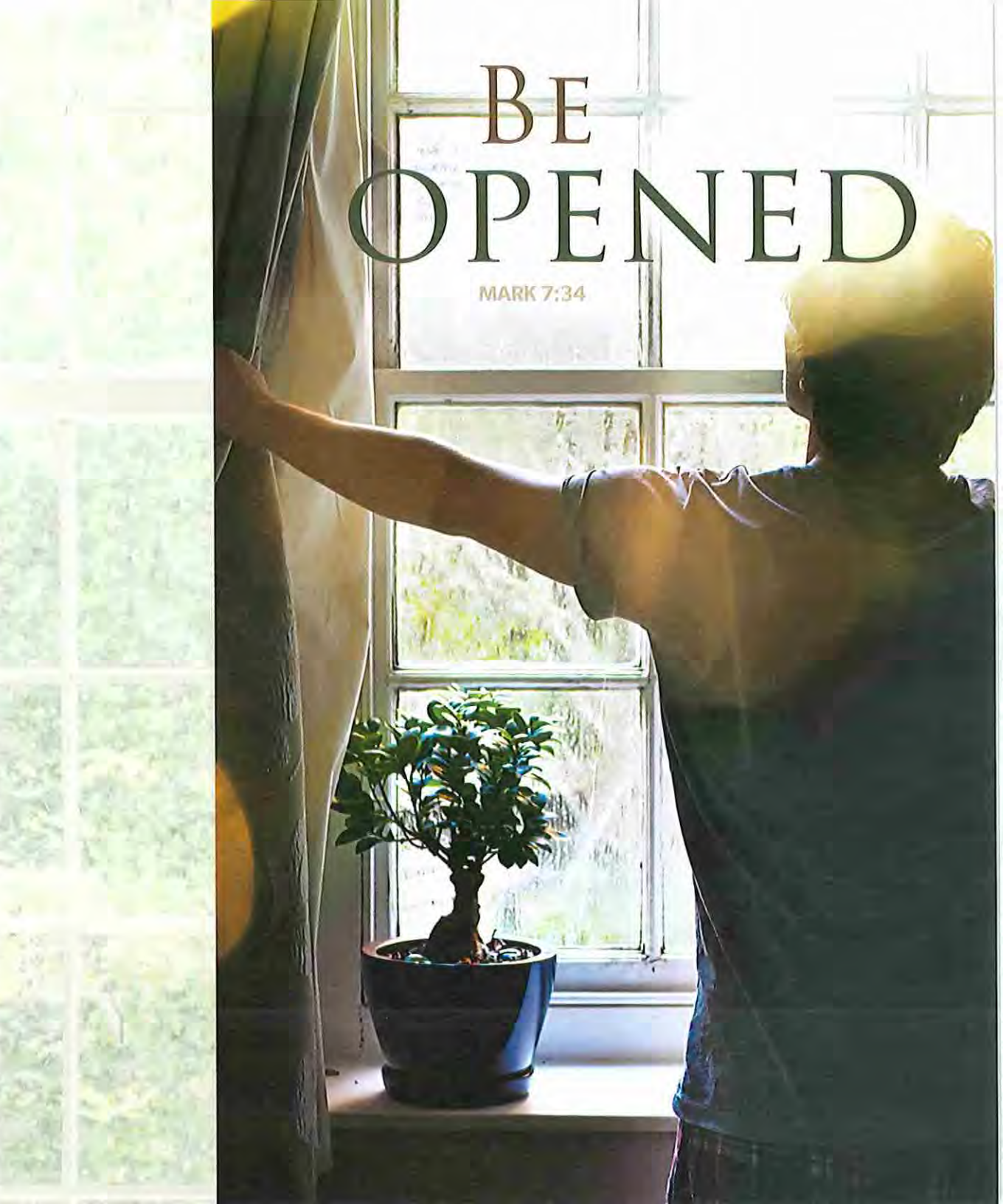


BE OPENED

MARK 7:34





St. Matthew

LUTHERAN CHURCH

CENTERED IN CHRIST
Celebrating Love ♦ Serving All

Phone: 717-637-7101

General mailbox ext. 221

30 W Chestnut Street Hanover PA 17331

Email: info@stmattlutheran.org www.stmattlutheran.org

Facebook: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Hanover PA

Instagram: @stmatthanover

Livestream Worship:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StMatthewLutheranChurchHanoverPA>

This can be torn off and placed in the offering basket at the exits.

Name(s): _____

Attending **10:30 a.m.**

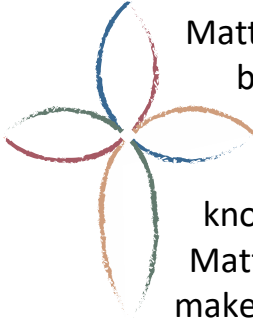
___ I/We would like to add or update my email for the Messenger and other email updates. (Be sure to include email address changes below.)

___ I/We would like to add or update my/our address for mailings. (Be sure to include address changes below)

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____



Welcome! Whether you are a long-time member of St. Matthew, a first-time visitor, or somewhere in between, we are thankful you are here today. If you have questions or need visual, audio, or mobility accommodations, please let a name-tagged usher know. We're excited about the many ministries of St. Matt's, and we hope you'll find a way to plug in that makes sense for you!

About today: *We gather as a community for worship around word, wine, and water. Put another way, in worship we meet Christ in scripture proclaimed in speech & song, in the sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptism celebrated or remembered, and in community gathered together.*

Our regular weekend schedule includes Saturday worship at 5 p.m., Sunday drive-in (May through September 15) worship at 8:30 a.m., and Sunday indoor worship at 10:30 a.m. (livestreamed).

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

16th Sunday after Pentecost
September 8, 2024

+ Celebrating God's Love - Serving in Jesus' Name +

PRELUDE

Morning Song

Martin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
Who forgives all our sin,
Whose mercy endures forever.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
But have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.
The cravings at war within us
Cause conflicts and disputes.
In our desire to be first
We make distinctions among ourselves.
We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.
In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
And turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
Our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: God promises to forgive our iniquity
And to remember our sin no more.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ,
The source of eternal healing,
Your sins are forgiven.

All: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Gather Us In

ELW #532

Haugen

(Next Page)



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

Please be seated.

Children second grade and under are invited to meet our children's leader at the baptismal font at the front of the Nave. She will take the children for Children's Church at the "Pray-ground" in the Fellowship Hall. They will hear a Bible story from this week's lectionary in an age-appropriate format and spend some time exploring their faith and creativity together. They will return during the passing of the peace.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

All: Amen.

THE READING Psalm 146 (Please read responsively)

¹Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²**I will praise the LORD as long as I live;**

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴**When they breathe their last, they return to earth,**

and in that day their thoughts perish.

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,

whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;**

who keeps promises forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;**

the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰**The LORD shall reign forever,**

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Mark, the 7th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37 *In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.*

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Alex Sheppard-Witt

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Assisting Minister: Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**All: 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

Assisting Minister: Each petition concludes, *"Hear us, O God,"* and the congregation responds, *"Your mercy is great."*

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

(The congregation is invited to greet one another with the words "Peace be with you," and gestures respecting personal space and comfort levels.)

Children return from Children's Church.

Please be seated.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Owen, Soloist

GENEROSITY MOMENT

We celebrate God's generosity embodied in this community's time, talents and treasures shared with one another. **Thank you for your presence** in worship today. **Thank you for offering** the "first fruits" of your finances. Place physical offerings in the baskets that the parking attendants are holding as you leave the parking lot or through online giving on our website or the QR code on the staff page of this bulletin. **Thank you for sharing** your spiritual gifts with our church, local and global communities.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* ELW #674 – Kaan



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Blessed are you, O God,

All: source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives,

Help us to serve one another and all in need,

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to the Lord's Supper. The meal is served in several ways. Choose what is appropriate for you.

***Individual packets** are available for those wishing to remain in their pew.*

***If you are unable to come forward**, but would like communion served by the pastor, please let one of the ushers know and the Sacrament will be brought to you at your seat.*

Continuous manner – Come forward at the direction of the ushers, take the wafer from the pastor, “The body of Christ, given for you”, and eat it. (Gluten-free wafers are available) Then move to the next station and take one of the cups of wine (red) or grape juice (white) “The blood of Christ, shed for you”, and drink it.

Children who do not yet receive communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

IN-PEW COMMUNION

Pastor: The body of Christ, given for you.

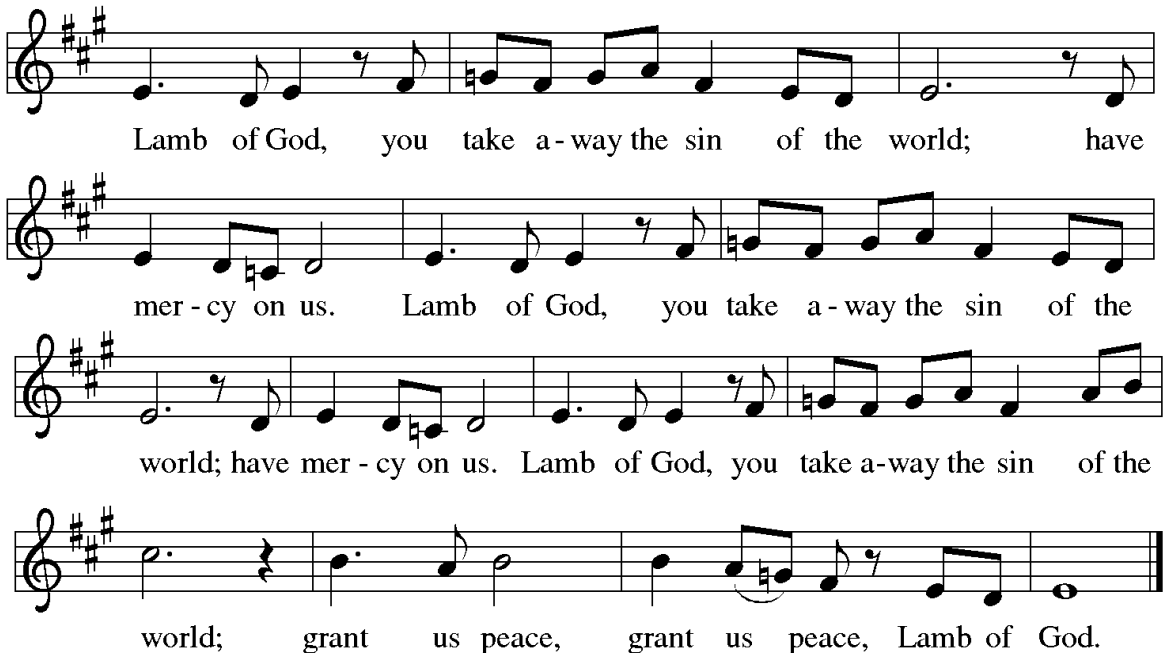
All: Amen. (Eat wafer)

(Pause)

Pastor: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

All: Amen. (Drink wine)

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMN *Light Dawns on a Weary World*

ELW #726
Bringle/Rowan



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom-ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom-ised green of E - den comes.



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won-der ech - oes sha - lom.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

All: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal
And fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
And to be at peace with one another,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

BLESSING

Pastor: God all mighty,
God most merciful
✠ bless you, keep you,
And give you peace.

All: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

God, Whose Almighty Word

ELW #673

Marriott/de Giardini

(Next Page)



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
 2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
 3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
 heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
 speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
 Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
 lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light.
 lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
 full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Wade in the Water

Raney

* * * * *

Please note: Music for this service is covered under CCLI # 1000682 –
 Also #A-708989 One License.net

St. Matthew Lutheran Church



Scan for
e-giving

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Rev. Faye C. Snyder, Visitation Pastor, ext. 225

Benjamin Boellner, Minister of Music, ext. 235

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Melissa Smith, Children and Family Ministry Coordinator, ext. 232

msmith@stmattlutheran.org

Hannah Chiacchierini, Communications Administrator

hannahc@stmattlutheran.org

Our warm thanks to all those assisting in our worship services this morning:

MusiciansOwen, Deb Smith
Altar Flower Delivery Doris Deitzel
Altar Guild Penny Rutters, Bonnie Williams
Assisting Minister..... Pastor Phil Covert
Children’s Church Leader..... Melissa Smith
Communion Assistants Barb Strangfeld
Communion Preparers..... Bob & Barbara Strangfeld
Couriers..... Roland Kunde, Ellen Shenk
Greeters Tom & Susie Shultz, Doris Sterner
Lector Youth
Live Stream Jody Ruhlman, Tom Shultz
Ushers Team 7 – John Frederick Jr, Tom Bell, Barb Frederick, Grant Frederick,
Lance Frederick, Deb Hansford

THE ALTAR FLOWERS have been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory my parents Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Baumgardner by their daughter Barbara Hoffman and family.

THE BULLETINS have been given to the Glory of God.

A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND CHRISTIAN BURIAL was held for Erma Price at Kenworthy Funeral Home on Tuesday, September 3. Though we celebrate the departure of her life to be with the Lord, we also include in our prayers of support the members of her family and all who are bereaved.

A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND CHRISTIAN BURIAL was held for Louise Kauffman here at St. Matthew Church on Saturday, September 7, at 11 a.m. Though we celebrate the departure of her life to be with the Lord, we also include in our prayers of support the members of her family and all who are bereaved.

PRAYER LIST: In our intercessory prayers we pray for individuals who have offered permission to have their names included. These names will be listed up to a month. After that time, prayers will continue for each person through our prayer chain. If you would like to be included in the prayers of the prayer chain **but not listed** in the bulletin, you may contact Beth Koontz at bethk9245@gmail.com or by calling the church office at 717-637-7101.

Amy Beck	Johnnetta Miller	Caitlin Sheppard-Witt
Gloria Stauffer	Diana Altland	Tom Zimmerman
Nancy Leister	Sandra Smith	Ella Hostetter
Kinsley Byers	Barb Rebling	

DEATHS:

Edna Koch – August 24, 2024

Erma Price – August 27, 2024

Louise Kauffman – August 31, 2024

RECOMMENDED SCRIPTURE READINGS for the week beginning September 8:

Sunday: Mark 7:24-37

Thursday: Hebrews 11:17-22

Monday: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Friday: James 2:17-26

Tuesday: Hebrews 12:3-13

Saturday: Matthew 21:23-32

Wednesday: Matthew 17:14-21

Attendance:	(08/31)	5:00 p.m. Service	24
	(09/01)	8:30 a.m. Service	83
		10:30 a.m. Service	102
	(08/25-09/01)	Online views	121
	Total	330

- The 8:30 outdoor/drive-in worship service continues through September 15. Beginning **September 22**, both the 8:30 and 10:30 services will be held inside.

- **The new security system is up and running!** From this point forward, doors will unlock *15 minutes prior to the start of all meetings* and will lock down *15 minutes after start time*. **For services**, the doors will unlock $\frac{1}{2}$ hour prior to the start.

Generosity Corner

Summer is coming to a close, school is starting, flowers are fading and nights are cooler. It's that time of year when things start to get back to normal. You know, that hectic, lunch-packing, everybody got their backpack? normal. After-school activities, game schedules, starting to think about the holidays kind of normal that we all experience this time of year.

Hopefully, if your church attendance had fallen off a bit this summer due to vacations or just plain old sleeping in, you're getting back on track and we'll see your smiling face again, sitting with family and friends. We missed you.

Now, a question: In the crazy, hustle-bustle of our daily lives, how many times do you stop to thank God? Do you thank Him when the driver in front of you who's been going ten miles under the speed limit turns off on another street? Do you thank Him when all of your family manages to be at home for dinner at the same time? How about when that test result you've been anxiously awaiting turns out to be normal?

Do you stop to thank God for all the generous love and gifts He has given you? How do you reciprocate that love? God calls us to be his disciples, to share His love, but where do we start? A simple smile to an overworked clerk in a store, an offer to return a shopping cart for someone at the supermarket, buying a meal for someone down and out, donating blankets to an animal shelter, or sometimes just giving a hug to an elderly neighbor are good ways to begin.

Our God is a generous God, generous with love and forgiveness. As God's children, we're called to be generous too, with love for God and with love for each other. In gratitude, make someone's day by showing them God's love!

*A message from
Your Generosity Team*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Psalm 146

SECOND READING: James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [¹¹For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you

have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁸But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” ²⁹Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38.

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