

Pentecost Fourteen

Sunday August 30, 2026

LET LOVE BE GENUINE
ABHOR WHAT IS EVIL
HOLD FAST TO WHAT IS GOOD
LOVE ONE ANOTHER WITH
BROTHERLY AFFECTION
OUTDO ONE ANOTHER
IN SHOWING HONOR
DO NOT BE SLOTHFUL IN ZEAL
BE FERVENT IN SPIRIT
SERVE THE LORD
REJOICE IN HOPE
BE PATIENT IN TRIBULATION
BE CONSTANT IN PRAYER
CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEEDS
OF THE SAINTS AND
SEEK TO SHOW HOSPITALITY

ROMANS 12:9-13



St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Lancaster, PA

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* *Indicates please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Make Me a Servant*

arr. Carol Tornquist

Make me a servant, humble and meek.
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant today.

***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** *Son of God, Eternal Savior*

ELW #655

***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

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen

WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,

for I am called by your name,

O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;

under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

18 Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,

like waters that fail.

- ¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.
²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Reader: Word of God; Word of Life.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalms: Psalm 26:1-8

Read responsively

- ¹ Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived ¹ with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and ¹ have not faltered.
² **Test me, O ¹ LORD, and try me;
examine my heart ¹ and my mind.**
³ For your steadfast love is be-¹ fore my eyes;
I have walked faithful-¹ ly with you.
⁴ **I have not sat ¹ with the worthless,
nor do I consort with ¹ the deceitful.**
⁵ I have hated the company of ¹ evildoers;
I will not sit down ¹ with the wicked.
⁶ **I will wash my hands in inno-¹ cence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession ¹ round your altar,**
⁷ singing aloud a song ¹ of thanksgiving
and recounting all your won-¹ derful deeds.
⁸ **LORD, I love the house in ¹ which you dwell
and the place where your glo-¹ ry abides.**

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

- ⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good;
¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in
showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the
Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in

prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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 16:21-28

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.

²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

People: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*
ELW #808

***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.: Merciful God,

People: *Receive our prayer.*

Asst. Min.: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: *Amen.*

SPECIAL MUSIC VIDEO

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus
Taryn Harbridge, instrumentals

Indian Folk Tune

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** *Jesus, Still Lead On*

ELW #624

***DISMISSAL**

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

POSTLUDE *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

arr. Paul Johnston



ONLINE
 **GIVING**



bit.ly/GiveStMatthew

Weekly Prayer List

Brenda Artz, Sean Carter, Sarah Challenger, Don Dubs,
James and Mabel Frazier, Patrick Herr,
Heather Hildebrand, Debbie LaNasa,
Joan Matternas & Abbey, Diane Repp,
Bob & Carolyn Sampson, Betty Sheaffer, Alban Tippins,
Angie Wendler, Shirley Wertz and Bob Wimer

COMMUNITY MEAL

The meals are distributed on the third Monday of each month at Zion Lutheran, East Petersburg. Prep work starts that morning at 9am at St. Matthew. Contact Barb Elsen if you would like to be a part of this vital ministry.



**Christ in our Home booklets
(July, August, September) are now
available in the church lobby.**

These are free and for anyone to take.

**Please take multiple copies and
share Jesus in your community.**

Community Businesses Giving Back

When you eat at Park City Diner or Knight and Day Diner, simply mention St. Matthew at checkout. A percentage of your bill will be donated to our church, and we receive quarterly checks through their community program.

Enjoy a meal, support a local business, and bless our church — all at no extra cost to you!



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



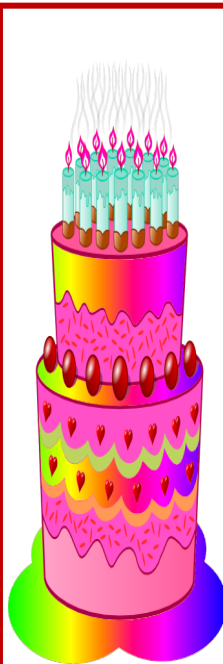
Welcome to St Matthew, the little church
with a big heart.



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.)*



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS!

8/7	Erin Conahan
8/10	Ann Hossler
8/12	Matthew Kolb
8/15	Linda Martin
8/15	Noah Haldeman
8/20	James Nolt
8/20	Toni Sweitzer
8/20	Paul Kilgore
8/23	Marie Bernlohr
8/30	Jodi McIntyre

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES!

8/1	Barb Emmerich & Jennifer Piersol
8/8	Mark Smith & Erin Conahan

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 August:

Kay Gontner & Barb Elsen

Assisting Minister:

Barb Elsen

Greeters:

Andrea Farris & Kaye Ames

Usher:

Pat Smith

Reader:

Linda Tice

Counters:

Pam Frye & Sandy Tucker

8/29 Saturday

5:00pm Worship

8/30 Sunday

10:00am Worship

9/2 Wednesday

6:30pm MT Democratic
Committee

9/5 Saturday

5:00pm Worship

9/6 Sunday

10:00am Worship

**Scripture Readings—
September 5-6, 2026**

Ezekial 33:7-11

Psalms 119:33-40

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

**Events scheduled for outside groups that use our facility. You are welcome to attend or sign up for all other events on the calendar*