

The Holy Trinity
Sunday May 31, 2026



ONLINE
GIVING



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**St. Matthew Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

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Lancaster, PA

The Holy Trinity
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* *Indicates please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*
arr. Lloyd Larson

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,

all you who are weary

and are carrying heavy burdens,

and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.

GATHERING

***GATHERING HYMN** *Come, Join the Dance of Trinity*

ELW #412

***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**

p. 138

***Hymn of Praise**

Glory to God...

p. 139

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: ***Amen***

WORD

First Reading: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

¹ When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷ So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸ God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights—the

greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹ So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷ So God created humans in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹ God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1} Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. ² On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.

³ So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a} These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Reader: Word of God; Word of Life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 8

Read responsively

¹ O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—

² **you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the**

**mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence
the foe and avenger.**

³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴ **what are mere mortals that you should be mindful
of them, human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵ Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶ **You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷ all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸ **the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

⁹ O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

[Paul writes:] ¹¹ Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored;
listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the
God of love and peace will be with you. ¹² Greet one another with a
holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Reader: Word of God; Word of Life.

People: *Thanks be to God*

***Gospel Acclamation**

p. 142a

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal
life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

People: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which
Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him,
but they doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority
in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in
the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and
teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And
remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord
People: ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY *Creating God, Your Fingers Trace*
ELW #684

*APOSTLES' CREED

Asst. Min.: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

***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.: God of grace,
People: ***Hear our prayer.***

Asst. Min.: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend
our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God,
through Jesus our Savior.

People: ***Amen.***

SPECIAL MUSIC VIDEO

This Is My Father's World arr. Elaine Hagenberg
First-Plymouth Church Choir; Tom Trenney, conductor
Rebecca Fischer, violin; Jack Rinke, piano

This is my Father's world and to my listening ears,
All nature sings and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world. I rest me in the thought,
Of rocks and trees of skies and seas.
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world. The birds their carols raise.
The morning light, the lily white declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world. He shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass, I hear Him pass.
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. Oh let me ne'er forget.
That though the wrong seems oft so strong.
God is the Ruler yet.

This is my Father's world. The battle is not done.
Jesus who died will be satisfied.
And heaven and earth be one.
Be one.

PREPARING THE TABLE

OFFERING PRAYER

Spoken in Unison

**Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
*Amen.***

***The Great Thanksgiving p. 144a**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and
join their unending hymn:

***Sanctus p. 144b**

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth
are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in
the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

***Eucharistic Prayer**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Spoken in Unison

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us.

*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**

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

People: *Thanks be to God.*

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

***TABLE BLESSING**

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

Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Spoken in Unison

**Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✝ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
Amen.

***SENDING HYMN** *Listen, God is Calling*

ELW #513

***DISMISSAL**

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *To God Be the Glory*

arr. Martha Sherrill Kelsey

Celebrating Pride – All Are Welcome!

This June, we joyfully celebrate **Pride Month**, honoring the dignity, worth, and love of our LGBTQ+ community. As a church committed to justice, compassion, and radical welcome, we believe that God's love knows no bounds — and neither should ours.

We're excited to participate in upcoming Pride events in our community and are looking for volunteers to help represent our congregation with love and hospitality. Whether it's helping with greeting visitors, handing out swag items or simply showing up to stand in solidarity — your presence matters.

Let's show up with joy, kindness, and open hearts—because **love is love, and God is love.**

Lititz Pride: Saturday, June 6th from 11:00 to 6:00 PM.
727 Furnace Hills Pike, Lititz

Lancaster Pride: Saturday, June 20th from 12:00 –6:00 PM.
Penn Medicine Park, Lancaster

Volunteer sign-ups are in the Fellowship Hall.

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church
Statement of Welcome, Affirmation
and Full Participation**



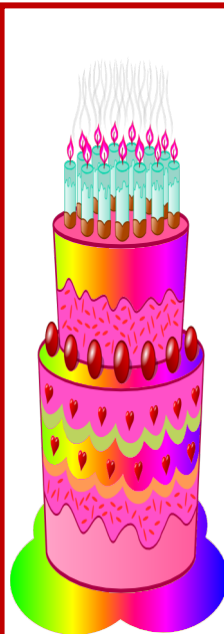
Welcome to St Matthew, the little church
with a big heart.



We are a Reconciling in Christ
(Open and Affirming)
congregation, so when we say "all are welcome",
we really mean it.

We strive to live that out in our actions as well as our words.
We publicly and humbly commit to do what it takes to truly be
a sanctuary filled with warmth, love, understanding, safety,
respect and care for all who enter here.

*(Please see our Full Statement of Welcome, Affirmation and Full
Participation on our website: www.stmatthewelc.com. Copies of
the Full Statement are also available in the Education
and Resources Stand in the Fellowship Hall.)*



MAY BIRTHDAYS!

5/4 Nancy Smith
5/5 Bob Wimer
5/9 Mimi Ruth
5/19 Lunda Shaub
5/22 Cynthia Longenecker
5/24 Linda Tice
5/24 Mark Smith

MAY ANNIVERSARIES!

5/2 Brad & Sheila Charles
5/17 Paul & Donna Kilgore
5/19 Erik & Sarah Teichmann
5/28 Steve & Sue Feldmann

The Congregation

The Ministers

Pastor Robin Fero

Church Office

phone: 717-394-9607

Website: stmatthewelc.com

Email: info@stmatthewelc.com

Cliff Eshbach

Council President

Susan Feldmann

Director of Music/Choir

Ann Hossler

Organist/Pianist

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Care for May:

Linda Tice & Barb Elsen

Assisting Minister:

Linda McIntyre

Greeter:

OPEN

Usher:

Barb Elsen

Reader:

Linda Tice

Counters:

Pam Frye & Brenda Stauffer

5/30 Saturday
5:00pm Worship

6/7 Sunday
10:00am Worship

5/31 Sunday
10:00am 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*

6/3 Wednesday
6:30pm M.T. Democratic
Committee *

6/5 Friday
1:30pm CPR Class *

6/6 Saturday
12:00pm Lititz Pride Festival
5:00pm Worship

Scripture Readings—
June 6-7, 2026

Hosea 5:15—6:6

Psalm 50:7-15

Romans 4:13-25

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26