

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Third Sunday of Easter April 14, 2024

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 3, Page 138

† *Congregation stands as able*

GATHERING

Prelude

Sandra Nearhoof

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P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: **Amen**

Gathering Hymn

"Alleluia! Jesus is risen!"

ELW #377

Kyrie

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Hymn of Praise

"Glory to God in the Highest"

Page 139

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Geri Regnier

First Reading

Isaiah 6:1-9a

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the LORD sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" ⁹And he said, "Go and say to this people: 'Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.'"

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 40:1-5

Tone 1

¹I waited patiently up-¹ on the LORD,
who stooped to me and¹ heard my cry.

²The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the¹ miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my¹ footing sure.

³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise¹ to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and they shall¹ trust the LORD.

⁴Happy are they who trust¹ in the LORD!
They do not turn to enemies or to those who¹ follow lies.

⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us,
none can be com-¹pared with you! Oh, that I could make them known
and tell them! But they are more than¹ I can count.

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

† Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia”

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Gospel

Luke 24:36b-48

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Resurrected... To Teach

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

† Hymn of the Day

"As we gather at your table"

ELW #522

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,**

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

You may sit, stand or kneel for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

A: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray
for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

A: O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy
meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all
that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water
to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life
in all its variety. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human
knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make
decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in
times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating
change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty.
God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For all those who have asked us to pray for them...

C: hear our prayer.

A: O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died, especially Keandra Bashful, WJ Barrs, Eva Brown and Bishop Davis. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C: Amen

MEAL

Anthem *"Now the green blade rises"* Choir

The gifts may be brought forward.

Offering Prayer

A: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen

† Great Thanksgiving Page 144

Holy, Holy, Holy Page 144

Anaphora Page 145

Amen Page 145

Lord's Prayer *"Our Father, who..."* Page 145

Lamb of God Page 146

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen

Table Blessing

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

C: **Amen**

† Prayer after Communion

A: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C: **Amen**

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn

"This joyful Eastertide"

ELW#391

Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Serve the Risen Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Memorial Book Is Open Today to the Glory of God

In Memory of:

Emma Nelson, 2004

**READINGS AND PSALM
SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024**

Zechariah 10
Psalm 80:1-7
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18



*“The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet,
it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of
me.” —Martin Luther*

April 7, 2024

2nd Sunday of Easter

ATTENDANCE — 71
(IN-PERSON— 58 , YOUTUBE - 13)

Thankfully offered

OFFERING

Benevolence	\$ 3,223.15
Building	\$ 180.00
Memorial	\$ 100.00
Other	\$ 180.00
Total	\$ 3,683.15

Serving April 14, 2024

Opener/Closer	Rose Johnson
Worship Assistant	Lisa Pettit
Communion Assistant	Katherine Kelly
Lector	Jaxson Gardner
Ushers	Jim Sperry Bill Wallace
Altar Guild	Nancy Gates, Donna Doughty Geri Regnier
Live Streaming	Cecil McGouirk, Matt Pettit

Serving April 21, 2024

Opener/Closer	Lisa Pettit
Worship Assistant	Rachel Zarnke
Communion Assistant	Geri Regnier
Lector	Bill Wallace
Ushers	Amanda Jeffery Sean Jeffery
Altar Guild	Lisa Pettit, Rose Johnson
Live Streaming	Cecil McGouirk, Jaxson Gardner

Pray Without Ceasing



“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”
—1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

The Armed Forces,
their families,
and victims of war
Persecuted Christians
The ministries of
St. Matthew
Bishop Kevin
Strickland
Southeastern Synod
Staff
Pastor Taylor Burton
Edwards
Laura Alexander
Carol Bingemann
Dave Bonaker
Pat Bonaker
Betty Davidson
Ken Hoag
Myrna Hoag
Bennie Jackson
Mairetha Jackson
Marga Miller
Traudel Mosely
Debby Owen
Dorothy Redden
Connie Sieg
Joan Smith
Carla Stickles

Albert VanHousen II
Margarete Walsh
Monika Wright
Gary Anderson
Judy Bultman
George Capps
Kyle Carter
Jim Chappel
Jean Clemmons
Xavier Danguilan
Penny Davis & Family
Brandy Garnett
Becky Goldsmith
Estrella Gonzales
Doris Grier
Petra Henderson
Beverly Huckaby
Norma Kilby
Ken Korn
Boyd Lester
Laura Lester
Valerie Karol Louder
Robert Lowe
Michelle Matthias
Brady Meeks
Tim Moore
Gary Nearhoof
Louie Niedenhummer

Kimberly O'Malley
Michael Owen
Angela Paul
Vincent Pawlowski
Tom Pettit
Mark Purushotham
Dwight Redmond
Tiffany Richardson
Dayna Ryan
Yuliia Savitska
Shirley Scott
Ricky Skinner
Betty Townsend
Sandra Tuggle
Charlie VanHousen
Dawn VanHousen
Martha Zimmerman

Maui
Morrocco
Israel
Ukraine
Gaza
Octapharma Plasma
Master-Kleen
Kamoree's Beauty Salon
Title Max
Broken Tarot Tattoo &
Piercing
JD Wings

Deadline for bulletins is **Tuesday 10:00 a.m.** prior to the Sunday.
Deadline for May newsletter is April 20.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to St. Matthew: Jesus Christ offers himself to all. May you be blessed as we celebrate God's love for us. All the baptized are invited to feast with us at the Lord's Table. The wearing of a mask is optional during worship and social distancing is recommended. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday.

We invite you to join our congregation if you have not yet found a church home. We are people of God that share a living, daring, confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person, questions, complexities and all. Join us, as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Nursery: St. Matthew provides nursery service for children ages 4 and younger. All children are welcome to attend worship with their families. If a child needs a break during the service, they may sit with a parent/guardian in the Narthex.

Mission Outreach Opportunities:

Mission Focus:

St Anne's Outreach - collecting toiletries and Travel size toiletries. We always accept monetary donations.

- Lion's Club: Glasses, sunglasses and old cell phones
- Family House of West GA: Pop tabs
- Flags to Retire: Bring used American flags that you no longer want or need.
- St. Anne's: Personal hygiene products (travel size), toilet paper, and non-perishable food items

Leave donations in the labeled containers in the Narthex between bathrooms.

Remembrance Gathering: Please come to the Remembrance Gathering Tuesday, April 9th at 3:00 PM in the Church House. The gathering is an open invitation to members of our congregation to come together and share personal stories or recollections of someone else's life. We began with stories of World War II and our goal for 2024 is to expand our sharing to include all wars and conflicts.

Growing in Grace: Meets every Friday from 9:00-11:00 AM in the Church House. God's grace is freely given to us. Join the group to learn to cultivate an attitude of grace in your daily life by learning about and adopting habits to move into a state of grace. Contact Beth Hoag at 706-604-8110 for more information.

SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD
2024 Assembly

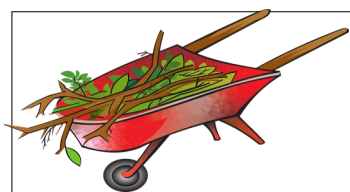


2024 Southeastern Synod Assembly
May 31 - June 2, 2024
Columbus Convention & Trade Center

For more information, go to our website at:
<https://www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com/comingevents>

Save the Date

- April 13th 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Yard Sale Drop-off
- April 14th 9:00 AM - Sunday School Class begins
- April 18th 5:00 PM - Council Meeting - Church House
- April 20th 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Gardens Cleanup
- April 20th 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Yard Sale Drop-off
- May 14th 3:00 PM - Remembrance Gathering - Church House
- May 16th 5:00 PM - Council Meeting - Church House
- June 15th 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Yard Sale



Garden and grounds spring cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, 20th from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Please bring tools you need for work. We will be trimming shrubs, weeding, planting flowers and placing pine straw. Please contact

Allena Sperry for questions at 706-563-3107
--The Garden Keepers

Our interfaith Bible study in the Ten Commandments with Rabbi Beth Schwartz resumes on April 17 at 6:30 p.m. in Luther Hall. We'll meet May 8, 15, and 22.

We need your help with the worship service on Sundays in the areas of Live Streaming, Altar Guild, Ushers, Nursery Helper and Chairman for Coffee Cart. If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, please see Rose Johnson or Cecil McGouirk.

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Statement



Reach in to grow in Christ
Reach up to worship God
Reach out to welcome and witness

ST. MATTHEW EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4026 Macon Road, Columbus, Georgia 31907

(706) 561-3406 - Office Hours - Tues & Thurs 2:00-5:00 PM, Friday 9:00-1:00 PM

Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards Email: twbe@liturgyfolks.com

Office email: office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com

A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

Southeastern Synod

www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@st.matthewlutheranchurch4457/streams>

The Rev. Taylor Burton Edwards, Pastor

Sonja Metcalf, Parish Administrator

Lisa Pettit, Sexton

Sandra Nearhoof, Minister of Music

Penny Davis, Nursery Director