

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Because of Jesus

Hebrews 10:19-25

Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2024

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

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

"We praise you, O God"

ELW #870

Kyrie

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Hymn of Praise

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Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Donna Doughty

First Reading

Daniel 12:1-3

¹At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16

Tone 1

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
²**All my delight is in the Godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**
³But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.
⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**
⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who hold my lot.
⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**
⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.
⁸**I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**
⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**
¹¹You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:19-25

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the

habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

L: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

† Gospel Acclamation

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Gospel

Mark 13:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 13th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ²Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." ³When he was sitting on the Mount of Olivets opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished? ⁵Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

What to do now

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

† Hymn of the Day

"Alleluia, sing to Jesus"

ELW #392

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: O God, in the washing of water you set us free from the power of sin and death. Unite all the baptized in the covenant you have made with us, as we strive for your justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: By your merciful might you sustain all creation. Stir us from complacency with the harm we inflict on the earth, and urge us to adopt sustainable ways of life that protect and restore our planet. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: With a selfless power you protect all who take refuge in you. As nations rise against nations, defend all who are displaced or affected by war or violence. Empower all people and nations to pursue peace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: In your presence you give fullness of joy. Care for all for whom joy feels distant. Be present with persons experiencing depression, anxiety, addiction, or any mental illness. Bring them healing and wholeness. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Through the years you have gathered your church and this community for worship, fellowship, formation, and service. Enable us to look beyond the walls of our building to perceive where you are calling us forward. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

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

C: receive our prayer.

A: With thanksgiving we remember saints and angels who delight in your everlasting presence especially Margarete Walsh. As their lives inspire ours, provoke us always to love, holding fast to the confession of our hope in you. 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

“Be Thou My Vision”

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

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Holy, Holy, Holy

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Lord's Prayer

“Our Father, who...”

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Lamb of God

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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

“O God our help in ages past”

ELW #632

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:

Mary Beatrice French, 2018

Our Commitment Sunday will be December 1st for your pledge to be placed in the Church shaped box in the Narthex. This commitment will be your financial support toward our 2025 spending plan. In January, you will be able to commit your time and talents to our ministries.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES



Midweek Worship

Wednesday 5:30 PM

December 4, 11, 18



Weinachts Service

Sunday, December 15

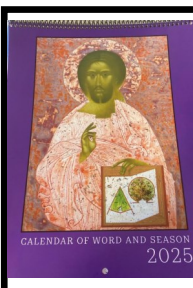
3:00 PM

Christmas Eve
Holy Communion Service
Tuesday, December 24
7:00 PM



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.



READINGS AND PSALM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2024

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
 Psalm 93
 Revelation 1:4b-8
 John 18:33-37



“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 10, 2024
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

ATTENDANCE — 58
 (IN-PERSON — 47, YOUTUBE - 11)

OFFERING

Benevolence	\$	2,255.00
Building	\$	100.00
Memorial	\$	100.00
Other	\$	10.00
Total	\$	2,465.00

Save the Date

- November 17 - 6:00 PM - Unity Service at St. Paul Church
- November 19 - 10:15 - Bible Study - Church House
- November 19 - 12:00 - 2:00 - Pack OCC Shoeboxes - Luther Hall
- November 20 - 6:00 - More Than Just Stories Bible Study-LH
- November 21 - 5:00 - Council Meeting
- November 22 - 10:00-12:00 - Craf-Tea - Luther Hall
- November 22 - 11:00 - Celebration of Life for Gary Nearhoof
- December 2, 9, 16th - 12:00 - Advent Lunches at St. Thomas

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

Serving November 24, 2024

Opener/Closer	Lisa Pettit
Worship Assistant	Shannon Gardner
Communion Assistant	Donna Doughty
Lector	Bill Wallace
Ushers	Jim Sperry
	Katherine Kelly
Altar Guild	Catherine Sayers
	Lisa Pettit
Live Streaming	Matt Pettit/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
Rigney Cofield
Betty Davidson
Ken Hoag
Myrna Hoag
Bennie Jackson
Mairetha Jackson
Sean Jeffery
Marga Miller
Traudel Mosely
Terri Niederhammer
Debby Owen
Dorothy Redden
Connie Sieg
Carla Stuckles

Albert VanHousen II
Harold Vinson
Margarete Walsh
Monika Wright
Eric & Tinisha Bryant
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

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

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.

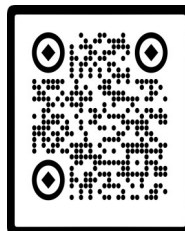
Mission Outreach Opportunities:

Mission Focus:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| | Warming Tree |
| • 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.



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.

November Mission Focus



We are planning to set up our 2024 Warming Tree in the Narthex on Sunday, November 24th. Please mark your calendar and join us in this fun and joy filled activity. We chose the 24th in conjunction with celebrating Thanksgiving as we give thanks for all the blessings we enjoy and are able to celebrate together. The Warming Tree will be blessed and lit Sunday, December 1st as part of our Advent celebration. We will canvas our community to better assess where there

are needs. The decorations, of course, will be new articles of warm clothing such as scarves, hats, mittens, gloves and socks. These may be individually placed on the tree. The sheltered and the homeless have requested warm underwear. The Warming tree will accept these items providing a basket next to the tree. These items will be accepted in their original packaging. Our gifts will be for children of all ages and adults. So join us on November 24th to start the party!

For questions, contact Zocia Barr.

Upcoming Services

Please join us for the annual Unity Service this Sunday, November 17th at 6:00 PM at St. Paul Church. This is an opportunity to gather with other Christian and Jewish congregations who support Wynnton Neighborhood Network to give thanks for the privilege of serving together. An offering will be received to support this vital ministry. Rabbi Larry Schlesinger is the speaker for the service.

We invite the congregation to join us on Friday, November 22nd at 11:00 AM in the sanctuary as we gather together for a Celebration of Life service for Gary Nearhoof.

We invite the congregation to join us on Friday, December 6th at 11:00 AM at Fort Moore as we gather together to honor and lay to rest Margarete Walsh.

Lessons & Carols & Children's Pageant followed by a Wassail Party in All Saints Hall of St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Sunday, December 15th at 4:30 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

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