

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Third Sunday of Lent
March 3, 2024

Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

† *Congregation stands as able*

GATHERING

†

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 *“Christ is made the sure foundation”*

ELW #645

Kyrie

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen, amen.**

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through 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

Katherine Kelly

First Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

¹Then God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glo-¹ry of God,
and the sky proclaims its¹ maker's handiwork.

²**One day tells its tale¹ to another,
and one night imparts knowledge¹ to another.**

³Although they have no¹ words or language,
and their voices¹ are not heard,

⁴**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends¹ of
the world, where God has pitched a tent¹ for the sun.**

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out¹ of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to¹ run its course.

⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to
the end of¹ it again; nothing is hidden from its¹ burning heat.**

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re-^lvives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom^l to the simple.

**⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and re-^ljoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light^l to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and en-^ldures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous^l altogether.

**¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than^l much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey^l in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your ser-^lvant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is^l great reward.

**¹²Who can detect one's^l own offenses?
Cleanse me from my^l secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion^l over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a^l great offense.

**¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable^l
in your sight, O LORD, my strength and^l my redeemer.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,
"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of
this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom,
God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who
believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim
Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to
those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and
the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and
God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

† Gospel

John 2:13-22

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 2nd Chapter.

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

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the
temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money
changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them
out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of
the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were
selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's
house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for
your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you
show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in

three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon *Turn...from the World, Part 2*

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

Silence

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: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

A: You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land. Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. We pray for those preparing for baptism. 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: You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, especially Keandra Bashful, WJ Barrs and Eva Brown, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen

MEAL

The gifts may be brought forward.

Offering Prayer

A: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: **Amen**

† Great Thanksgiving Page 107

Holy, Holy, Holy-Spoken Page 108

Anaphora Page 111

Lord's Prayer "Our Father, who..." Page 112

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen

† Prayer after Communion

A: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C: **Amen**

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn "When I survey the wondrous cross" ELW #803

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



The Memorial Book Is Open Today to the Glory of God

In Memory of:

Steven Charles Davidson, 2016



**READINGS AND PSALM
SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024**

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21



“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

**February 25, 2024
Second Sunday of Lent**

ATTENDANCE — 65
(IN-PERSON— 57 , YOUTUBE - 8)

Thankfully offered

OFFERING

Benevolence	\$ 3,183.00
Building	\$ 230.00
Memorial	\$ 0.00
Other	\$ 220.00
Total	\$ 3,633.00

**February 21, 2024
Mid-Week Lenten Service**

ATTENDANCE — 16

OFFERING

Benevolence	\$ 115.00
Other	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 140.00

Serving March 3, 2024

Opener/Closer	Katherine Kelly
Worship Assistant	Shannon Gardner
Communion Assistant	Rachel Zarnke
Lector	Geri Regnier
Ushers	Sandy Craven Randy Craven
Altar Guild	Zach F., Rose Johnson Catherine Sayers
Live Streaming	Sean Jeffery/Cecil McGouirk

Serving March 10, 2024

Opener/Closer	Lisa Pettit
Worship Assistant	Shannon Gardner
Communion Assistant	Katherine Kelly
Lector	Amy Hoag
Ushers	Matt Pettit Jim Sperry
Altar Guild	Nancy Gates, Donna Doughty, Geri Regnier
Live Streaming	Rose Johnson, 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
Brandy Garnett
Becky Goldsmith
Estrella Gonzales
Doris Grier
Petra Henderson
Beverly Huckaby
Norma Kilby
Ken Korn
Boyd Lester
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

Maui
Morrocco
Israel
Ukraine
Gaza

Hidden Lake Bottle Shop
Waffle House
Vance Brooks Funeral
Service
E & S Clothing
Striffler Hamby Funeral
Service
One Financial Service

Deadline for bulletins is **Tuesday 10:00 a.m.** prior to the Sunday.
Deadline for April newsletter is March 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, March 12th 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.

Please check the directory, located on the table outside the Sacristy, to ensure that the information we have for you is correct. We would like to validate name, address, phone number and email. Thank you for your help in keeping our records current.



Save the Date

- **March 3rd After service** - Birthday Celebration
- **March 5th 10:30 AM** - Bible Study - Church House
- **March 6th 5:30 PM** - Lenten Service
- **March 8th 9:00-11:00** - Growing in Grace - Church House
- **March 9th 9:00-1:00** - Spring cleanup of the grounds
- **March 12th 3:00 PM** - Remembrance Gathering - Church House



Garden and grounds spring cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, March 9th from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Please bring tools you need for work. If you are unable to participate in the cleanup, please consider making a donation for pine straw or spring plants. Place donation in a pew envelope and mark for gardens. Thank you for your assistance. Please contact

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

WHAT A TACKLE!!! Tackle Hunger potluck was enjoyed by 53 people with great food and fellowship. Donations at the potluck totaled \$126. This will be added to other donations that have been received throughout the month. Thank you so much to everyone who donated to Brown Bag of Columbus!



ordered.

It's time to order Easter Lilies for Easter. The Easter Lilies will decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, March 31st. Please fill out the form you will find on the table in the Narthex. These forms need to be turned in by March 24th. It is \$15 per Easter Lily

Lent Worship Schedule

LENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP
EVENING PRAYER

MARCH 6, 13, 20
5:30 P.M.

MAUNDY THURSDAY
MARCH 28
7:00 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY
MARCH 29
7:00 PM

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