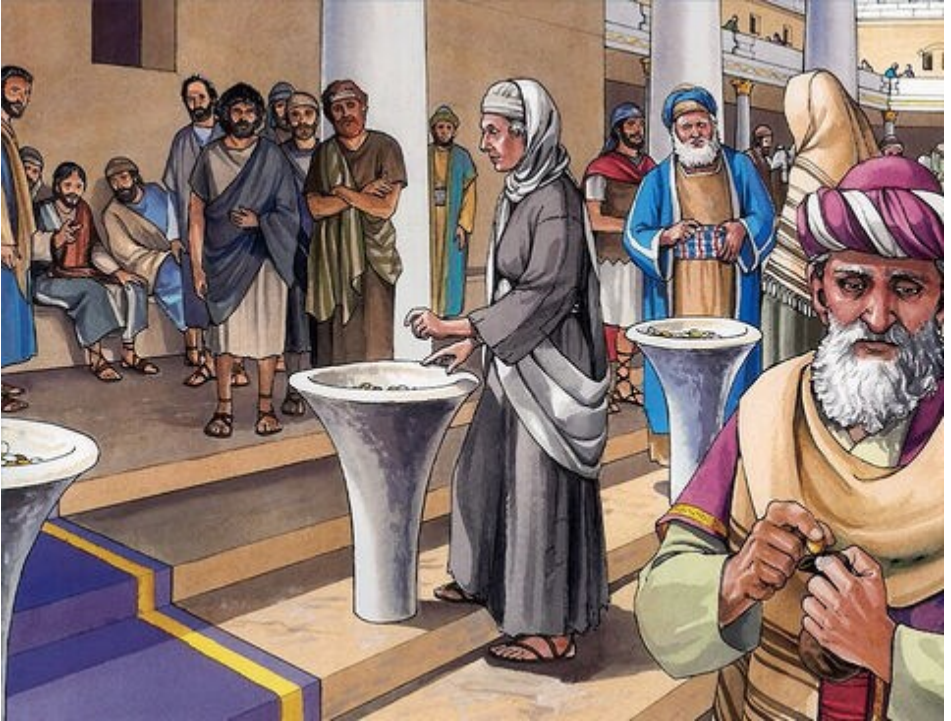


St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost November 10, 2024

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 4, page 147

† *Congregation stands as able*

GATHERING

Prelude

Sandra Nearhoof



Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.

Amen.

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,
**we confess that sin has taken hold of us
and we are complicit in its power.**

We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest.

Unbind us and set us free.

**Lead us again to the waters of rebirth,
that we may live just and generous lives
for the good of your world
and the care of our neighbors,
following in the servant way of Jesus.**

Amen.

These words are trustworthy and true:

Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever.

For his sake, you are + forgiven and God remembers your sin no more.

Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"As saints of old"

ELW #695

Kyrie

Page 147

Hymn of Praise

Page 148

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Rose Johnson

First Reading

1 Kings 17:8-16

⁸The word of the LORD came to [Elijah,] saying, ⁹"Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." ¹⁰So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." ¹¹As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." ¹²But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." ¹³Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth." ¹⁵She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

L: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146

Tone 4

¹Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

²**I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;**

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

³Put not your | trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

⁴**When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,**

and in that day | their thoughts perish.

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,

whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;**

who keeps promis- | es forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.

The LORD sets the | captive free.

⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;**

the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;

the LORD | loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares | for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow,

but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

¹⁰**The LORD shall | reign forever,**

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Hebrews 9:24-28

²⁴Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; ²⁶for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, ²⁸so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

L: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

✠ Gospel Acclamation

Page 151

Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 12th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸As [Jesus] taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation." ⁴¹He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

This World

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

✠ Hymn of the Day

"O God of every nation"

ELW #713

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: Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: Renew your church, O God. Make us servants to one another for the sake of the gospel. Instill a heart for service and a passion for justice in our bishops, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders. Merciful God ,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Renew your creation, O God. Sustain the earth and seas and all that is in them. Kindle in us a reverent awe for all creatures great and small, and strengthen us in our pursuit of climate justice. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Renew the nations, O God. Heal our nation's veterans from the unseen wounds of war. Tend to their trauma and soothe burdened consciences. Guide leaders of the world to end conflicts and pursue peace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Renew your people, O God. Protect those in our communities who are vulnerable or ill. Accompany persons who are unemployed or underemployed, children who are in foster care, and those who live alone. Watch over and uphold them. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Renew this congregation, O God. Give us clarity in our mission and boldness in our witness. Bless our ministries that attend to basic needs of any who lack sufficient resources, that all may live with dignity. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

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

C: receive our prayer.

A: Happy are those whose help was in you. We give thanks for all your faithful ones who praised you as their God all their life long. As we eagerly wait for you, inspire us by their lives of service. Merciful God,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

Anthem

“Day by Day”

Choir

The gifts may be brought forward.

Offering Prayer

A: Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name.

C: Amen.

+ Great Thanksgiving	Page 152	
Holy, Holy, Holy	Page 153	
Lord's Prayer	“Our Father, who...”	Page 154
Lamb of God	Page 154	

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: Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn

“Christ be our light”

ELW #715

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

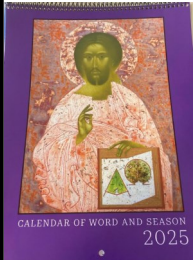
The Memorial Book is open today to the Glory of God

In Memory of:

Scott Miller, Jr., 2013



Magnifying sheets are now available to use with our hymnal to help make the print larger. Please return to the basket in the Narthex after the service



Calendars

The 2025 Calendars are now available for \$10 each from Altar Guild members. Proceeds from the calendar sales will support purchases of worship supplies, including everything from communion wafers to palms for Palm Sunday.



We will be decorating the Christmas Trees on December 7th at 10:00 AM. Everyone is invited to join in the fun!

READINGS AND PSALM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2024

Daniel 12:1-3
 Psalm 16
 Hebrews 10:19-25
 Mark 13:1-8



"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

November 3, 2024
All Saints Sunday

ATTENDANCE — 56
 (IN-PERSON— 42, YOUTUBE - 14)

OFFERING

Benevolence	\$	4,250.00
Building	\$	100.00
Memorial	\$	175.00
Other	\$.00
Total	\$	4,525.00

Save the Date

- November 10 - 11:30 - Annual Congregational Meeting
- November 12 - 10:15 - Bible Study - Church House
- November 13 - 6:00 - More Than Just Stories Bible Study-Luther Hall
- November 15 - 10:00-12:00 - Craf-Tea - Luther Hall
- November 16 - 10:00-12:00 - OCC Work Session - Luther Hall
- November 19 - 12:00-2:00 - OCC Pack Boxes - Luther Hall

Serving November 10, 2024

Opener/Closer	Zocia Barr/Rose Johnson
Worship Assistant	Lisa Pettit
Communion Assistant	Raymond Lawton
Lector	Ian and Sean Jeffery
Ushers	Bill Wallace Jim Sperry
Altar Guild	Rose Johnson Terri Niederhammer
Live Streaming	Paul Hicks

Serving November 17, 2024

Opener/Closer	Allena Sperry
Worship Assistant	Donna Doughty
Communion Assistant	Liz McGouirk
Lector	Amy Hoag
Ushers	Ron Ullman Jim Sperry
Altar Guild	Allena Sperry Debby Ullman
Live Streaming	Cecil McGouirk

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
Rigney Cofield
Betty Davidson
Ken Hoag
Myrna Hoag
Bennie Jackson
Mairetha Jackson
Marga Miller
Traudel Mosely
Terri Niederhammer
Debby Owen
Dorothy Redden
Connie Sieg
Carla Stickles
Albert VanHousen II

Harold Vinson
Margarete Walsh
Monika Wright
George Capps
Jim Chappel
Jean Clemmons
Xavier Danguilan
Penny Davis & Family
Brandy Garnett
Mike Gewin
Moses Glidden
Becky Goldsmith
Estrella Gonzales
Doris Grier
Petra Henderson
Van Henshaw
Norma Kilby
Ken Korn
Emma Kump
Melissa Lancheros
Boyd Lester
Laura Lester
Valerie Karol Louder
Robert Lowe
Michelle Matthias
Sandra McPeters
Brady Meeks
Tim Moore
Michael Owen
Angela Paul

Vincent Pawlowski
Beth Price
Mark Purushotham
Tiffany Richardson
Dayna Ryan
Shirley Scott
Dou Shizhen
Ricky Skinner
Betty Townsend
Charlie VanHousen
Dawn VanHousen
Martha Zimmerman

Israel
Ukraine
Gaza
Lebanon
Florida
Winder, GA
Augusta, GA
Western North Carolina

Freedom Adult Day Center
Transformation Salon
Pathway Worship Center
Xpert Tax Service
Family Worship center
Bi-City Driving School

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 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:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| | Operation Christmas Child |
| • 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.

Craf-Tea: This group will meet Fridays 10:00-12:00 PM in Luther Hall. If you enjoy crafts and tea, this group is for you! Please see Beth Hoag for more information.

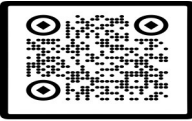


Thanks to your generosity, the baskets are overflowing! Please keep Operation Christmas Child in your prayers.

November 16th (Saturday) -
10:00-12:00 -
OCC work session - Luther Hall

November 19th (Tuesday) - 12:00 - 2:00 - OCC Box packing - Luther Hall

Everyone is invited to come help!



Lutheran Disaster Response

You can use the QR code to the left to donate to the Lutheran Disaster Response for hurricane relief. Please consider donating as so many need our help to recover from these devastating hurricanes.



HAPPY
November
BIRTHDAY

- 1 - Zach Rollinson
- 1 - Lisa Pettit
- 2 - Sarah Catherine Johnson
- 5 - Clara Vargas
- 5 - Michelle Matthias
- 8 - Bella Burns
- 10 - Abigail Peterson
- 10 - Amanda Regnier
- 10 - Jeff Stickles
- 10 - Martha Vargas
- 11 - Mike Taylor
- 14 - Cecil McGouirk
- 14 - Debby Ullman
- 17 - Samantha Thies
- 18 - Katherine Kelly
- 18 - Kerry Bingemann
- 19 - Bill Wallace
- 23 - Constance Johnson
- 24 - Amy Hoag



NOVEMBER
10
2024

THE ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL

Celebrate 2024 and plan for 2025

Meeting

All voting members of the church (*adult contributing members and confirmed youth*) are encouraged to attend



ST. MATTHEW
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN

**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

Phone: (615) 742-5427

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