



St. Matthew

LUTHERAN CHURCH *of* HANOVER

Where the Welcome is Wide and the Love is Real

Sunday, July 26, 2026
10:30 a.m.

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 any needs, please let a name-tagged usher know. We hope that you experience God's love during worship today.



Our Purpose:

Welcoming all as we share God's love.

Our Goals:

- Enliven** faith through worship and learning
- Cultivate** shared leadership as disciples of Jesus
- Engage** children, youth, and families
- Bridge the gaps** with home-insecure neighbors
- Build** authentic relationships across differences

About today: We gather as a community to worship God by singing, praying, listening to scripture, hearing a message and celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Our regular weekend schedule includes Saturday worship at 5:00 p.m., Sunday outdoor worship at 8:30 a.m. and indoors at 10:30 a.m. (livestreamed). You can find our livestream on our website or on Youtube (links can be found on the last page of the bulletin).

Introduction to the Day: As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

9th Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

✠ GATHERING ✠

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

arr. Raney

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Pastor: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

All: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew

us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

HYMN

Gather Us In

ELW #532

Haugen

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.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

There is silence to prepare for the readings.

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

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.

✠ THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 119:129-136 *(Please read responsively.)*

¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰ **When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.**

¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant
because I long for your commandments.

¹³² **Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love your name.**

¹³³ Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.

¹³⁴ **Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.**

¹³⁵ Let your face shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.

¹³⁶ **My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your teaching.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also

predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us.

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Lector: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;
⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of

heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Richard Michael

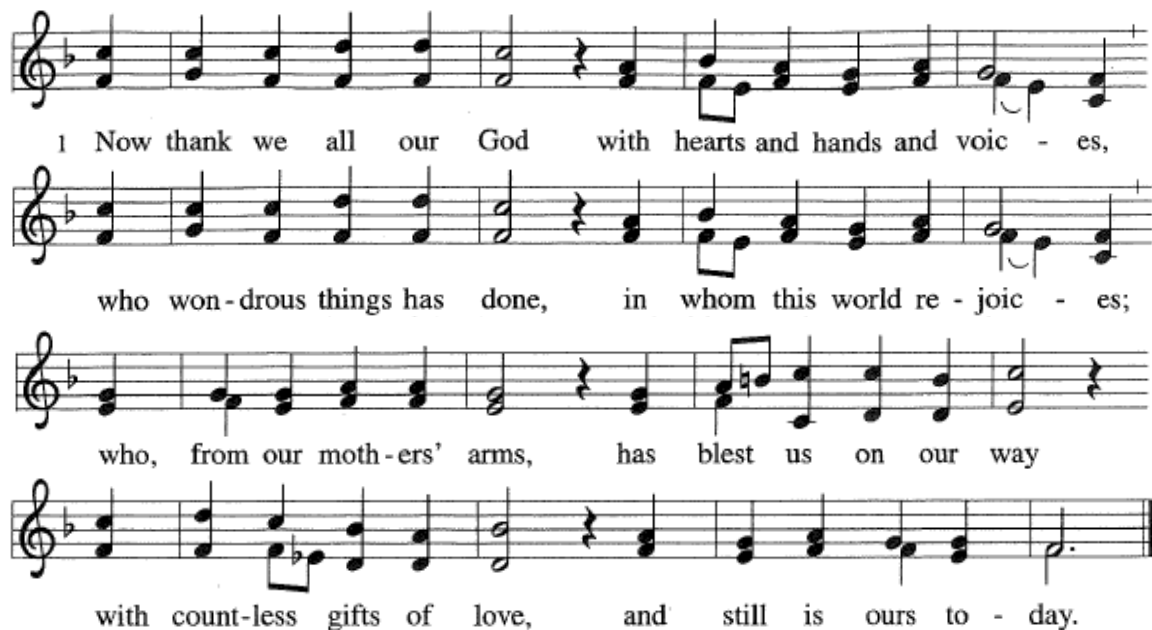
Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now Thank We All Our God

ELW #840

Rinkhart/Winkworth/Crüger



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.

CREED

Pastor: 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, "*God of grace,*" and the congregation responds, "*hear our prayer.*"

Final Petition:

The pastor concludes the prayers.

Pastor: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the everlasting grace of Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen.

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ 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

**Waymaker
SoulFire**

Sinach

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. Offering may be placed in the baskets near the entrances/ exits of the worship space or through online giving on our website. See the QR code on the back of the bulletin. You may also text-to-give at 717-613-6204. **Thank you for sharing** your spiritual gifts with our church, local, and global communities.*

Please stand as you are able.

+ MEAL +

OFFERTORY

Take My Life, That I May Be

**ELW #685
Havergal**

1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

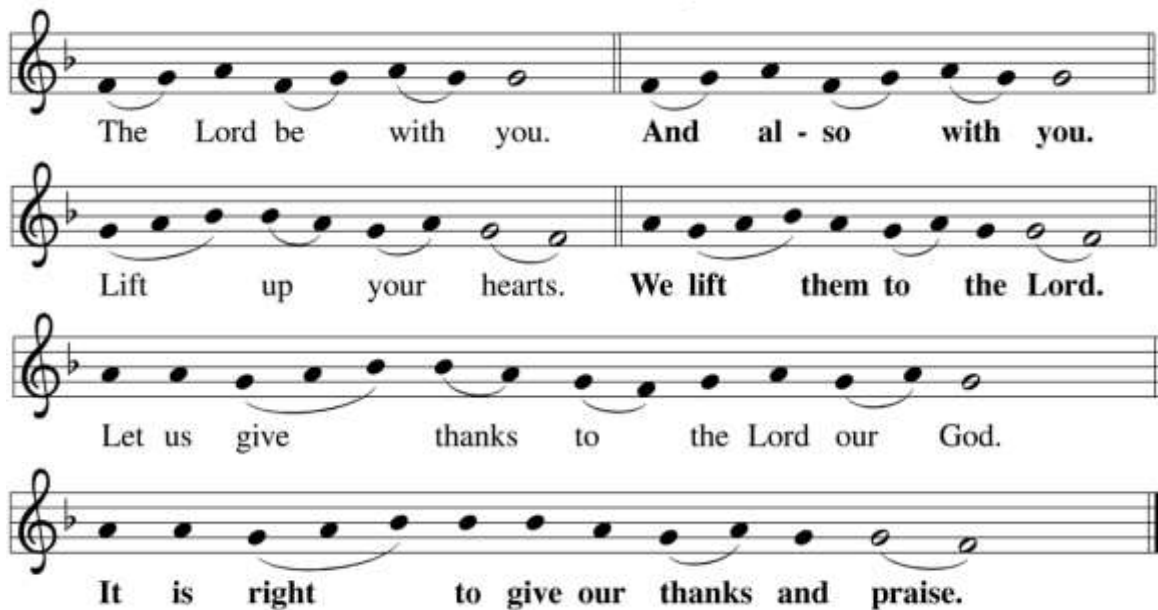
Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Loving God,

All: 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

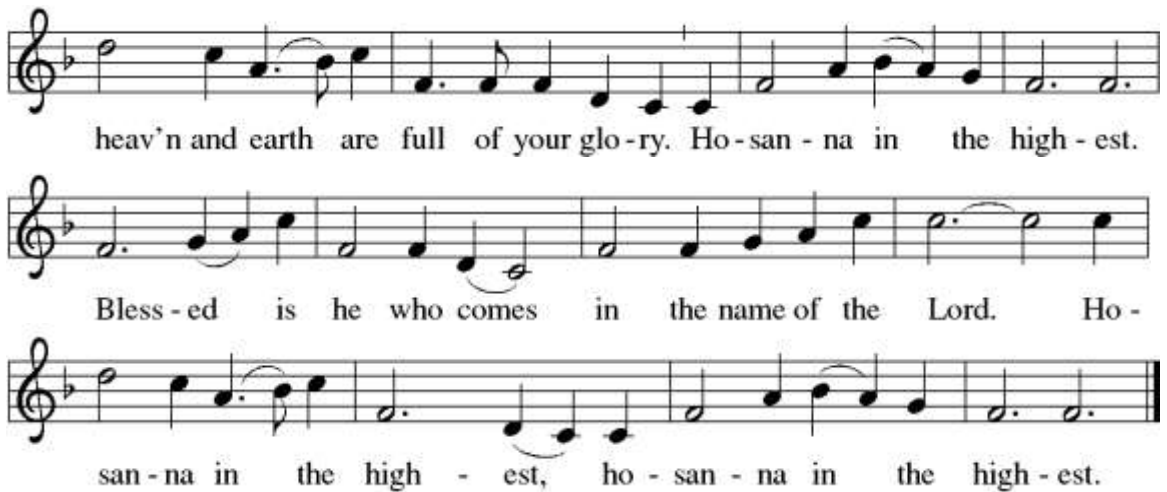


Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



(Continued next page)



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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 three 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 (WITH PACKETS)

Pastor: The body of Christ, given for you.

All: Amen. (*Eat wafer*)

Pastor: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

All: Amen. (*Drink wine/grape juice*)

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.

Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. 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.

All: Amen.

✠ **SENDING** ✠

BLESSING

Pastor: Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now
and forever.

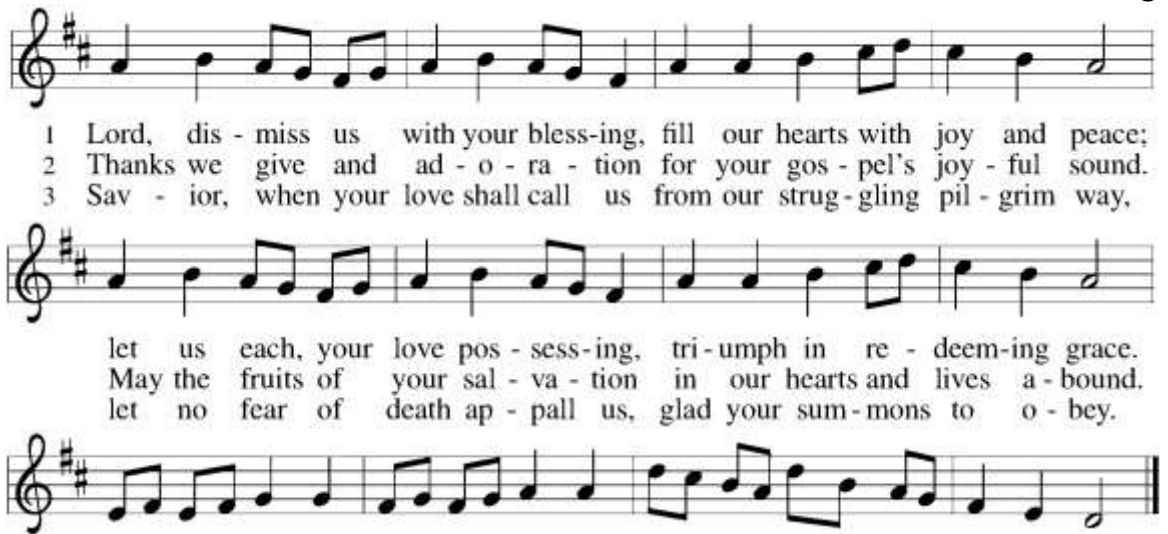
All: Amen.

HYMN

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

ELW #545

Fawcett/Thring



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,

let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.

Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

DISMISSAL:

Assisting Minister: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Wade in the Water

arr. Raney

* * * * *

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

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

MusiciansSoulFire; Deb Smith
Altar Flower DeliveryTina Schaffner
Altar GuildBeth Koontz, Janice Peck
Assisting Minister..... Darlene Klenk
Communion Assistants Liam Fralic, Raegan Ross
Communion Preparers.....Martha Hempfing, Diane Hoffman-Neail
CourierSue Covert, Ellen Shenk
Greeters Tom & Susie Shultz
LectorRaegan Ross
Live Stream Lexi Smith
Ushers Team 9: Tim Peck, Ava Berwager, Hallie Doll, Elijah Fisher, Elijah Jones,
Troy Linebaugh, Desiree McFarland, Landen Zinneman

THE ALTAR FLOWERS have been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Sally Amspacher Staub by Martha Hempfing; and in loving memory of Charles J. Klenk by Jeff and Darlene Klenk and family.

THE BULLETINS have been given to the Glory of God.

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 unless otherwise requested. After that time, prayers will continue for each person through our prayer chain. Newly added names will appear in bold. 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.

Kay Fontaine	Jay Cromer	Patricia Mosely
Scott Pohlman	Nancy Leister	Nate Bankert
Jeanie Mehring	Pearl Wintrobe	Brad Maloney
Lisa Blake	Loretta Cover	JoAnn Smith
Caralyn Mummert	Mike Mummert	Lucas Cherry

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT



July 26 – August 2, 2026

Sun.	Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion (Parking Lot)	8:30 a.m.
	Call Committee Focus Group (Fellowship Hall)	9:30-10:15 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave)	10:30 a.m.
Mon.	Seniors Hang Out (Fellowship Hall)	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
	Visiting Minister Meeting (Upper Room).....	6:00–8:00 p.m.
Tue.	Becoming the Singer You Want to Be (Nave)	4:00-6:00 p.m.
Wed.	Boy Scouts.....	7:00-8:30 p.m.
Sat.	Worship with Holy Communion (Fellowship Hall).....	5:00 p.m.
Sun.	Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion (Parking Lot)	8:30 a.m.
	Call Committee Focus Group (Fellowship Hall)	9:30-10:15 a.m.
	Singing Hymns Confidently (Lower Level – Adult Rehearsal Room)..	9:30-10:20 a.m.
	SoulFire Rehearsal.....	9:45-10:20 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave)	10:30 a.m.

Becoming the Singer You Want to Be - A Performance Masterclass
Tuesday, July 28 at 4:00 p.m.

Bring a prepared song or aria and receive a short coaching focused on authentic communication, musical storytelling, and connecting with your audience. Together we'll explore how technique and artistry work together to help you become the singer you want to be. Work with Courtney Ross, a Hanover native that is now a professional opera singer in Germany.

Call Committee Focus Group

The Call Committee is seeking feedback as we begin the journey of calling a new lead pastor. A brief, three question survey has been created, and feedback can be provided in a variety of ways:

1. There is an insert in the bulletin that contains the Pastoral Call Survey.
2. The survey has been placed on the home page of the church's website.
3. There will be a variety of focus groups that will provide the opportunity for any member of our congregation to ask questions related to the Pastoral Call Survey. All focus groups will be held in the Fellowship Hall on the following dates/times:
 - a. 7/25/26 at 6:00 p.m. (immediately after 5:00 pm worship).
 - b. 7/26/26 at 9:30 a.m.
 - c. 8/2/26 at 9:30 a.m.

All surveys are **due by Monday, August 10, 2026**. We value your feedback and look forward to collaborating together in the coming weeks.

Call Committee Members: Brian Blake, Richard Carson, John Mancini, Stacy Parsons, Kelli Reed, Barbara Strangfeld, and Ellen Shenk, Council Representative.

Kids Acting Troupe Performance

The St. Matthew Kids Acting Troupe will be performing on **Monday, August 3** at 6:30 pm at the Guthrie Library.

Back to School Event: Donations Needed

St. Matthew, Community Progress Council, and Three Retired Teachers Making a Difference are partnering in hosting a back to school event. The event is on Saturday, August 8 from 12-2 in Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in volunteering, please see Deb Smith. Donations can be dropped off in designated boxes found in the Church Office and Gathering Space. We are collecting the following school supplies:

Glue sticks

Packs of #2 pencils

Boxes of tissues

Boxes of 24 count crayons/16 count crayons

Headphones (NO wireless/NO ear buds)

Pocket folders

Pencil pouches or cases

Black expo dry erase markers

Yellow highlighters

Seniors Hangout

Our next Seniors Hangout is on **Monday, August 17** from 10:00-12:30. Gracie Troup will do a presentation on her trip with Campus Ministry to the Dominican Republic.



Music Camp is Next Week!

We are in need of donations of cheddar cheese goldfish crackers for Music Camp. Please bring them to church or drop them off in the church office.

Spanish Classes

Looking to learn a little Spanish? Register for Beginning Spanish taught by Martha Hernandez from CASA. Classes are September 5, September 19, September 26, and October 3 from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. in the Upper Room. Classes are FREE but registration is required. To register please visit: bit.ly/stmattspanish.



Save the Date: Our fall blood drive here at St. Matthew will be held Wednesday, September 23. Please pass the word to friends and family. This time, we will be celebrating Leo's birthday with special treats!

Music Opportunities for the Summer!

New Education Opportunity: Singing Hymns (old *and* new)

Confidently! This summer there will be a two-week adult education series between the two services (9:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.) on **August 2 and 9** about hymn singing. This class will discuss a brief history of hymnody, how congregational singing impacts our faith, and will work on ways to sing hymns confidently...both hymns you know *and* new hymns we may introduce! Being able to attend both classes is not a requirement, so feel free to just attend one if you are able. If you have any questions, contact Ethan Draper.



THE ANNUAL HYMN SING will return on **Sunday, August 16 at 4:00 p.m.** - mark your calendar for this event which has become a tradition in our community!

JOIN THE HYMN SING FESTIVAL CHOIR! Sign up now for the festival choir for our Hymn Sing on August 16 at 4:00 p.m. **Rehearsals for the festival choir will be on August 9 at 12:30 p.m. and August 16 at 2:30 p.m. (the day of the hymn sing).** With questions, email Ethan Draper at edraper@stmattlutheran.org.



To register, use the QR code or fill out this form:

<https://stmatthewlutheranchurch.breezechms.com/form/HymnSingChoir2026>



Sunday, August 23rd is the second Summer Choir opportunity! This is for anyone (no experience required!) to come and sing in this low-commitment choir. We will gather at 9:30 a.m. in the Adult Rehearsal Room, learn a simple anthem, and share it with the congregation during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. No need to sign-up...just join us on those Sunday mornings! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ethan Draper.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact Tim Peck for more information, youth@stmattlutheran.org

In between services on **August 9 from 9:30-10:20 in Fellowship Hall**, we will have a special presentation about our July mission trip to Philadelphia. I'm hoping to see everyone so we can share our experiences and insights with you!

August 16, 2025 at 8:30 and 10:30 services.

As a new school year begins, we want to send students, teachers, staff, and school volunteers back with our love and prayers. During both services we'll offer a moment of encouragement and support for learners of all ages. Bring your backpack, briefcase, or laptop bag as we ask God's blessing on this year of learning, growth, and connection!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Contact Missy Smith for more information, msmith@stmattlutheran.org.



Blessing of the Backpacks | August 16, 2025 at 8:30 and 10:30 services.

As a new school year begins, we want to send students, teachers, staff, and school volunteers back with our love and prayers. During both services we'll offer a moment of encouragement and support for learners of all ages. Bring your backpack, briefcase, or laptop bag as we ask God's blessing on this year of learning, growth, and connection!

INTRODUCING: GLOW

As we look forward to new things this year, we will be changing how we have our children's faith connections. Instead of having it during the fellowship hour between services, we will be changing Children's Church during the 10:30 service.

Please join us as we introduce GLOW! God Lights Our Way! The children 3 years old through 5th grade will be asked to join us after the first prayer and we will return before communion. Our 3-5 year olds will be in the Pray Ground in Fellowship Hall. Kindergarten-2nd grade will be in the Faith Connections room in the Lower Level and 3rd-5th graders will be in the Children's choir room in the Lower Level. **This will start on Sunday, Sept 20th.**



We will have a Rally Day at 9:30 prior to the service.

We will be needing some volunteers who would be able to help with lessons (which will be provided) and a craft. If you would be willing to give some time to help us share how God Lights Our Way, please contact Missy.

INFORMATION UPDATE FORM

Please fill out the pertinent part(s) for you, tear off this page and put in the offering basket or email the church office at info@stmattlutheran.org.

_____ I'd like to receive _____ e-mail updates and/or _____ newsletter in the mail. (Provide name, e-mail, and/or mailing address)

_____ I am a member of St. Matthew and below is updated contact information.

Name

Phone Number

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