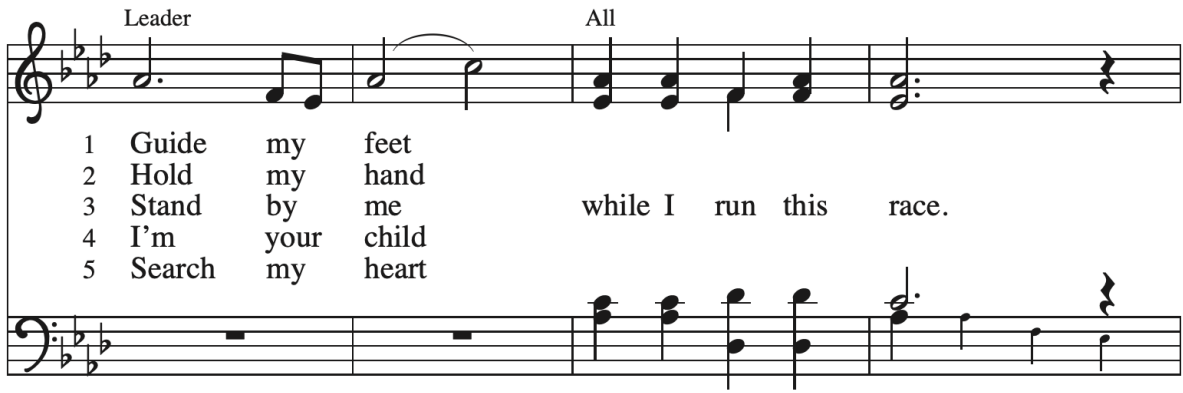
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Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

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.

Guide My Feet

Leader



All

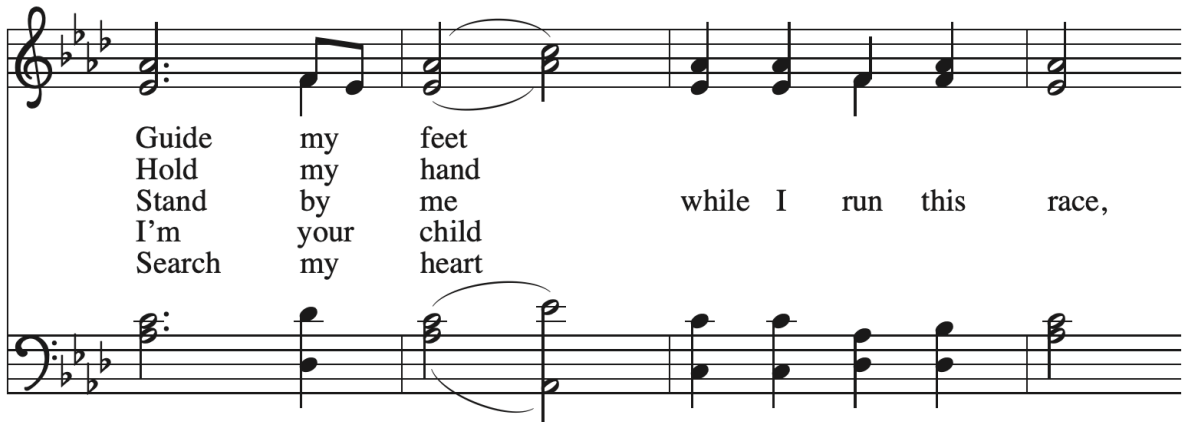
1 Guide my feet
2 Hold my hand
3 Stand by me while I run this race.
4 I'm your child
5 Search my heart

Yes, my Lord!



Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race.
I'm your child
Search my heart

Yes, my Lord!



Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race,
I'm your child
Search my heart



for I don't want to run this race in vain.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual; arr. *This Far by Faith*
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Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister & Piano: Bob Loeb sack

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

TOBFC Sharing: Deborah McCracken-Nangereke

Communion Server: Pat Gii lck

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

Broadcast: Jamie Foley

Building Monitor: Dennis Diebolt (519-571-4525)

Worship Notes

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

All are welcome at the meal where Jesus is present loving and forgiving us. For the wine, there is a common cup station and a pouring chalice station (please take an empty small glass). There is also a small tray of pre-poured grape juice glasses. Gluten-free wafers are also available; please indicate this request to the Pastor. If you would (also) like to receive a blessing, please approach the Pastor with your arms crossed over your chest. If you'd like to receive Communion in your pew, the pastor will come to you. Please let an usher or the pastor know before worship if possible.

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

This Sunday, April 26, please consider supporting future building improvements. For those of you who receive boxed envelopes, there is a special blue envelope to donate. For anyone else, you can use the white envelopes on the back of the pews and mark the donation for Building Improvements.

There is no Coffee Hour this Sunday. Please join us in the Sanctuary following the service for our Annual Congregational Meeting.

Prayer Walk with members of Christ Lifter International, UNA and St. Matthews. Saturday, May 9, 2026, 10 - noon. We will gather at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall for an orientation, go for a 45-minute prayer walk around the church and then come back for a time of fellowship! Rain or Shine! Come pray for our neighbourhood and our community, get some exercise and meet some other Christians!



Seasons of Love... musical selections from Mozart to Andrew Lloyd Webber, sung by our choral scholars including a song with the Sanctuary Choir. Join us on Saturday, May 23, 2026 at 7:30 pm for this special fundraising concert with proceeds to the St. Matthews Foundation (admission by donation). Invite your friends!

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

Sunday, April 26: Annual Congregational Meeting following the service

Sunday, May 3: Sunday School

Sunday, May 9: Prayer Walk at 10 am

Saturday, May 23: Seasons of Love at 7:30 pm

Sunday, May 31: Spring BBQ, Sunday School & Confirmation

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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