

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 9, 2024

A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 7, Page 175

† Congregation stands as able

GATHERING

Prelude

Sandra Nearhoof



P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

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 "Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord"

ELW #395

Kyrie

Page 175

Hymn of Praise "Glory to God in the Highest"

Page 176

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen**

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Katherine Kelly

First Reading

Genesis 3:8-15

⁸[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard

the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

L: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

Tone 6

¹Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

²O LORD, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

⁴Yet with you is forgiveness,

in order that you may be feared.

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

⁶My soul waits for the Lord more than those

who keep watch for the morning,

more than those who keep watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plentiful redemption.

⁸For the LORD shall redeem Israel

from all their sins.

Second Reading

Acts 4:32-37

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. ³⁶There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"). ³⁷He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

L: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

† Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia"

Page 179

Gospel

Mark 3:20-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 3rd Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] went home; ²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. ²⁸Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"—³⁰for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." ³³And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Of One Heart and Breath

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

† Hymn of the Day *"Jesus, Jesus, fill us with your love"*

ELW#708

Apostles' Creed

**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

You may sit, stand or kneel for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

A: We come before the Triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

A: You reawaken our hearts to your mercy. We give you thanks for renewers of the church in every age. Enliven the creativity and persistence of all seeking to transform the church into a closer vision of your beloved community. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Your presence is revealed in the shade of trees, the growth of seeds into flowers, and in the blessing of plants granting food in their right season. Heal lands scarred by deforestation, pollution, or infestation. Teach us to cultivate the earth with respect and reverence. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Our nations and communities are divided, O God. Teach us again to listen with curiosity and mercy, even in disagreement. Grant us the humility to acknowledge our hardness of heart and make us bold in modeling cooperation for the sake of the common good. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Hear the prayers of all who cry out to you from the depths of fear, despair, or hopelessness (*especially*). With haste, rescue victims of trafficking, exploitation, and abuse, and bless organizations and individuals who work on their behalf. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Grant wisdom and clarity to all who are in seasons of discernment and transition: high school graduates preparing for first jobs or new educational journeys, those who are shifting careers, and those who are navigating changes in their relationships. Accompany them with your peace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

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

C: receive our prayer.

A: Praise to you for our ancestors in faith who believed, spoke, and lived in you especially Keandra Bashful, WJ Barrs, Eva Brown, Bishop Davis, Joan Smith, and Tom Pettit. Give us confidence that as Jesus was raised, so we too will be raised, with all the saints, into your everlasting presence. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen**

MEAL

Anthem

"I Lift My Soul "

Choir

The gifts may be brought forward.

Offering Prayer

A: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen

† Great Thanksgiving Page 180

Holy, Holy, Holy Page 181

Lord's Prayer "Our Father, who..." Page 182

Lamb of God Page 182

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: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn

"Good, Christian friends, rejoice and sing!"

ELW #385

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Memorial Book Is Open Today to the Glory of God

In Memory of:

Roman Wojciechowski, 2013



Thank you Nancy and Bill gates for serving as our representatives to the Southeastern Synod Convention. Great job Allena Sperry, Katherine Kelly and Geri Regnier for sorting and organizing t-shirts. T-Shirts were handed out to those attending the convention by Allena Sperry, Katherine Kelly, Geri Regnier, Randy and Sandy Craven, Bill Wallace and Jordi Banitt. Thank you so much for your help! Many thanks to Amanda Jeffery and Donna Doughty for serving as hosts on Saturday during the Discipleship activities. Thank you Allena Sperry and Bill Wallace for transporting the table, chairs and quiet activities for the children.

READINGS AND PSALM
SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

Ezekiel 17:22-24
 Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
 Acts 6:1-7
 Mark 4:26-34



“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

May 26, 2024

Holy Trinity Sunday

ATTENDANCE — 32
 (IN-PERSON— 32 , YOUTUBE - 0)
 SUNDAY SCHOOL - 0

Thankfully offered

OFFERING

Benevolence	\$ 4,110.00
Building	\$ 280.00
Memorial	\$ 100.00
Other	\$ 50.00
Total	\$ 4,540.00

Serving June 9, 2024

Opener/Closer	Lisa Pettit
Worship Assistant	Rachel Zarnke
Communion Assistant	Raymond Lawton
Lector	Jaxson Gardner
Ushers	Sandy Craven Randy Craven
Altar Guild	Nancy Gates, Donna Doughty, Geri Regnier
Live Streaming	Paul Hicks, Cecil McGouirk

Serving June 16, 2024

Opener/Closer	Donna Doughty
Worship Assistant	Donna Doughty
Communion Assistant	Lisa Pettit
Lector	Ian and Sean Jeffery
Ushers	Sean Jeffery Jim Sperry
Altar Guild	Lisa Pettit Allena Sperry
Live Streaming	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
Carla Stickles
Albert VanHousen II
Margarete Walsh
Monika Wright

Gary Anderson
Judy Bultman
George Capps
Kyle Carter
Jim Chappel
Jean Clemmons
Rich Curtis
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 Niederhammer
Kimberly O'Malley
Michael Owen
Angela Paul
Vincent Pawlowski

Beth Price
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
Morocco
Israel
Ukraine
Gaza

Peachtree Immediate Care
Brewster's
Hidden Lake Bottle Shop
Waffle House
Vance Brooks Funeral
Service
E&S Clothing

Deadline for bulletins is **Tuesday 10:00 a.m.** prior to the Sunday.
Deadline for July newsletter is June 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 6 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:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| | Wynnton Neighborhood Network |
| • 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 |
| • Safe House | Sealed plastic utensils (take-out meals) |
- Leave donations in the labeled containers in the Narthex between bathrooms.

Remembrance Gathering: Please come to the Remembrance Gathering Tuesday, June 11th at 3:00 PM in the Church House. The gathering is an open invitation to come together and share personal stories or recollections of someone else's life. We share stories 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.

Repair Updates: 1. The chimney removed and roof repaired on the Church House. 2. The pothole replaced with new paving materials 3. Handicapped sideway ramp replaced. 4. Kitchen ceiling and storage closet ceiling have been repaired and painted. 5. Doors in Luther Hall have been repainted. Currently, we are waiting for the roof to be repaired on the Church. Thank you so much for all of your contributions to these projects.

Save the Date

- **June 1st** 10:00-12:00 - Yard Sale Dropoff at Luther Hall
- **June 9th** - 11:30 Birthday and Church Anniversary Celebration- Fellowship Hall
- **June 10th-14th** - 10:00-2:00 - Unpacking and Sorting
- **June 11th** - 3:00 - Remembrance Gathering - Church House
- **June 11th** - 6:00 - Nicene Creed Study at Mr. Pizza
- **June 12th** - 10:00-12:00 - Last Yard Sale Dropoff
- **June 15th 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM** - Yard Sale
- **June 15th** 1:00 - 3:00PM - Yard Sale Cleanup - Valley Rescue picking up yard sale remnants at 3:00 PM.

Church
YARD
SALE

Please note important dates related to our Church Yard Sale:

June 10-14th - 10:00-2:00 - Unpacking and Sorting

June 12th - 10:00-12:00 - Last Yard Sale Dropoff

June 15th 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Yard Sale

June 15th 1:00 - 3:00PM - Yard Sale Cleanup -

Valley Rescue picking up yard sale remnants at 3:00 PM.



**We will have
some
special
dedications at
the
Celebration!**

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
Ellen Hoag, Sexton

Sandra Nearhoof, Minister of Music
Penny Davis, Nursery Director