

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 29, 2024

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 3, Page 138

† Congregation stands as able

GATHERING

Prelude

Sandra Nearhoof



P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, who forgives all our sin, who creates, sustains and renews us and all creation.

C: **Amen**

P: To you, O God,

C: **all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen**

P: By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of +Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

C: **Amen**

Gathering Hymn

"We are called"

ELW #720

Kyrie

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Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast"

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Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you.

Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen**

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Rachel Zarnke

First Reading

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances

of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased.
¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,' to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."
¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you. ²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.
²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"

L: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19:7-14

Tone 10

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re-¹vives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom¹ to the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and re-¹joice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light¹ to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and en-¹dures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous¹ altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than¹ much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey¹ in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your ser-¹vant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is¹ great reward.

¹²**Who can detect one's¹ own offenses?
Cleanse me from my¹ secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion¹ over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a¹ great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable¹ in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and¹ my redeemer.**

Second Reading

James 5:13-20

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. ¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering 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

“Alleluia”

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Gospel

Mark 9:38-41

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9th Chapter.

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

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon Ekolouomen: Stop (Don't stop!) Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

† Hymn of the Day “Will you let me be your servant?”

ELW #659

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: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A: We pray for the people of God in all places. Shape our witness to the good news of Jesus that we joyfully share your transforming love with all whom we encounter. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for the healing of the earth. Renew oceans and seas, marshes and estuaries. Uphold the work of conservationists, oceanographers, and all who care for fragile ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for peace and cooperation among local and global communities. Bless the efforts of community organizers, international aid workers, and all those who work for justice and peace around the world. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for all who are in any need. To all who grieve, bring consolation; to all who are weary or lonely, bring solace. By your grace, make your presence known among all who call to you for healing. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for caregivers: doctors and nurses, home health aides and counselors, and those who care for loved ones. Sustain them in their work and help us to build a health care system that supports all. 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: We give thanks for the saints who now rest in your eternal presence, especially Keandra Bashful, WJ Barrs, Eva Brown, Bishop Davis, Joan Smith, Tom Pettit, Nelda Woods, and Patti Vinson. In thanksgiving for their lives of faithful service and witness, we commend them to your loving care. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: **Amen**

MEAL

Solo

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

Shannon Gardner

The gifts may be brought forward.

Offering Prayer

A: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen**

† Great Thanksgiving Page 144

Holy, Holy, Holy Page 144

Lord's Prayer "Our Father, who..." Page 145

Lamb of God Page 146

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: 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

Sending Hymn *"The Spirit sends us forth to serve"*

ELW #551

Dismissal

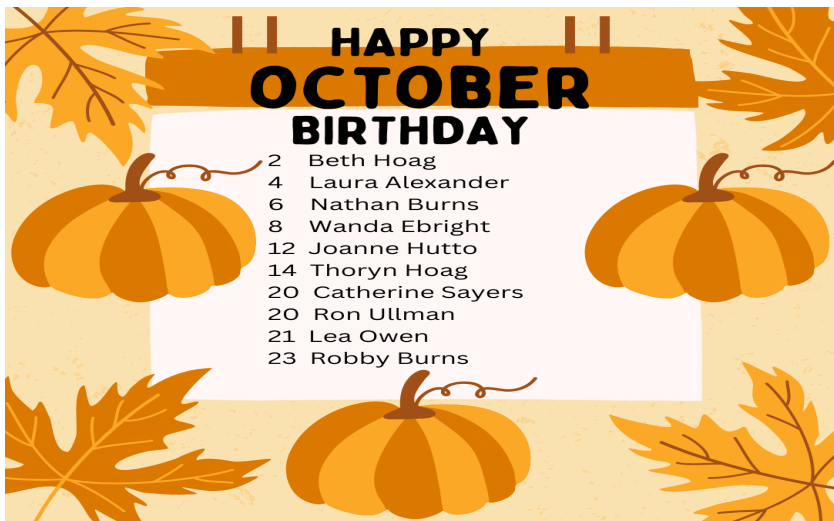
A: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Memorial Book Is Open Today to the Glory of God

In Memory of:

Ruth Redmond, 2022



Within Reach

A ministry of our church focused solely on members of our church family.



For more information contact Zocia Barr at (706) 330-1001

Within Reach response has been so generous already. Our September calendar for meals is already covered. October already has 6 meals out of 14 spoken for. The October calendar sheet is in the Narthex and will remain there until Friday, October 18th. We will be checking on Nancy's recovery as we deliver meals and will provide updates to the congregation. If you have any questions, please contact Zocia Barr at (706) 330-1001 or Rose Johnson at rose_m_johnson@bellsouth.net

READINGS AND PSALM
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024

Genesis 2:18-24
 Psalm 8
 Hebrews 1:1-3, 2:5-12
 Mark 10:2-16



“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 22, 2024
Eighteenth Sunday after
Pentecost

ATTENDANCE — 49
 (IN-PERSON— 42, YOUTUBE - 7)

Thankfully offered

OFFERING

Benevolence	\$ 1,065.00
Building	\$ 100.00
Memorial	\$ 100.00
Other	\$.00
Total	\$ 1,265.00

Save the Date

- September 30 - 1:00-3:00 - 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 September 29, 2024

Opener/Closer	Rose Johnson
Worship Assistant	Matt Bonaker
Communion Assistant	Rachel Zarnke
Lector	Dave Bonaker
Ushers	Katherine Kelly Jim Sperry
Altar Guild	Rose Johnson Terri Niederhammer
Live Streaming	Sean Jeffery

Serving October 6, 2024

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

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
Harold
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

Maui
Morocco
Israel
Ukraine
Gaza
Winder, GA

Mario's Tire
Woodville Apartments
Mariner Finance
Beal Wellness

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:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| | 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.

Craf-Tea: This group will meet September 30th from 1:00-3:00 PM in the Church House. 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.



October Mission Focus

PLEASE SEE THE LIST OF ITEMS IN THE INSERT.

Please place items in labeled basket in the Narthex.



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

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