

EASTER

JESUS IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

May 17, 2026

Easter 7

Sunday, May 17, 2026

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude "The Head That Once Was Crowned" H. Willan

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Hymn 532 "Gather Us In"

*Kyrie p. 184

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Solo "My Eyes for Beauty Pine" H. Howells

Word

First Reading Acts 1:6-14

*Psalm Hymn 649 "Behold, How Pleasant"

Second Reading 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

*Gospel Acclamation "Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?" p. 188

*Gospel Reading John 17:1-11

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day WOV 748 "Bind Us Together"

*Prayers of Intercession **A: receive our prayer.**

*Peace

Thanksgiving

*Canticle of Thanksgiving p. 219

*Thanksgiving for the Word

*Lord's Prayer (Our Father, who art in heaven...) p. 221

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 369

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!"

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"On What Has Now Been Sown"

H. Willan

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In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Kim Schaner

Choral Scholar: Hannah Swiderski

Broadcast: Jamie Foley

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

Worship Notes

In our prayers, Marjorie, Kevin, Betty, Anneke, Judy, 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.
- **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

There is no Coffee Hour this Sunday. See you next week!

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!

Spring Clearing Out Event: Bring your unwanted items to the St. Matthews parking lot on May 23 (9 am to Noon) or May 24 (8:30-9:30 am). Please see the posters in the May newsletter, posted in the church or in the weekly MailChimp for accepted items and additional details. Please contact Steve Dickin for more information.

Church Breakfast Group: We meet next on Tuesday, May 19 at 9:00 a.m. at Kypreos Restaurant, 305 Lancaster St. W. Kitchener. Attendees order from the menu and pay for their own meals. Everyone is welcome. Our speaker will be Carrie Guse, Community Engagement Officer for Food4Kids Waterloo Region. This organization supports children ages 1 to 14 who experience food insecurity by providing healthy food packages for weekends and school breaks. They help keep children well nourished, whether they are at home or school. We supported them in December 2025 as part of the six local Lutheran churches Advent appeal. Carrie is also the Morning Show cohost on Faith FM 93.7 and will join us shortly after 9:00 a.m. when the show ends.

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

Friday, May 22: Dinner & Games at 5:30 pm

Saturday, May 23: Spring Clearing Out Event 9:00 am to Noon

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

Sunday, May 24: Spring Clearing Out Event 8:30 to 9:30 am

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

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

Contact Information

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stmattskw.com

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YOU ARE INVITED TO AN EVENT FOR ALL AGES

DINNER & GAMES

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026

5:30 PM-7:30 PM

BBQ WITH SALADS @ 5:30 PM
GAMES TO FOLLOW

RSVP BY MAY 20
TO PASTOR CAREY



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.





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

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

54 Benton Street, Kitchener

stmattskw.com

Admission: donations for the St. Matthews Foundation

Doing Some Spring Clearing Out?

Bring your Unwanted Items to St. Matthews Lutheran Church
parking lot at 54 Benton Street, Kitchener
on **Saturday, May 23rd, 2026**, from 9:00 am to Noon
and **Sunday, May 24th, 2026**, from 8:30 am to 9:30 am

PLEASE BRING

- Unwanted clothes, shoes, jackets, towels, linens,
- Non-perishable food items,
- Old craft or sewing supplies, old yarn or wool,
- Old eyeglasses, canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs,
- Toys not requiring electricity or batteries, board games
- Non electrical hand tools and garden tools,
- Pencils, pens, crayons, markers, 3 ring paper, binders,
- Unused and unopened over the counter medicines, bandages,
unused and unopened personal hygiene items.
- Sporting equipment like balls, bats, gloves

PLEASE DO NOT BRING

- Your furniture,
- Perishable foods,
- Items in glass containers,
- Cosmetics,
- High-heeled shoes
- Hockey equipment or skates

All items collected will be donated to the local Canadian Food for Children Charity. This Charity provides donations to the poorest of the poor in developing countries throughout the World. CFFC is a registered Canadian Charitable Organization.

Contact Steve Dickin (519-580-8407) for a complete list of items that can be donated, or for more information on Canadian Food for Children. Monetary donations can also be made and charitable tax donation receipts will be issued.

