

PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

October 18, 2026

Foundation Sunday
Sunday, October 18, 2026
(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude *"Fantasia in G major"* J.S. Bach

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Hymn 526 *"God Is Here!"*

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Children's Message

Anthem *"Canon of Praise"* J. Pachelbel/ arr. H. Hopson

Greetings - National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

Word

First Reading Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalms 96:1-9 (see page 4) *(sung responsively)*

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

*Gospel Acclamation *"Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?"* p. 216

*Gospel Reading Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day (see page 5) *"Commonwealth Is God's Commandment"*

* Apostles' Creed p. 217

*Prayers of Intercession **A: Your mercy is great.**

*Peace

Thanksgiving

*Hymn 686 *"We Give Thee but Thine Own"*

*Thanksgiving for the Word p. 220

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

Sending

Sharing by the Foundation

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 685

"Take My Life, That I May Be"

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Jig Fugue"

J.S. Bach

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In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, Drew Aarssen

Liturgist: Linda McLellan

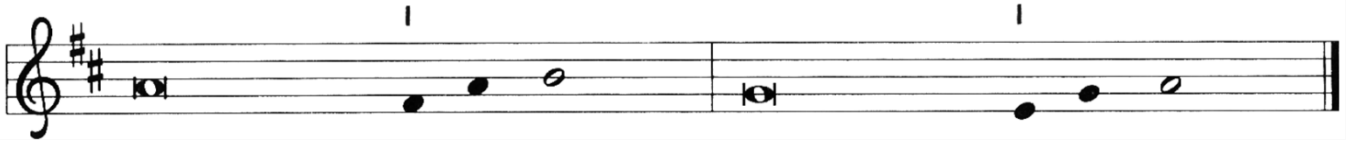
Lector: Deacon Sherry Coman

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

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

Psalm 96

Tone 1



¹Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

²Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.

³Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods.

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

⁶Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.

⁹Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

Commonwealth Is God's Commandment



1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,



Ta-bles set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.
stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man-y folds.
bid-ding all to work to-geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.

Refrain



Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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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.
- **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, Jeanette, Maureen, Meaghan, Judy, Kevin, and Gary.

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

October 21: Oktoberfest Social at 11 am

October 25: Intergenerational Confirmation Sunday

October 28: Organ Recital & Soup at Noon

November 1: All Saints Sunday

November 29: Advent Carol Service at 7 pm

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.

General Announcements

Church Breakfast Group: Join us on Tuesday, October 20 at 9:00 a.m. at Kypreos Restaurant, 305 Lancaster St. W. Kitchener to learn more about connections that turn spaces into places as Waterloo Region Community Foundation's Eric Avner speaks to our group. Attendees will order from the menu and pay for their own meals. Everyone is welcome.

Contact Information

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The St. Matthews Centre, our community hub, has a website which links all upcoming events.

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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