

EASTER

JESUS IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

May 3, 2026

Easter 5

Sunday, May 3, 2026

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"Sonata in C: Allegro"</i>	J.S. Bach
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 389	<i>"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"</i>	
Baptism of Lily Edite Denise Casimiro		p. 227
Baptismal Acclamation 212	<i>"You Belong to Christ"</i>	
*Baptismal Hymn 449	<i>"We Know That Christ is Raised"</i>	
*Greeting		
*Prayer of the Day		
Anthem	<i>"Rise Up, My Love"</i>	H. Willan

Word

First Reading		Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (see page 4)		<i>(sung responsively by whole verse)</i>
Second Reading		Romans 8:15-17
*Gospel Acclamation	<i>"Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?"</i>	p. 188
*Gospel Reading		John 14:1-14
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day 781	<i>"Children of the Heavenly Father"</i>	
*Prayers of Intercession		A: receive our prayer.
*Peace		

Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Thanksgiving 458, v. 1, 2	<i>"Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God"</i>	
*Thanksgiving for the Word		
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)		p. 221

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 377

“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Concerto in G: Allegro”

J.S. Bach

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As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today’s gospel includes Jesus’ promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father’s house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus’ mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

Leading Worship Today

Ministers: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer and Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Rev. Dr. Allen Jorgenson

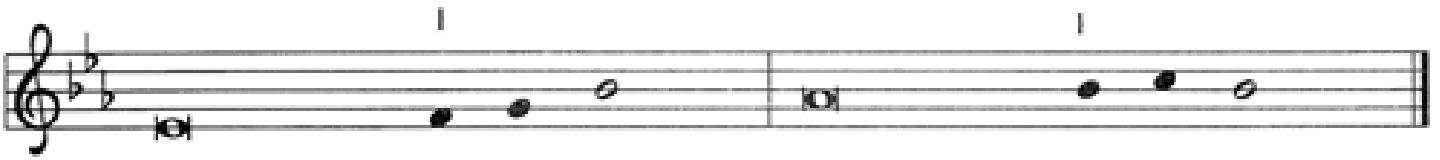
Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, Lindsay Scott, Dylan Siebert, Drew Aarssen

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

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

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Tone 4



¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to shame;
deliver me | in your righteousness.

²Incline your | ear to me;
make haste to de- | liver me.

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag | and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.

⁴Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for me,
for you are my tow- | er of strength.

⁵Into your hands I com- | mend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, | God of truth.

¹⁵My times are | in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.

¹⁶Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
save me in your | steadfast love.

Worship Notes

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

Baptized today is Lily Edite Denise Casimiro born January 15, 2025, of parents Alyssa Brianna Durbin Casimiro and Danny Delgado Casimiro. Lily's baptismal sponsors are Paula Casimiro and Adam Almeida.

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

This Sunday, May 3, please consider supporting flowers for the sanctuary. 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 Flowers for the Sanctuary.

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!

Book Discussion Group: Pastor Sebastian invites you to participate in a 4-part discussion of the book “Naked Spirituality: a life with God in 12 simple words”, by Brian McLaren. In this 2011 book, he “reinvigorates our approach to spiritual fulfillment...—by tearing down the old dogmatic practices that hamper our spiritual growth, and leading us toward the meaningful spiritual practices that can help transform our lives.” We will meet in-person on Mondays May 25, June 1, 15 and 22 from 1.30-2.30 pm. Please register with Pastor Sebastian by **Sunday, May 10**, so he can order your book. Books will be available for pickup starting Sunday May 17.

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!



Seasons of Love
from Mozart to Andrew Lloyd Webber
musical selections presented by
St. Matthews Choral Scholars
with Sanctuary Choir and friends
Saturday, May 23, 2026 at 7:30 pm
Admission: donations for the St. Matthews Foundation

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

Sunday, May 3: Sunday School

Saturday, May 9: Prayer Walk at 10 am

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

Monday, May 25: Book Discussion Group at 1:30 pm

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

Contact Information

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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.

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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