

# St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
October 6, 2024

## Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 3, Page 138

† Congregation stands as able

## GATHERING

Prelude

Sandra Nearhoof



Confession and Pardon - Now the Feast

Page 2

**Gathering Hymn**

*"For the beauty of the earth"*

**ELW #879**

Kyrie - Now the Feast

Page 3

Hymn of Praise - Now the Feast

Page 4

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust and to wonder like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen**

## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Katherine Kelly

**First Reading**

**Genesis 2:18-24**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
this one shall be called Woman,  
for out of Man this one was taken."

<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

L: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

<sup>1</sup>O LORD our Lord,  
 how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
<sup>2</sup>**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens  
 out of the mouths of infants and children;  
 you have set up a fortress against your enemies,  
 to silence the foe and avenger.**  
<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
 the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,  
<sup>4</sup>**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,  
 human beings that you should care for them?**  
<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them little less than divine;  
 with glory and honor or you crown them.  
<sup>6</sup>**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;  
 you have put all things under their feet:**  
<sup>7</sup>all flocks and cattle,  
 even the wild beasts of the field,  
<sup>8</sup>**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,  
 and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**  
<sup>9</sup>O LORD our Lord,  
 how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**Second Reading****Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12**

<sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>2:5</sup>Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. <sup>6</sup>But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
 or mortals, that you care for them?"

<sup>7</sup>You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;  
 you have crowned them with glory and honor,  
<sup>8</sup>subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, <sup>9</sup>but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. <sup>10</sup>It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
 in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

† Gospel Acclamation - Now the Feast

Page 8

**Gospel**

**Mark 10:2-16**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th Chapter.

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

<sup>2</sup>Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" <sup>3</sup>He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" <sup>4</sup>They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." <sup>5</sup>But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. <sup>6</sup>But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' <sup>7</sup>'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, <sup>8</sup>and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. <sup>9</sup>Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

<sup>10</sup>Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. <sup>11</sup>He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; <sup>12</sup>and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." <sup>16</sup>And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

*Facing into...Wonder*

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

† Hymn of the Day      *"How great thou art"*

**ELW #856**

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: Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world,  
and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

A: God of our ancestors, we give thanks for the church in all times. May we  
listen for the prophets of this age who bear messages that stir the church  
toward renewal and justice. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Creator of every creature on earth, direct our lives toward the renewal and  
sustaining of cattle, birds of the air, animals of the field, and those who  
share our homes. Reveal the ways we can work alongside creation for the  
health and well-being of all. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Sovereign God, we give thanks that you are mindful and benevolent to even  
us, mere mortals. Accompany us when hardness of heart gets in the way of  
justice between people and nations. Endow leaders with minds for justice  
and hearts for compassion. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Restoring Lord, grant healing and wholeness to those who are sick and  
suffering. Work through medical professionals to diagnose, ease pain, and  
give life to all who seek their wisdom and experience. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Unifying God, humans were created for relationship with the earth, its  
creatures, and one another. Forgive us when division threatens  
companionship, mutual support, and unity among us. May your love inspire  
us to build supportive communities of faith where all are cherished.  
God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

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

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: God of resurrection, you prepare a place in the kingdom through Christ's death and resurrection. We give thanks for the saints who have taken their place at your heavenly banquet, especially Keandra Bashful, WJ Barrs, Eva Brown, Bishop Davis, Joan Smith, Tom Pettit, Nelda Woods, and Patti Vinson. God of grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

C: **Amen**

## MEAL

Anthem                      *"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"*                      Choir

*The gifts may be brought forward.*

Now the Feast                      "As the grains of wheat"                      Page 10

Now the Feast                      Page 11

† Great Thanksgiving - Now the Feast                      Page 11

Holy, Holy, Holy-Now the Feast                      Page 11

Eucharist Acclamation 2 - Now the Feast                      Page 12

Eucharist Acclamation 3 - Now the Feast                      Page 12

Through Christ, With Christ, In Christ - Now the Feast                      Page 13

Lord's Prayer                      "Our Father, who..."                      Page 13

Lamb of God - Now the Feast                      Page 14

### Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond Amen*

Thanks be to You - Now the Feast                      Page 15

† Prayer after Communion

A: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

# SENDING

Blessing - Now the Feast

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**Sending Hymn**

*"Now thank we all our God"*

**ELW #839**

## Dismissal

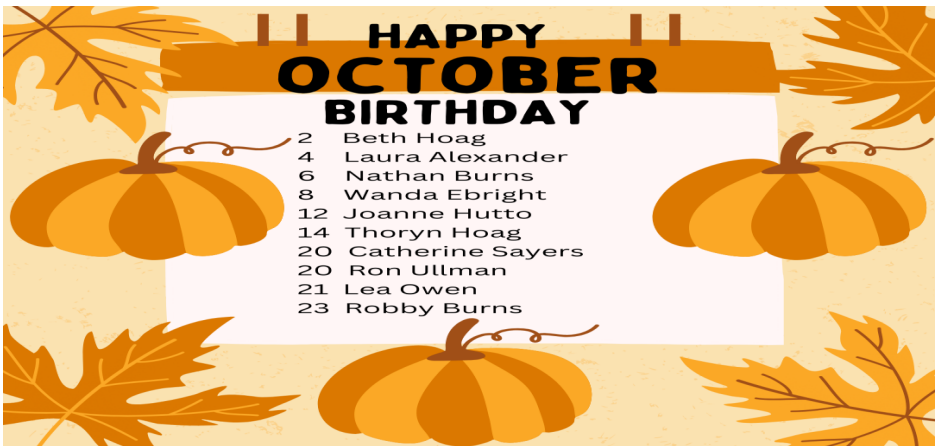
A: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**The Memorial Book is open today to the Glory of God**

**In Memory of:**

*Dr. William Gnann, Sr., 2006*



**READINGS AND PSALM**  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024**

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15  
 Psalm 90:12-17  
 Hebrews 4:12-16  
 Mark 10:17-31



*“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*

**September 29, 2024**  
**Nineteenth Sunday after**  
**Pentecost**

ATTENDANCE — 62  
 (IN-PERSON — 48, YOUTUBE - 14)

*Thankfully offered*

**OFFERING**

Benevolence	\$ 2,855.00
Building	\$ 80.00
Memorial	\$ 50.00
Other	\$ .00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,985.00</b>

***Save the Date***

- October 11 - 10:00-2:00 - Craf-Tea - Luther Hall
- October 8 - 3:00 PM - Final 2024 Remembrance Gathering - Church House
- October 16-November 20 (Wednesday) - 6:00 - More Than Just Stories Bible Study-Luther Hall
- November 10 - 11:30 - Annual Congregational Meeting

**Serving October 6, 2024**

Opener/Closer	Zocia Barr/Rose Johnson
Worship Assistant	Terri Niederhammer & Shannon Gardner
Communion Assistant	Terri Niederhammer
Lector	Rachel Zarnke
Ushers	Sandy Craven Randy Craven
Altar Guild	Rose Johnson Catherine Sayers
Live Streaming	Sean Jeffery

**Serving October 13, 2024**

Opener/Closer	Lisa Pettit
Worship Assistant	Lisa Pettit
Communion Assistant	Katherine Kelly
Lector	Randy Craven
Ushers	Jim Sperry Bill Wallace
Altar Guild	Rose Johnson Terri Niederhammer
Live Streaming	Jaxson Gardner/Paul Hicks



# *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.”*

5:16-18

—1 Thessalonians

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  
Rigney Cofield  
Betty Davidson  
Ken Hoag  
Myrna Hoag  
Bennie Jackson  
Mairetha Jackson  
Marga Miller  
Traudel Mosely  
Louie Niederhammer  
Debby Owen  
Dorothy Redden  
Connie Sieg

Carla Stickle  
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  
Van Henshaw  
Norma Kilby  
Ken Korn  
Emma Kump  
Boyd Lester  
Laura Lester  
Valerie Karol Louder  
Robert Lowe  
Michelle Matthias  
Brady Meeks  
Tim Moore  
Gary Nearhoof  
Michael Owen  
Angela Paul

Vincent Pawlowski  
Beth Price  
Mark Purushotham  
Dwight Redmond  
Tiffany Richardson  
Phillip Roan  
Dayna Ryan  
Shirley Scott  
Dou Shizhen  
Ricky Skinner  
Betty Townsend  
Charlie VanHousen  
Dawn VanHousen  
Martha Zimmerman  
  
Israel  
Ukraine  
Gaza  
Winder, GA  
Augusta, GA  
Western North Caroline  
  
Mr. Pizza  
Quality Inn  
Smoke Buddy's  
Gold Teeth World  
Apparel King & More  
Hollywood Barber Shop

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

- Lion's Club: Operation Christmas Child  
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 10:00-2:00 PM in Luther Hall. If you enjoy crafts and tea, this group is for you! Please see Beth Hoag for more information.

**Remembrance Gathering:** Our Remembrance Gathering scheduled for Tuesday, October 8th at 3:00 PM in the Church House will be our last for 2024. Come and help us celebrate on October 8th by sharing your favorite memory. In 2025, we will gather on a quarterly basis on the second Tuesday of the month. Our first meeting in 2025 will be January 14 at 3:00 PM.

thank  
you

FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Thanks for your great response to Damascus Way by overflowing the collection baskets.  
In addition \$450.00 was donated.



# October Mission Focus

PLEASE SEE THE LIST OF ITEMS NEEDED ON THE SHEET YOU CAN FIND IN THE NARTHEX.

Please place items in labeled basket in the Narthex. Donations can be made by writing a check to the church and putting in the memo line that it is for Operation Christmas Child.

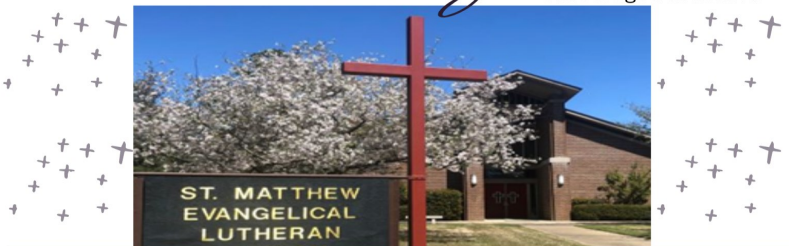


## THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL

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 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)

Phone: (615) 742-5427

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

Lisa Pettit, Sexton

Sandra Nearhoof, Minister of Music

Penny Davis, Nursery Director