

PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

September 6, 2026

Creation in Christ Sunday

Sunday, September 6, 2026

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude: Hymn Sing

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Litany (see page 4)

*Hymn 556

"Morning Has Broken"

*Greeting

*Kyrie

p. 184

*Prayer of the Day

Solo

"Benedictus Op. 59, No. 9"

M. Reger

Word

First Reading

Genesis 2:4b-25

Psalms 148 (see page 6)

(read responsively)

Second Reading

Acts 17:22a, 24-28

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

p. 188

*Gospel Reading

John 1:1-5

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day (see page 7)

"Christ is the Life" (tune Kingsfold 636)

*Apostles' Creed

p. 217

*Prayers of Intercession

A: Your mercy is great

*Peace

Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Thanksgiving 835 v. 1-2

"All Creatures, Worship God Most High"

*Thanksgiving for the Word

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 864

"Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven"

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

H. Willan

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Since the seventh century, September 1 has symbolized the day of the creation of the world in the Byzantine tradition and has been the opening feast of its liturgical year (known as the Feast of the Indiction), in parallel with Rosh Hashanah marking the Jewish New Year. Creation in Christ celebrates the ongoing creation of the world in and through Christ, who sustains, unites, and holds all created things. We hear today of the triune God who creates all things: sun and moon, shining stars, sea monsters, creeping things and flying birds—and, yes, even human beings. God-in-Christ still takes care of all things and invites us to join in as caretakers of God's good 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.

Litany

This litany is inspired by the poem in Genesis 1.

P: Glory to you, O God:
you speak a word of power,
and so you create the world.

We praise you, O God:

A: We praise you, O God.

P: For the Spirit hovering to bring forth life,
for the earth ordered from chaos,
and for light and dark,
we bless you, O God:

A: We bless you, O God.

P: For the cosmos beyond our earth,
for the sky above our heads,
and for the cycle of evening and morning,
we exalt you, O God:

A: We exalt you, O God.

P: For the seas, the lakes, and the rivers,
for the land with its mountains and plains,
and for the trees, the plants, and their fruits,
we magnify you, O God:

A: We magnify you, O God.

P: For the sun to rule the day,
for the moon to brighten the night,
and for the shining stars,
we extol you, O God:

A: We extol you, O God.

P: For the fish in the sea,
for the birds of the air,
and for the monsters in the deep,
we glorify you, O God:

A: We glorify you, O God.

P: For wild animals and creatures of all kinds,
for cattle and all livestock,
and for everything that creeps on the earth,
we adore you, O God:

A: We adore you, O God.

P: For humankind made in your image,
for setting us on your good earth,
and for providing us food to eat,
we worship you, O God:

A: We worship you, O God.

P: Bless us, your creatures.
Accept our praise,
and make us worthy of your marvelous creation.

We praise you, O God:

We praise you, O God.

P: Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving
and honor and power and might
be to you, our God, forever and ever.

Amen.

A: Amen.

*Reprinted from Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and
Thanksgivings at Font and Table by Gail Ramshaw, copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress.*

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Kim Schaner

Broadcast: Jamie Foley

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

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD ¹from the heavens;
praise God ¹in the heights.

²Praise the LORD, ¹all you angels;
sing praise, all you ¹hosts of heaven.

³Praise the LORD, ¹sun and moon;
sing praise, all you ¹shining stars.

⁴Praise the LORD, heav- ¹en of heavens,
and you waters a- ¹bove the heavens.

⁵Let them praise the name ¹of the LORD,
who commanded, and they ¹were created,

⁶who made them stand fast forev- ¹er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not ¹pass away.

⁷Praise the LORD ¹from the earth,
you sea monsters ¹and all deeps;

⁸fire and hail, ¹snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- ¹ing God's will;

⁹mountains ¹and all hills,
fruit trees ¹and all cedars;

¹⁰wild beasts ¹and all cattle,
creeping things and ¹flying birds;

¹¹sovereigns of the earth ¹and all peoples,
princes and all rulers ¹of the world;

¹²young ¹men and maidens,
old and ¹young together.

¹³Let them praise the name ^l of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over ^l earth and heaven.

¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all ^l faithful
servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. ^l Hallelujah!**

Christ is the Life

1 Christ is the life of all that is,
God's pure creative Word,
whose power beyond and through all space
the worlds to Being stirred.
Christ is the life beyond all time,
creation's birth and breath,
whose labor brings all things to be
and brings all things to death.

2 Christ is the death of all that is;
a broad and beckoning tomb,
who welcomes us from well-worn ways
to darkness of the womb.
Christ is the death, the sinking down
past all desire and fear,
whose promise in the gentle dark
bids newness to appear.

3 Christ is the death of all that is,
a bright, consuming fire,
whose flames require our prior self
as kindling for the pyre,
Christ is the death of dusty days
of uncreative strife,
for out from fire we tread upon
the threshold of new life.

4 Christ is the life of all that is,
Beginning and the End;
creative force, most peaceful death,
transforming burning brand.
Christ is the life, in whose wise love
creation lives and dies
and thus forevermore shall bless
the Source, the living Christ.

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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.

Worship Notes

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

Worship Music Note: “Benedictus” is an instrumental meditation on the text: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. The still, small voice grows through the groaning of creation to a climax of Christ’s glory, then eases back into the calm voice which brings us to close creation’s circle where we began. “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve” is a choral prelude on the well known hymn tune, written in a way which disguises the melody, hiding those notes within running eighth note passages.

General Announcements

Benton Street Resurfacing: The Region is resurfacing Benton Street from Courtland Avenue East to Church Street beginning on or about August 31. Throughout construction, sidewalks, two-way traffic and driveway access will be maintained but there may be periods when traffic will be controlled with flag persons. Please plan ahead and expect delays.

Church Breakfast Group - We meet next on Tuesday, September 15 at 9:00 a.m. at Kypreos Restaurant, 305 Lancaster St. W. Kitchener. Attendees will order from the menu and pay for their own meals. Everyone is welcome. Our September speaker will be St. Peter's own Girl Guider extraordinaire Kris McGee. According to the 1962 Test Card a Brownie was to be able to, among other requirements, know why she should breathe through her nose, throw a ball against a wall from ten feet away and catch it four times out of six, tie firmly and address neatly a parcel for mailing and make a pudding or porridge. Kris, who will have just returned from a Girl Guide trip to India, will entertain and enlighten us as she explains how the Guiding and also the Scouting movement has evolved over more than 100 years.

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

Sunday, September 13: Fellowship Time Resumes at 10:30 am

Thursday, September 17: Together with Nature featuring Susan Aglukark at 7 pm

Sunday, September 20: Sunday School Resumes

Sunday, September 20: Community BBQ following worship

Wednesday, September 23: Organ Recital & Soup at Noon

Thursday, September 24: Choir Resumes at 7:30 pm

Saturday, September 26: Celebration Bells Resume at 9 am

October 4: Orchestrating Peace through Music at 3 pm

Contact Information

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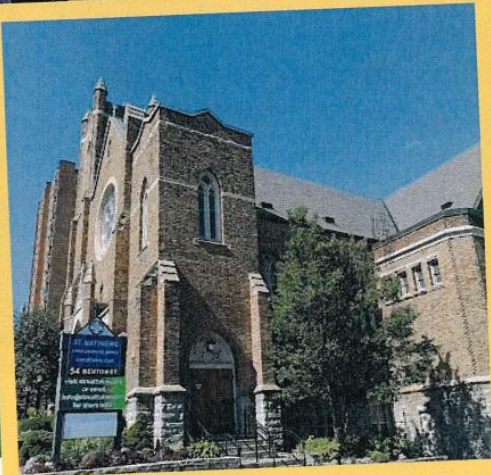


Trinity Village

—ADULT DAY PROGRAM—



Now offering Tuesdays Adult Day Program off site at St. Matthew's Church starting September 2026



Our Adult Day Program provides a welcoming and accessible space that fosters connection and wellbeing. The program offers a variety of social, spiritual, emotional, physical, and cognitive activities, carefully curated to help clients maintain or enhance their independence and self-esteem in a cheerful, supportive environment.

Enrolling a loved one in the program not only provides enriching experiences for them but also offers much-needed respite and support for care partners. We also provide information and referrals to other community services and programs, helping to reduce isolation, loneliness, and physical decline.



Transportation:

Services are not provided by Trinity Village; however, staff can assist in accessing resources like Mobility Plus and Community Support Connections.



Hours and Cost:

Available **Tuesdays** from **9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** for \$23/day, payable monthly. Price includes lunch and refreshments.



Program Benefits:

- Safe and cheerful environment
- Activities for stimulation and confidence
- Support for care partners
- Links to community resources



Participants:

The ADP supports older adults with chronic illnesses or disabilities. We aim to provide respect, enhance wellbeing, and improve quality of life for each individual.

CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE!

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Trinity Village is owned and operated by Lutheran Homes Kitchener - Waterloo



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