

# St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 11, 2024

*Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.*

## Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 4, Page 147

† 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

*"Be thou my vision"*

**ELW #793**

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,

Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen**

## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Geri Regnier

First Reading

**1 Kings 19:4-8**

<sup>4</sup>[Elijah] went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." <sup>5</sup>Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said

to him, "Get up and eat." <sup>6</sup>He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. <sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." <sup>8</sup>He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

L: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 34:1-8

**Tone 8**

<sup>1</sup>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!**

### Second Reading

**Ephesians 4:25--5:2**

<sup>25</sup>So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. <sup>26</sup>Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup>and do not make room for the devil. <sup>28</sup>Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. <sup>29</sup>Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, <sup>32</sup>and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

<sup>5:1</sup>Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, <sup>2</sup>and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

L: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

✠ Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia"

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P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 6th Chapter.

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

<sup>35</sup> Jesus said to [the crowd,] "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

<sup>41</sup> Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." <sup>42</sup> They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'" <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. <sup>44</sup> No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. <sup>45</sup> It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. <sup>46</sup> Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father.

<sup>47</sup> "Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup> I am the bread of life.

<sup>49</sup> Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup> This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup> I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon     *"Transformation to renew us"*                      Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

✠ Hymn of the Day                      *"Take my life, that I may be"*

**ELW #685**

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: Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: Reignite the prayer of the church. By your Spirit, root your church around the globe in prayer and spiritual practices. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We rely on the goodness of your creation in everything we do. We pray for trees that offer shade and for our fellow creatures that depend on the trees for shelter and food. Sustain the work of all who advocate for forests and wilderness areas. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Guide our leaders and nations with a spirit of justice and mercy. Let no evil come out of our mouths, but rather let us extend grace. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Sustain feeding ministries and organizations such as ELCA World Hunger and our local food pantries. We work and pray for a day when hunger is no more. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for this congregation and for all who are gathered. Be present among anyone who cannot be with us today. Be with all who are hurting, grieving, or ill. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: God our Teacher, bless all in our communities whose vocation is teaching and learning. Give parents, students, administrators, and teachers inquiring minds and open hearts to offer and receive what each can bring with gratitude and mutual respect. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

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

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We remember the saints who have gone before us in faith. especially Keandra Bashful, WJ Barrs, Eva Brown, Bishop Davis, Joan Smith, Tom Pettit, Nelda Woods, and Patti Vinson. Trusting in the promise of the resurrection, we find hope in your communion of saints of all times and all places. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.

C: **Amen**

## MEAL

Anthem                      *"Where Charity and Love Prevail"*                      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 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: 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                      *"How clear is our vocation, Lord"*                      **ELW #580**

**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:**

*Gisela Clemens, 2022*



**READINGS AND PSALM**  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2024**

Proverbs 9:1-6  
 Psalm 34:9-14  
 Ephesians 5:15-20  
 John 6:51-58



*“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*

**August 4 2024**

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

ATTENDANCE — 81  
 (IN-PERSON— 69 , YOUTUBE - 12)

*Thankfully offered*

**OFFERING**

Benevolence	\$ 4,456.35
Building	\$ 130.00
Memorial	\$ 150.00
Other	\$ 120.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,856.35</b>

***Save the Date***

- August 15th - 5:00 - Council Meeting - Church House
- August 25th - 11:30 - Congregational Meeting

**Serving August 11, 2024**

Opener/Closer	Katherine Kelly
Worship Assistant	Donna Doughty
Communion Assistant	Rachel Zarnke
Lector	Rose Johnson
Ushers	Bill Wallace Jim Sperry
Altar Guild	Nancy Gates, Donna Doughty Terri Niederhammer, Geri Regnier
Live Streaming	Jaxson Gardner/Paul Hicks

**Serving August 18, 2024**

Opener/Closer	Nancy Gates
Worship Assistant	Rachel Zarnke
Communion Assistant	Donna Doughty
Lector	Shannon Gardner
Ushers	Bill Wallace Jim Sperry
Altar Guild	Lisa Pettit
Live Streaming	Allena Sperry 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  
Acting Bishop  
Jill Henning  
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  
Louie 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  
Moses Glidden  
Becky Goldsmith  
Estrella Gonzales  
Doris Grier  
Petra Henderson  
Norma Kilby  
Ken Korn  
Emma Kump  
Boyd Lester  
Laura Lester  
Valerie Karol Louder  
Robert Lowe  
Michelle Matthias  
Brady Meeks  
Tim Moore  
Gary Nearhoof  
Louie Niederhammer  
Michael Owen  
Angela Paul  
Vincent Pawlowski

Beth Price  
Mark Purushotham  
Dwight Redmond  
Tiffany Richardson  
Dayna Ryan  
Shirley Scott  
Ricky Skinner  
Betty Townsend  
Charlie VanHousen  
Dawn VanHousen  
Martha Zimmerman

Maui  
Morocco  
Israel  
Ukraine  
Gaza

Menzie Dance Company  
Frankie's Hair Design  
AMG Financial  
Sunset Finance  
Diamond Kutz  
Kee J's

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

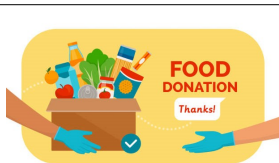
## **Mission Outreach Opportunities:**

### **Mission Focus:**

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
|                            | Damascus Way   |
| • 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.

**Growing in Grace:** This group is taking a break during the summer. We will let you know when it will resume.

**Remembrance Gathering:** This group is taking a break during the summer. The group will resume meeting September 10, 2024 at 3:00 in the Church House.



Thank you to everyone for donating 152 food items and \$650 to Wynnton Neighborhood Network. In addition, we collected 56 food donations for St. Anne's Outreach during Vacation Bible School.



Thank you to everyone for your food donations for the reception after Patti's funeral service, prayers and many kindnesses show to the Vinson family during this difficult time of Patti's loss. Your caring meant so much to the family..

For the Damascus Way, Women and Children's Shelter, we will be collecting:

- Cleaning supplies
- Personal care items:
  - ◇ razors,
  - ◇ hair brushes
  - ◇ hair products
- Children's diapers(sizes 4,5 & pull-ups)
- Women's and Children's underwear - all sizes
- individual snacks( gold fish, chips, crackers)
- bottled water
- juice boxes
- Chef Boyardee microwaveable bowls
- Mac & Cheese microwaveable bowls
- Monetary donations

# Aug/Sept Mission Focus

Please place items in labeled basket in the Narthex.

# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY,  
AUGUST 25TH

After the 10:30  
worship service

*We need all voting members to attend!*

## Topic of Discussion

**Extending a traditional part-time call  
to Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards**

For more information: [office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com](mailto:office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com) OR 706-561-3406

**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)

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