

PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

July 12, 2026

Pentecost 7
Sunday, July 12, 2026
(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude: Hymn Sing

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Hymn 533 *"Open Now the Gates of Beauty"*

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Solo *"Andante & Tempo di Minuetta in G minor"* J. H. Roman

Word

First Reading *Isaiah 55:10-13*

Psalm 65: 9-13 (see page 4) *(read responsively by whole verse)*

Second Reading *Romans 8:1-11*

*Gospel Acclamation *"Alleluia"* p. 188

*Gospel Reading *Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day 516 *"Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast"*

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

*Peace

Meal

*Offering Hymn 512 *"Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil"*

*Offering Prayer

*Great Thanksgiving p. 190

*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 190

*Thanksgiving at the Table B

*Lord's Prayer (*Our Father in heaven...*) p. 191

Lamb of God

p. 191

Communion Hymn 330

"Seed That in Earth is Dying"

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 551

"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Sortie in Blue"

J.M. Michel

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God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; the river of God is ^l full of water.
You prepare the grain, for so you provide ^l for the earth.

¹⁰You drench the furrows and smooth ^l out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and ^l bless its increase.

¹¹You crown the year ^l with your goodness,
and your paths over- ^l flow with plenty.

¹²May the fields of the wilderness be ^l rich for grazing,
and the hills be ^l clothed with joy.

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak them- ^l selves with grain;
let them shout for ^l joy and sing.

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.

Leading Worship Today

Minister and violinist: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Communion Servers: Jeanette Harrop and Pat Gielck

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

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

Worship Notes

In our prayers, Maureen, Anneke, Jeanette, Meaghan, Kevin, Judy and Betty.

General Announcements

Introducing Cailin Moses! Many of you may know Cailin from around the church, as she has been active with her family since childhood at St. Matthews (her grandparents are Jim and Judy Moses). Recently, she has helped out with PD Day Camps and Summer Camps, but this year, she has been hired to be our summer camp student worker! Under the supervision of Pastor Carey, she has various responsibilities for the running of our PD Day Camp, VBS and Confirmation Camp. Like past years, she is being paid through a Canadian government grant for Summer Students.

Coffee Hour: Please note there is no coffee hour for the summer, see you in September!

Waterloo Region Fall 2026 Election: Simon Thompson is organizing a survey of the faith groups in our building to determine what issues are most important to residents of Waterloo Region. He will be communicating the results to the candidates and also giving a presentation at coffee hour on September 13. Surveys are available in the Narthex, or directly from Simon on June 28, July 19 and 26. The surveys can be returned directly to Simon, or placed in the St. Matthews mailbox (deadline July 26).

Upcoming Staff Holidays: Reverends Carey and Sebastian - Holidays July 27 - August 24. Rev. Monika Wiesner will be leading worship on Sundays. Please note, Rev. Sebastian will be away on reading week July 20 – 26 and Rev. Carey will be on reading week August 24 – 31. **Deacon Scott** - Holidays July 16 – July 30, August 10 – 24. **Leanne** - Holidays July 13 - 24, August 10-14. Please contact Pastors Sebastian or Carey or someone from the Board of Directors during this time with urgent matters. Please note, the office will be closed.

Church Breakfast Group: We will be taking a break for the summer and will meet next on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at Kypreos Restaurant on Lancaster St. W. in Kitchener. Every month the attendees each contribute a Loonie or Toonie to cover the cost of the speakers' breakfasts. The surplus from January to June totaled \$45.50. This money will be given to Marillac Place as part of their fill a Baby Bootle fundraising campaign.

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.

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.



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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