

# St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



All Saints Sunday  
November 5, 2023

*All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.*

## Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 1, Page 98

† Congregation stands as able

## GATHERING

Prelude

Sandra Nearhoof



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

C: **And also with you.**

P: Most merciful God,

C: **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**

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

*"Shall we gather at the river"*

**ELW #423**

Kyrie

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Hymn of Praise

"Glory to God in the Highest"

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Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

# PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Katherine Kelly

## First Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." <sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. <sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; <sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Tone 5

I will bless the LORD <sup>1</sup> at all times;

the praise of God shall ever be <sup>1</sup> in my mouth.

<sup>2</sup>**I will glory <sup>1</sup> in the LORD;**

**let the lowly hear <sup>1</sup> and rejoice.**

<sup>3</sup>Proclaim with me the greatness <sup>1</sup> of the LORD;

let us exalt God's <sup>1</sup> name together.

<sup>4</sup>**I sought the LORD, who <sup>1</sup> answered me**

**and delivered me from <sup>1</sup> all my terrors.**

<sup>5</sup>Look upon the LORD <sup>1</sup> and be radiant,

and let not your faces <sup>1</sup> be ashamed.

<sup>6</sup>**I called in my affliction, and <sup>1</sup> the LORD heard me**

**and saved me from <sup>1</sup> all my troubles.**

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD encamps around those who <sup>1</sup> fear the LORD

and de-<sup>1</sup>livers them.

<sup>8</sup>**Taste and see that the <sup>1</sup> LORD is good;**

**happy are they who take ref-<sup>1</sup>uge in God!**

<sup>9</sup>Fear the LORD, you saints <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,

for those who fear the <sup>1</sup> LORD lack nothing.

<sup>10</sup>**The lions are in want and <sup>1</sup> suffer hunger,**

**but those who seek the LORD lack nothing <sup>1</sup> that is good.**

<sup>22</sup>O LORD, you redeem the life <sup>1</sup> of your servants,

and those who put their trust in you will <sup>1</sup> not be punished.

## Second Reading

1 John 3:1-3

<sup>1</sup>See 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. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, 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. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

L: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

† Gospel Acclamation

“ Alleluia”

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## Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th Chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: <sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. <sup>5</sup>Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. <sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. <sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup>Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

*When Works Do Work*

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

† Hymn of the Day

“For all the saints”

ELW #422

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**

*Choose to stand, kneel, or sit for prayers.*

### **Prayers of Intercession**

A: Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: Holy God, the church triumphant gathers around your throne to praise you. We join them in worship and remember your sustaining grace in every generation. Heal our divisions; show us unity in your presence. Hear us, O God.

### **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Holy creator, we marvel at your creation revealed in the cycle of seasons, changing landscapes, and the rise and fall of ocean tides. Turn us from selfish consumption and open us to gentle healing of the earth so all creation thrives. Hear us, O God.

### **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Holy advocate, we lift grateful hearts for the ability to vote and elect leaders. Grant wisdom to those who will be elected and safety to poll workers. May civic leaders serve the whole community, especially all who are underrepresented or oppressed. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Holy healer, bless the brokenhearted and all who mourn. Send your compassion to all who grieve, grant wholeness to those who are sick, and accompany the dying. Be near to all who need you. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Holy comforter, we pray for this congregation, that the promise of your new life may be shared and experienced. We pray for the funeral ministry of this congregation, that families and friends seeking your love find it here. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

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

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Holy One, for the saints who now rest in your mercy, we give you thanks. We remember their witness of faithfulness and love. We especially remember



Joyce Garver-Messenger  
Anneliese Schwarting  
Hans Salheiser  
Bobby Wright

Joe Stewart  
Christine Minor  
Rolene Stewart

Praise to you for the eternal life they have been given through Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

## **MEAL**

Anthem

*“Sing With All the Saints in Glory”*

Choir

*The gifts may be brought forward.*

## Offering Prayer

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

**C: Amen**

† Great Thanksgiving	Page 107
Holy, Holy, Holy	Page 108
Acclamation	Page 109
Amen	Page 109
Lord's Prayer      "Our Father, who..."	Page 112
Lamb of God	Page 112

## 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: Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

**C: Amen**

## SENDING

### Blessing

**Sending Hymn**      *"Holy God, we praise your name"*      **ELW #414**

### Dismissal

A: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**The Memorial Book Is Open Today to the Glory of God**

**In Memory of:**

*Anneliese Murphy, 2005*

**READINGS AND PSALM**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

Amos 5:18-24  
Psalm 70  
1 Thessalonians 5:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13



*"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*

**October 29, 2023**  
**Reformation Sunday**

ATTENDANCE — 60  
(IN-PERSON— 60 , ZOOM - 0)

*Thankfully offered*

**OFFERING**

Benevolence	\$ 3,277.00
Building	\$ 140.00
Memorial	\$ 100.00
Other	\$ 560.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,077.00</b>

**Serving today, November 5, 2023**

Opener/Closer	Carla Stickles
Crucifer	Ian Jeffery
Worship Assistant	Donna Doughty
Communion Assistant	Geri Regnier
Lector	Rose Johnson
Offering-bearer	Duncan Jeffery
Ushers	Sandy Craven Randy Craven
Altar Guild	Rose Johnson Catherine Sayers

**Servers for Sunday, November 12, 2023**

Opener/Closer	Allena Sperry
Crucifer	Ian Jeffery
Worship Assistant	Rose Johnson
Communion Assistant	Katherine Kelly
Lector	Katherine Kelly
Offering-bearer	Duncan Jeffery
Ushers	Amanda Jeffery Sean Jeffery
Altar Guild	Geri Regnier Donna Doughty



# 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  
Presiding Bishop  
Elizabeth Eaton  
Bishop Kevin  
Strickland  
Southeastern Synod  
Staff  
Pastor Taylor Burton  
Edwards  
Laura Alexander  
Zocia Barr family  
Keandra Bashful  
Carol Bingemann  
Dave Bonaker  
Pat Bonaker  
Eva Brown  
Betty Davidson  
Ken Hoag  
Myrna Hoag  
Bennie Jackson  
Mairetha Jackson  
Marga Miller  
Traudel Mosely

Debby Owen  
Dorothy Redden  
Connie Sieg  
Joan Smith  
Jim Sperry  
Carla Stickles  
Albert VanHousen II  
Margarete Walsh  
Gary Anderson  
Judy Bultman  
Kyle Carter  
Jim Chappel  
Jean Clemmons  
Xavier Danguilan  
Brandy Garnett  
Becky Goldsmith  
Estrella Gonzales  
Doris Grier  
Petra Henderson  
Beverly Huckaby  
Norma Kilby  
Ken Korn  
Laura Lester  
Robert Lowe  
Michelle Matthias  
Tim Moore  
Gary Nearhoof  
Kimberly O'Malley

Michael Owen  
Angela Paul  
Vincent Pawlowski  
Dwight Redmond  
Tiffany Richardson  
Dayna Ryan  
Yuliia Savitska  
Shirley Scott  
Ricky Skinner  
Betty Townsend  
Charlie VanHousen  
Dawn VanHousen  
Martha Zimmerman

Libya  
Maui  
Morocco  
Israel

Hidden Lake Grocery  
USPS  
Peachtree Immediate Care  
Beauty Queen  
Hidden lake bottle Shop  
Brewster's  
Waffle House

Deadline for bulletins is **Tuesday 10:00 a.m.** prior to the Sunday.  
Deadline for December newsletter is November 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.

**The Tuesday morning Bible Study** meets in the Church House from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. This class reads and talks about the scriptures for the coming Sunday.

## **Mission Outreach Opportunities:**

- **FOCUS:** Operation Christmas Child  
10/22-11/12 - List available in the Narthex
- Lion's Club: Glasses, sunglasses and old cell phones
- Ronald McDonald house: 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.

**Athanasian Creed:** Join us on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM at Mr. Pizza to study the Athanasian Creed and its meaning.

**Remembrance Gathering:** A remembrance gathering will be held in the Church House, November 14th at 3:00 PM. We will be sharing your own or family stories related to World War II. Please feel free to invite others to attend! This gathering will happen the second Tuesday of every month. Questions or concerns, contact Zocia Barr at (706) 330-1001.



Please help us with Operation Christmas Child! There is a list in the Narthex of items needed. We will, on November 14th at 12:00 in Luther Hall, be packing the boxes for our 18th year! Please donate and please joins us for the shoebox packing!

## Save the Date

- November 5th 11:30 AM - Birthday Celebration
- November 12th 11:30 AM - Congregational Annual Meeting
- November 12th 6:00 PM - Unity Service - Temple Israel
- November 14th 12:00 - Operation Christmas Child Packing - Luther Hall
- November 14th 3:00 PM - Remembrance Gathering-Church House



ANNUAL

CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

### Annual Congregational Meeting

**When:** Sunday, November 12, 2023 - Following worship

**Where:** In the sanctuary  
All voting members of the church (adult members and confirmed youth) are encouraged to attend this meeting to discuss the business of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church.



The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God in celebration of the marriage of Jack Steinagel and Katie McIntosh on Saturday, November 4th, 2023 at the Botanic Garden at Georgia Southern University where they met. Congratulations to the happy couple!

### REACHING OUT TO THE WORLD

Installation of a streaming system was approved. The total estimated cost of \$12,500 will be funded by a special campaign over and above regular giving. Prayerfully consider giving generously to make this outreach program possible. You may designate your contribution in the OTHER area on your envelope or use a pew envelope. We are checking availability of Thrivent funds. Thank you to those who have already made contributions totaling \$11,626



**Dear Heavenly Father**, you will not leave us without a blessing. Wrestle with your church and renew it for the sake of the world. Preserve our life in you, so that we faithfully name you before the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

## **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](mailto:twbe@liturgyfolks.com)

Office email: [office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com](mailto:office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com)

*A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,*

*Southeastern Synod*

[www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com](http://www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com)

The Rev. Taylor Burton Edwards, Pastor

Kelly Peterson, Media Specialist

Lisa Pettit, Sexton

Sandra Nearhoof, Minister of Music

Sonja Metcalf, Parish Administrator

Penny Davis, Nursery Director