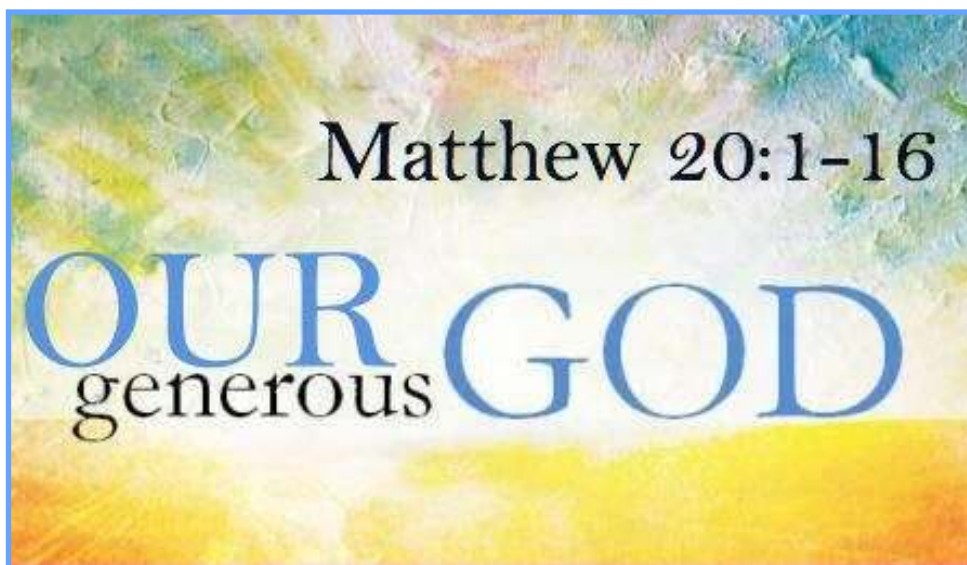


Sunday

September 24, 2017 10:00am

Pentecost Sixteen



St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

700 Pleasure Road * Lancaster, PA 17601

717-394-9607

A Service of Holy Communion
St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lancaster, PA

Pentecost Sixteen
September 24, 2017—10:00AM

PRELUDE: **CONCERTO VOLUNTARY** David P. Dahl

(Time for silent prayer and meditation as we gather for worship.)

* *Indicates please stand as you are able.*

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Pastor: Blessed be the ✝ holy Trinity,
 the one who fashions us,
 the one who heals us,
 the one who reforms us again and again.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.
 Source of all life,

People: ***we confess that we have not allowed
your grace to set us free.
We fear that we are not good enough.
We hear your word of love freely given to us,
yet we expect others to earn it.
We turn the church inward,
rather than moving it outward.
Forgive us. Stir us.
Reform us to be a church powered by love,
willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just,
and seek the healing of your whole creation.***

Pastor: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us
 and to empower our lives in the world.
 Our sins are forgiven,

 ✝ God's love is unconditional,
 and we are raised up as God's people
 who will always be made new,
 in the name of Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

GATHERING

***GATHERING HYMN** *WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES* #853

***GREETING**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: *And also with you.*

***KYRIE** *(Have mercy on us Lord...)* p. 203

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *(Glory be to God in heaven...)* 1st verse only p. 204

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: *Amen.*

WORD

FIRST READING: JONAH 3:10-4:11

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not

grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

PSALM 145:1-8

Spoken in Unison

¹***I will exalt you, my God and king,***

and bless your name forever and ever.

²***Every day will I bless you***

and praise your name forever and ever.

³***Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!***

There is no end to your greatness.

⁴***One generation shall praise your works to another***

and shall declare your power.

⁵***I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty***

and all your marvelous works.

⁶***They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,***

and I will recount your greatness.

⁷***They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;***

they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸***The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,***

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

p. 205

People: *Alleluia! Lord and Savior:
open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us;
speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

People: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

***GOSPEL: MATTHEW 20:1-16**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *GREAT GOD, YOUR LOVE HAS CALLED US*

#358

***APOSTLES' CREED**

Spoken in Unison

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
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.
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. Amen.*

***PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

Between each petition the following is said:

Asst. Min.: Lord, in your mercy.

People: ***Hear our prayer.***

Pastor: Into your hands we place all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting in the mercy of Christ Jesus.

People: ***Amen.***

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: ***And also with you.***

MEAL

GATHERING OF GIFTS AND PREPARING OF THE TABLE

OFFERING MUSIC *ALL WHO LOVE AND SERVE YOUR CITY*

CHANCEL CHOIR

***OFFERING RESPONSE**

WE ARE AN OFFERING

*We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord use our hands, Lord, use our lives,
they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be,
we give to you, we give to you.*

***We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an offering, we are an offering.***

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Asst. Min.: Let us pray. God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth,
these resources of our life and our labor. Take them,
offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table
that will heal the whole creation;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

People: ***Amen.***

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** p. 206
Dialog & Preface

***SANCTUS** (*Holy, holy, holy...*) p. 207

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

***ACCLAMATION** p. 207

***LORD'S PRAYER** Spoken in Unison

***Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.***

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Pastor: Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread
and make us one with you.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

*Please follow the direction of the ushers as you approach the communion rail. You may take a small glass
for the reception of wine, or you may drink or intinct from the common chalice. If you prefer not to partake
of the Sacrament today, you may cross your arms and receive a blessing. We offer gluten-free wafers, please
ask the pastor as you approach the rail.*

Lamb of God... #208

Please use this time for prayerful meditation.

Give Me Jesus #770

***TABLE BLESSING**

Pastor: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

People: *Amen.*

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Asst. Min.: Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

People: *Amen.*

SENDING

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor: God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: *Amen.*

***SENDING HYMN** *LORD, DISMISS US WITH YOUR BLESSING* #545

***SENDING**

Asst. Min.: Go in peace. Sound the good news.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

***POSTLUDE**

CONCERTO II

OP.4 NR.2

Georg Friedrich Handel

We Remember in Our Prayers

*Ruth Ebersole, Sandra Hoffman, Becky Reinas,
Cindy Maurer Hall, Bill Conrad, Jo Zwally, Jim Kopp,
Mildred Collins, Eric Shellenberger, Paul and Betty Sheaffer,
Mary Burkhardt, Bob Sampson, Carolyn Sampson,
George Resh and Richard Syvertson*

*The Chancel flowers are presented
in Honor of the 29th Wedding
Anniversary of Lunda & Ray Shaub*



Announcements & Upcoming Events

Sunday School has expanded to SATURDAY too!

This Fall, there are two adult education opportunities: The traditional Sunday school time of 9am, and now a **new 4pm Saturday** school time!

As a church, we will be studying the book We Make the Road by Walking by Brian McLaren. Books are available from Barb Elsen and Pastor Fero.

September 23rd & 24th—Chapter Three

September 30th and October 1st—Chapter Four

The St. Matthew Seniors will be heading to **Emma's Popcorn** on **October 3rd** at 12:30pm. We will **also** be visiting **Lapp's Valley Farm**, a short distance from Emma's for ice cream. Please join us! Look for the sign-up sheet in the foyer.



SAVE THE DATES!

Sunday, October 1st, 2:00pm—Blessing of the Pets

Saturday & Sunday, October 7th & 8th—LWR In-Gathering

**Signature Senior Living church service
80 West Millport Road, Lititz
TODAY at 2:30pm**

Once again, St Matthew is offering a communion service at Signature, as we did on July 23rd. Pastor Fero first learned of this opportunity through the Manheim Township Ministerium. The church service is attended by both assisted living and memory unit residents at Signature who are unable to attend church in their home congregations.

Please pray about attending this worship service (every other month). This is an opportunity to serve Christ through sitting with others in worship.

For the month of **September** we will continue our focus on LWR **Personal Care Kits**. Please see the display in the foyer. Your help is needed purchasing the requested items (must be new) printed on the tabs. Each bar of soap can be 3-4 oz. Please return these items during September. Monetary contributions will also be greatly appreciated. All donations can be placed in the collection baskets on the front pews. Thank you for your continued support as we try to provide hope and opportunity while reaching out to the farthest corners of the earth! Any questions, please contact Sheila Charles (717-471-2013).



BROWN BAG & BIBLE—
Wednesdays at 12 noon
in Fellowship Hall.



Happy Birthday!

Bonnie Lopane—9/24

Wayne McKinley—9/28

Brenda Stauffer—9/29

Happy Anniversary!

Samuel & Sarah Jordan—9/24

Ray & Lunda Shaub—9/25

Derrick & Cynthia Hall—9/26



Stop by for “Bear Ears & Coffee” with
the Pastor at S. Clyde Weaver
Wednesday mornings from 9 to 11 AM.
on Lititz Pike (by CVS)

LWR In-Gathering Weekend

Saturday, October 7th & Sunday, October 8th

*Quilts will be on display.
Please join us if you are able.*

Saturday, the 7th in place of “Saturday School” at 4:00 pm,
Some of the kits will be assembled and packed.

On Sunday, the 8th after worship service, the remaining
kits will be assembled and packed. A light lunch of soup,
bread and dessert will be served on Sunday.

Saturday, October 14th at 9:00 am
vehicles will be loaded to transport boxes to
Bergstrasse Lutheran Church in Ephrata.
Please let Sheila Charles know if you are able to help.

Hurricane Relief

If you would like to donate to
Lutheran Disaster Response through St Matthew's offering
plate, there are two ways you can do so:

- 1) For marked giving, use a pew envelope and indicate
“Lutheran Disaster Response.”
- 2) Give **cash**. All "plate offering" money for the
rest of this calendar year will go to
Lutheran Disaster Response.

*Note: All monies given to LDR go directly to hurricane relief.
Thank you for your prayers and for your generous support of
those in immediate and future need.*

The Congregation*The Ministers***Pastor Robin Fero**
(717-877-3386)*Pastor*
email: pastor@stmatthewelc.com**Sue Cooke-Krackow**
(717-823-1243)*Parish Secretary*
email: info@stmatthewelc.com**Nancy Maurer**
(717-426-1888)*Director of Music*
email: nmaurer@embarqmail.com**Brenda Stauffer**
(717-392-1566)*Council President*
email:snbdncrs@comcast.net

Church Office (717-394-9607) Hours: Tue., Wed., Thurs.,—10:00am—2:00pm

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**Council Member in Charge:** Geroge Resh
Altar Care for September: Anna Neal and Phyllis Wright
Greeter(s): Judy Miller
Usher(s): Ray & Lunda Shaub
Reader: Peg Sampson
Assisting Minister: Barb Emmerich
Counter(s): Barb Elsen and Brenda Stauffer***This Week at St. Matthew*****09/24 Sunday—Pentecost 16**9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Worship Service
2:30pm Worship at Signature
Senior Living
*4:00pm *Moment of God
Worship***09/26 Tuesday***8:30am *Bridge Buddies*
6:30pm Lydia's Closet PREP
night at St. Peter's
*7:00pm *Moment of God Bible
Study***09/27 Wednesday**9-11:00am Bear Ears & Coffee
with the Pastor
at S. Clyde Weaver
12noon Brown Bag & Bible**09/28 Thursday**7:00pm Chancel Choir
*7:00pm *Moment of God**Bible Study***09/30 Saturday**4:00pm Saturday School
5:00pm Worship Service**10/01 Sunday—Pentecost 17**9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Worship Service
2:30pm **Pet Blessing**
*4:00pm *Moment of God
Worship***Events scheduled for outside groups that use our
facility. You are welcome to attend or sign up for all
other events on the calendar .****Scripture Readings—*****October 1, 2017***Ezekiel 18:1—4, 25—32**Psalms 25:1—9**Philippians 2:1—13**Matthew 21:23—32*