

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION SUNDAY



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

September 27, 2026

Truth and Reconciliation Sunday

Sunday, September 27, 2026

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude *"By the Waters of Babylon"* G. Dyson

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

Thanksgiving for Baptism (see page 4)

Nibi Water Song

Sharing: Words by Zoe Todd

*Hymn 525 *"You Are Holy"*

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Anthem *"A Dakota Prayer"* N. Goemanne

Word

Reading 2 Corinthians 5: 17-20

Psalms 29 (see page 5) *(sung responsively)*

Sharing: Words by Monique Gray Smith

*Gospel Acclamation *"Alleluia"* p. 102

*Gospel Reading Matthew 5: 23-24

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day (see page 6) *"Before the Waters Nourished Earth"*

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

*Peace

Meal

*Offering Hymn 837 *"Many and Great, O God"*

*Offering Prayer

*Great Thanksgiving	p. 107
*Holy, Holy, Holy	p. 108
*Thanksgiving at the Table	
*Lord's Prayer	p. 112
Lamb of God	p. 112
Communion Hymns 969 (see page 7), 708	
*Table Blessing	
*Prayer after Communion	

Sending

Sharing: Words by Tasha Spillett

General Announcements

Sharing Trinity Village Adult Day Program by Debby Riepert

*Blessing

*Hymn 631

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Toccata in F Major"

D. Buxtehude

Cover image and Liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB142079.

Today's worship focus is Truth and Reconciliation. Excerpt letters from "You Were Made For This World: Celebrated Indigenous Voices Speak to Young People" lift up Indigenous wisdom to encourage younger generations. In Paul's letter to the church in Corinth, we hear about God's ongoing reconciling to us and the world through Jesus. The Gospel encourages us first to be ministers of reconciliation with those we encounter.

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.

Thanksgiving for Baptism.

Water! Water! We praise you, O God, for water...
We praise you, O God, for water.
We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for our water stories....
We praise you, O God, for water.
We praise you, O God, for water.

We remember the waters of Jesus....
We praise you, O God, for water.
We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for this font...
We praise you, O God, for baptism.
We praise you, O God, for baptism.

O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth...
Amen, and amen.
Amen, and amen.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Bob Loeb sack

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, Lindsay Scott, Lys Ashen Hill, Drew Aarssen

Baritone Solo: Drew Aarssen

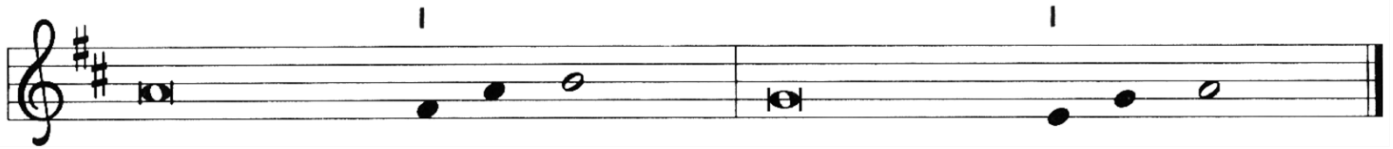
Communion Servers: Rev. Dr. Allen Jorgenson and Lynda Karn

Broadcast: Jamie Foley

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

Psalm 29

Tone 1



¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.

⁷The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.

⁸The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.

¹¹O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace.

Before the Waters Nourished Earth

1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -
 2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of
 3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows
 4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness

ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the
 E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in
 par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's
 still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -

u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.
 mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.
 faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.
 gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.

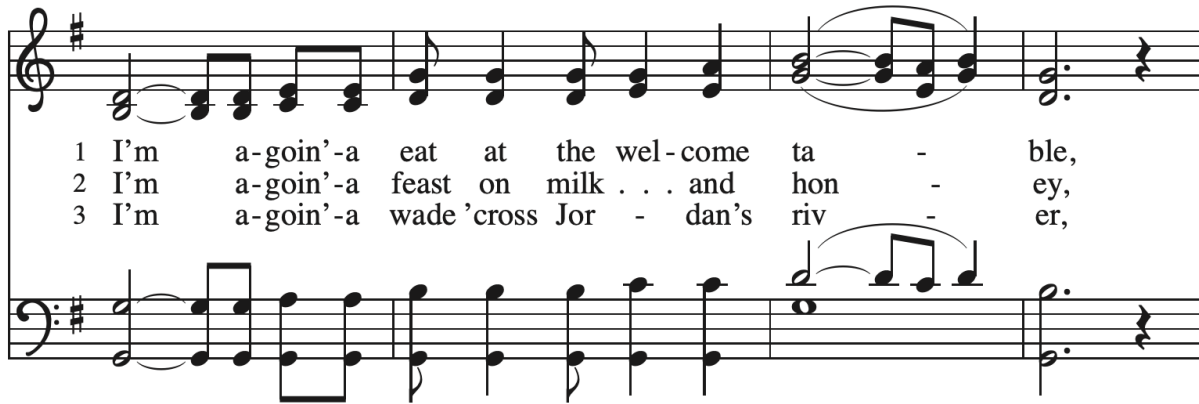
Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961

Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish melody

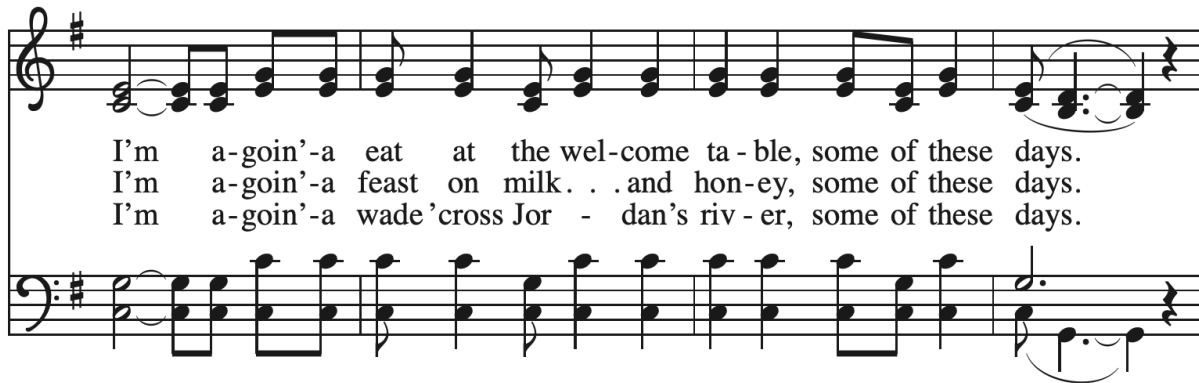
Text © 1996 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Text and music © 1996 Jeanette M. Lindholm admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-733192, valid for: 04/16/2026– 04/15/2027

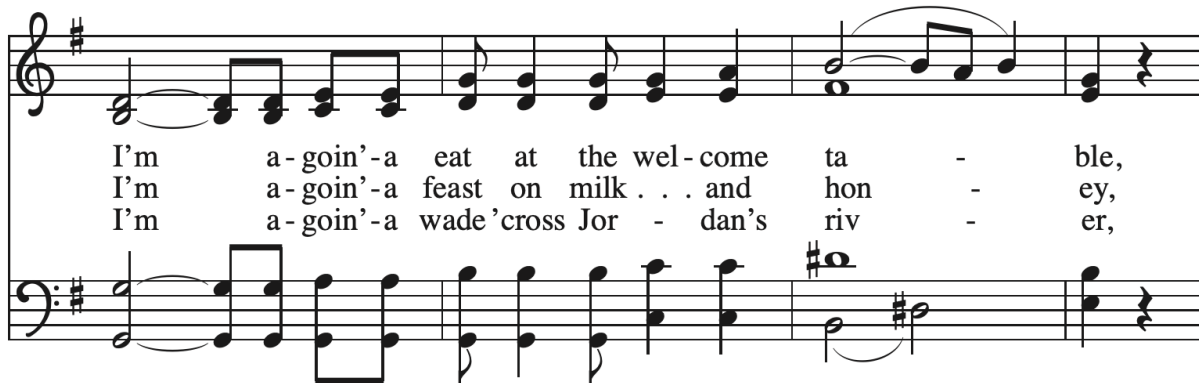
Welcome Table



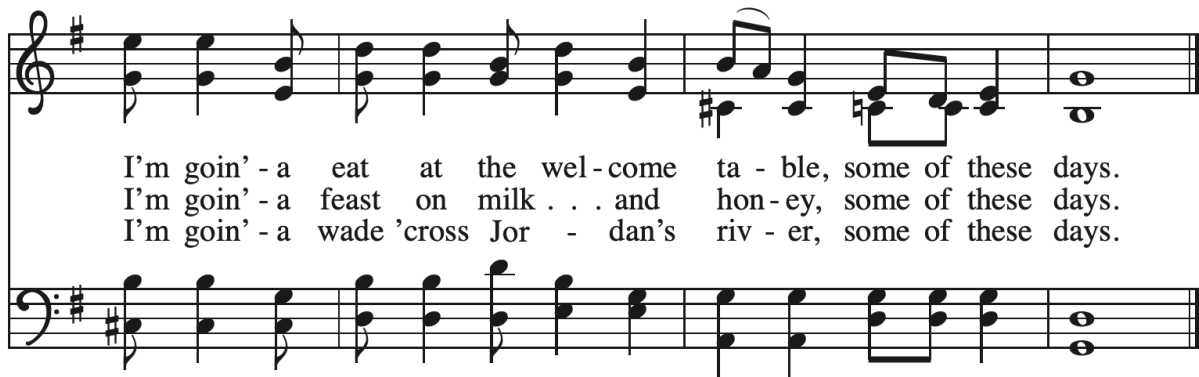
1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
 2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm goin' - a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: WELCOME TABLE, African American spiritual; arr. Mark Hayes, b. 1953

Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

Arr © 2003 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-733192, valid for: 04/16/2026– 04/15/2027

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.

Worship Notes

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

Nibi Water Song

Water, we love you. We thank you. We respect you.

All are welcomed to the Lord's table where Jesus promises to meet us. Communion will be at the high altar rail this evening. Please remain kneeling or standing at the rail until all have received the wine or grape juice; there will be a table blessing for each group. Gluten-free communion wafers are also available. Please indicate this to the Pastor.

General Announcements

Volunteers Needed: We are looking for volunteers to help with maintenance of the gardens around the church. If you are interested, please let contact Ron Roeder (519-895-6833) or the church office. Thank you.

Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462

stmattskw.com

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer	Ext. 3	pastorcarey@stmattskw.com
Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer	Ext. 2	pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com
Deacon Scott Knarr	Ext. 4	deaconsconfig@stmattskw.com
Leanne Vanderhout	Ext. 6	lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)



[Donate](#)

**Walk along with Bishop Carla
in solidarity with Healing of the Seven Generations**

TRC Orange Shirt Day Walk Remember Me Walk

**Wednesday September 30th, 2026 10 am-noon
Meet at 300 Frederick St, Kitchener**



Put on your orange shirt and join Bishop Carla, Synod Staff, and a caring community of Lutherans. Together at 10 am, we will walk, hobble, and roll from 300 Frederick St. all the way to the clock tower in Willow River (Victoria) Park. If the distance feels challenging, feel free to walk partway, or drive and join us at the park, where you can listen to moving stories of heartbreak and hope shared by our local Indigenous Community.



For more details contact deaconsconfig@stmattskw.com



ST. MATTHEWS
presents



Diego Carneiro, cello



Orchestrating Peace through Music

Sunday, October 4, 2026 at 3 pm



In support of



Orquesta
Joven del
Ecuador

Youth Orchestra of Ecuador



amazonarts.org

Suggested donation: \$20

St. Matthews Centre, 54 Benton St, Kitchener

www.stmatthewscentre.com

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

September 30: TRC Orange Shirt Day Walk with Bishop Carla at 10 am

October 4: Sunday School

October 4: Orchestrating Peace through Music at 3 pm

October 21: Oktoberfest Social at 11 am

October 25: Confirmation Sunday & Sunday School

October 28: Organ Recital & Soup at Noon



ST. MATTHEWS

presents

Fall 2026 Organ Recital & Soup



Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 12 noon

Emma Allan, cello

Mark Himmelman, organ

original compositions, classical works and seasonal surprises

Music begins at 12 noon
followed by a hearty soup luncheon
with homemade bread.
Admission by donation

More information: www.stmatthewscentre.com





St. Matthews Lutheran Church

**54 BENTON STREET
KITCHENER**

N2G 3H2

519.742.0462

stmattskw.com

info@stmattskw.com