PENTECOST

A TIME TO GROW

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

November 8, 2026

Pentecost 24

Sunday, November 8, 2026

(indicates the assembly stands)*

Gathering

Prelude	*"Lamento"*	D. Bedard
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Confession and Forgiveness		p. 116
*Hymn 638		*"Blessed Assurance"*
*Greeting		
*This is the Feast		p. 101
*Prayer of the Day		
Anthem	*"Let All the World in Every Corner Sing"*	B. Van der Hoek

Word

First Reading		Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16
Psalm 70 (see page 4)		*(sung responsively)*
Second Reading		1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
*Gospel Acclamation	*"Alleluia"*	p. 102
*Gospel Reading		Matthew 25:1-13
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day (see page 5)		*"Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"*
*Apostles' Creed		p. 105
*Prayers of Intercession		**A: hear our prayer.**
*Peace		

Meal

*Offering Hymn 439	*"Soon and Very Soon"*
*Offering Prayer	
*Great Thanksgiving	p. 107

*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 108

*Thanksgiving at the Table I p. 108

*Lord's Prayer *(Our Father in heaven…)* p. 112

Lamb of God p. 112

Communion Hymns 494, 625

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 436 *"Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"*

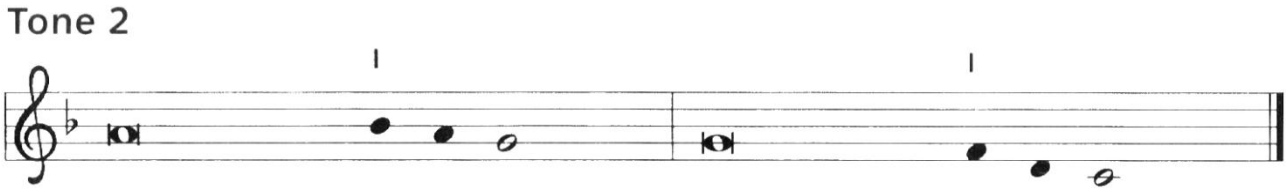
Procession to the Fellowship Hall for its Rededication

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Today Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

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.

Psalm 70



[1]Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O LORD, make | haste to help me.
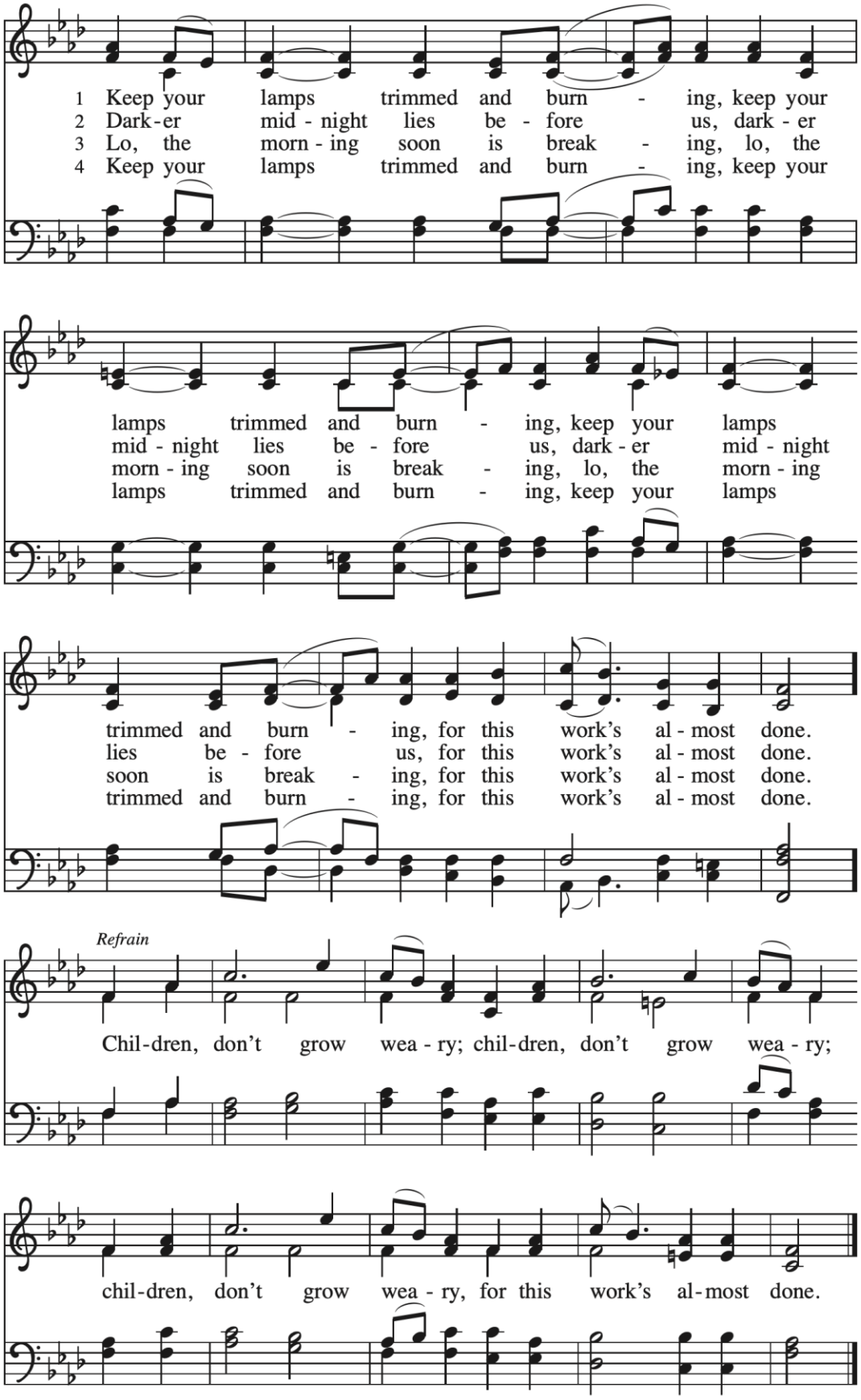
[2]Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | be disgraced.

[3]Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.

[4]Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great | is the LORD!”

[5]But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, | do not tarry.

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning



Text: African American spiritual
Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

Leading Worship Today

Ministers: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Scott Kuschnereit

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, Drew Aarssen

Piano: Bob Loebsack

Communion Server: Lynda Karn

Broadcast: Jamie Foley

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

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 **Fellowship Hall** (not the Community Hall downstairs!). After the Sending Hymn we will walk over to the Fellowship Hall for its rededication and then stay for refreshments and conversation. Please follow the verbal instructions to get there.
- **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, Gary, Anneke, Terry and Joan, Kevin, Judy, Maureen, Jeanette and Meghan.

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.

Guest Speaker November 8: At worship on Sunday, November 8th, we will welcome Deborah McCracken-Nangereke, founder and CEO of The Olive Branch for Children (TOBFC), a non-profit organization established in 2005 that works across rural communities in the Mbeya region of Tanzania. In December 2025, the congregation approved a donation to TOBFC from the property sale tithe in the amount of $70,000 to add four classrooms for the Montessori Academy ($40,000), and to equip the Polyclinic ($30,000). Deborah will give an update on the projects we supported.

General Announcements

This Sunday, November 8, please consider supporting building improvements... For those of you who receive boxed envelopes, there is a special blue envelope to donate. For anyone else, you can use the white envelopes on the back of the pews and mark the donation for Building Improvements.

Church Breakfast Group meets Tuesday, November 17 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 November speaker will be from Hospice Waterloo Region. This is a follow up to the presentation we had about two years ago which explained the role of hospice in our community. The topic now will be advance care planning. We will learn how health care decision

making works in Ontario when a patient is unable to make their own health care decisions and how important it is to choose and communicate with a substitute decision maker in advance.

Contact Information

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Facebook Instagram YouTube Donate

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.

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

November 8: Rededication of the Fellowship Hall (following summer's major renovation)

November 15: Children's Programming & Town Hall

November 18: Organ Recital & Soup at Noon

November 22: During Worship announcements: an update on the Martin Luther University College's Face to Faith Fund, which we supported with a 4-year grant from our property sale tithe, with special guests Dean Daranne Harris and Marie, the scholarship recipient from Cameroon.

November 29: Children's Programming

November 29: Advent Carol Service at 7 pm

December 2: Advent Social

December 6: Children's Programming & Annual Congregational Budget Meeting

December 13: Pageant

December 24: German Christmas Eve Service at 5 pm

December 24: English Christmas Eve Service at 7:30 pm

December 25: Christmas Day Service at 9:30 am

December 31: New Year's Eve Service at 4:30 pm

ST. MATTHEWS
presents

Fall 2026 Organ Recital & Soup



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

The ST. MATTHEWS CENTRE
54 BENTON KITCHENER

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

ST. MATTHEWS
presents

Advent Carol Service

To Thee All Angels Cry Aloud

featuring selections from

Handel's Dettingen Te Deum



Sunday, November 29, 2026 at 7 pm

Freewill Offering

the ST. MATTHEWS CENTRE
54 BENTON
KITCHENER

St. Matthews Lutheran Church
54 Benton Street, Kitchener
stmattskw.com

SHARING GOD'S LOVE AS A CARING FAITH COMMUNITY



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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