

REFORMATION

GOD OUR REFUGE AND OUR STRENGTH

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

October 25, 2026

Reformation Sunday with Affirmation of Baptism

Sunday, October 25, 2026

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"Jubilate, Amen"</i>	R. Shaw Hollis
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Processional Hymn 505		<i>"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"</i>
*Greeting		
*Prayer of the Day		
Children's Message		
Anthem	<i>"Follow the Songlines"</i>	R. Klusmeier

Word

First Reading		Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalms 46 (see page 4)		<i>(sung responsively)</i>
Second Reading		Romans 3:19-28
*Gospel Acclamation	<i>"Alleluia"</i>	p. 102
*Gospel Reading		John 8:21-36
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day 513		<i>"Listen, God is Calling"</i>
*Affirmation of Baptism (see page 6)		
Celebration Bells	<i>"Toccata"</i>	J.S. Bach
*Hymn 403		<i>"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"</i>
*Hymn 446		<i>"I'm Going on a Journey"</i>
*Prayers of Intercession		A: Your mercy is great.
*Peace		

Meal

*Offering Hymn (see page 8)	<i>"Ten Thousand Reasons"</i>
*Offering Prayer	
*Great Thanksgiving	p. 107
*Holy, Holy, Holy	p. 108
*Thanksgiving at the Table I	p. 108
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)	p. 112
Lamb of God	p. 112
Communion Hymns 598, 966 (see page 9), 473	
*Table Blessing	
*Prayer after Communion	

Sending

General Announcements	
*Blessing	
*Recessional Hymn 878	<i>"Soli Deo Gloria"</i>
*Dismissal	A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>"Fanfare on Abbot's Leigh"</i> C. Callahan

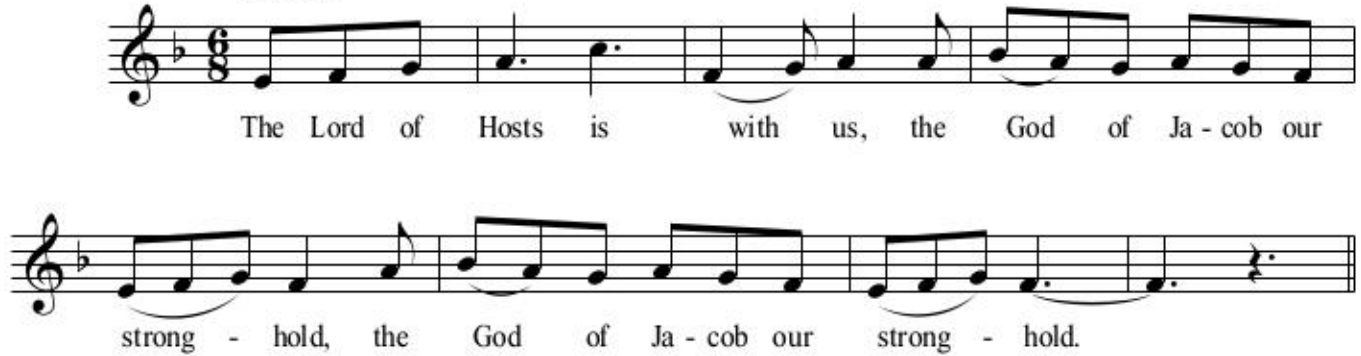
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Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Psalm 46

Rawn Harbor

Refrain



Tone 16



¹God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;

³though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. *Refrain*

⁵There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,
the holy habitation of | the Most High.

⁶God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.

⁷The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth | melts away.

⁸The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. *Refrain*

⁹Come now, regard the works [|] of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up- [|] on the earth;

¹⁰behold the one who makes war to cease in [|] all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the [|] shields with fire.

¹¹“Be still, then, and know that [|] I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted [|] in the earth.”

¹²The LORD of [|] hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob [|] is our stronghold. *Refrain*

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Leading Worship Today

Ministers: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer and Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Bob Loeb sack

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

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

Percussion: Peter Winkler

Communion Server: Pat G iilck

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

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

Affirmation of Baptism

P: People of God: Do you reject the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that pull us away from God? If so, say, "We do!"

A: We do!

P: Do you promise to continue supporting these children of God, affirming them through all circumstances with their first and forever name: Beloved? Do you promise to hold healthy and safe space for them to keep growing in faith, so they learn to trust there is nothing they can do to make God love them any more or any less than they are already loved in Jesus? If so, say, "We do!"

A: We do!

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

A: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**A: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

A: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

...

Welcome:

A: We celebrate your faith, your voice, and your unfolding story as beloved children of God! On behalf of the whole church on earth, we will continue to pray for your faith and give thanks for you. God bless you!

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

October 28: Organ Recital & Soup at Noon

November 1: All Saints Sunday & Town Hall

November 8: Rededication of the Fellowship Hall

November 15: Town Hall

November 18: Organ Recital & Soup at Noon

November 29: Advent Carol Service at 7 pm

December 6: Annual Congregational Budget Meeting

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.

"Ten Thousand Reasons"

Refrain:

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

1. The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Refrain

2. You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Refrain

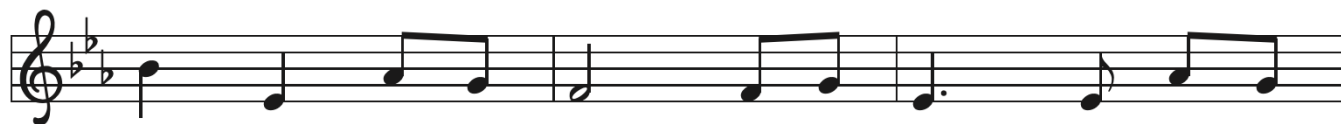
3. And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
Worship Your holy name
Lord I'll worship Your holy name

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions

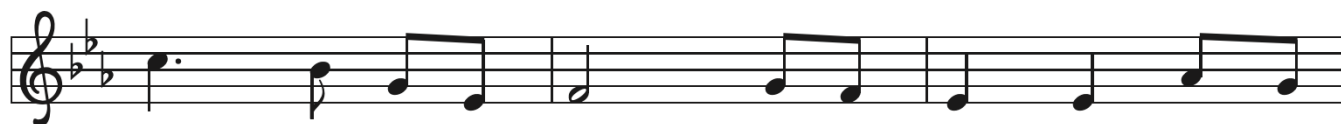


heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.

Refrain



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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PUBLICLY AFFIRMING THEIR BAPTISM TODAY

are these three young people, who will, together with the assembly, confess the faith that they were once baptized in. For the past year they have received teaching of the church. Today they will show their intention to stay in the covenant God made with them in Holy Baptism.

Skylar Dorothy Schultz Ferrede

Parents: Vanessa Schultz and Scott Ferrede

Baptism: November 7, 2010

Verse: When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Isabelle Ruth Kanaris

Parents: Angela and Thomas Kanaris

Baptism: June 13, 2010

Verse: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

Gabrielle Cecilia Meadows-Helmer

Parents: Carey and Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Baptism: March 31, 2013

Verse: Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9)

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.

Vergiss es nie (Du bist Du) by Paul Janz
(translated by G & S Meadows-Helmer)

Never forget: That you live was never your own idea, and that you breathe wasn't your own choice. Never forget: That you live was someone else's idea, And that you're breathing, it's his gift to you.

*You were intended—you are not a child of chance or a child of a whim
It doesn't matter if your song is in a minor or a major key.
You are a thought of God— and a brilliant one at that.
You are you...That is the clue-that's the point...You are you...Yeah, you are you.*

Never forget: No one thinks and feels and acts the way you do, and no one smiles like you do so well. Never forget: No one sees the sky exactly like you do, and no one's ever known what you know.
Never forget: No one else in this world has your face and your eyes are yours alone.
Never forget: You are wealthy, even if you're poor, because you live!
No-one lives like you.

Worship Notes

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

All are welcome at the meal where Jesus is present loving and forgiving us. For the wine, there is a common cup station and a pouring chalice station (please take an empty small glass). There is also a small tray of pre-poured grape juice glasses. Gluten-free wafers are also available; please indicate this request to the Pastor. If you would (also) like to receive a blessing, please approach the Pastor with your arms crossed over your chest. If you'd like to receive Communion in your pew, the pastor will come to you. Please let an usher or the pastor know before worship if possible.

Today's choir anthem lyrics were authored by New Zealand hymn writer Shirley Erena Murray. Murray writes that songlines (also known as dreaming tracks) are journeys taken by ancestors of Indigenous peoples in Australia. These paths preserve songs, stories and dances from one generation to the next. "Follow the theme of the ancient one's dreaming, footprints in faith that the track will run true."

Contact Information

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ST. MATTHEWS

presents

Fall 2026 Organ Recitals & Soup



Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 12 noon

Emma Allan, cello

and

Mark Himmelman, organ

*original compositions, classical works
and seasonal surprises*



Wednesday, November 18, 2026 at 12 noon

Nicole Hamilton, soprano

with

Scott Knarr, organ

songs of reflection and inspiration

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

More information: www.stmatthewscentre.com



ST. MATTHEWS

Advent Social

DECEMBER 2

11 AM - 2 PM

TURKEY LUNCHEON \$20

MEAL SERVED AT NOON

Join us for a festive social time with a turkey feast,
Christmas Sing-Along and good friends.
Holy Communion at 1:30 pm.

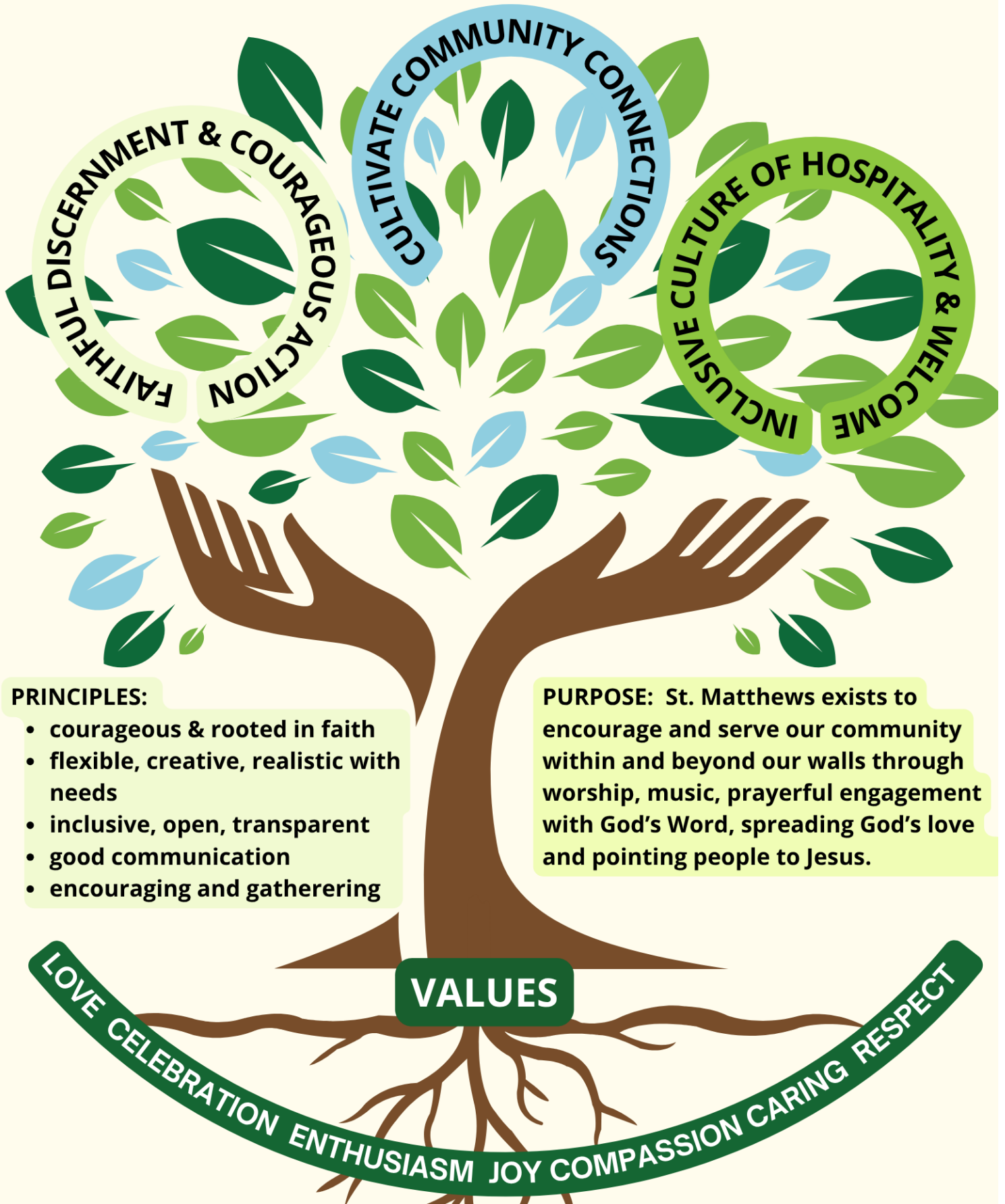
RSVP: By November 26
519.742.0462 or info@stmattskw.com

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 STRATEGIC PLAN & PRIORITIES





St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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