

# St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Holy Trinity Sunday

May 26, 2024

*When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to the Father (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the One who sent him.*

## Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 3, Page 138

† Congregation stands as able

## GATHERING

Prelude

Sandra Nearhoof



P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy upon 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 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.

**Gathering Hymn**

*"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

**ELW #413**

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,

God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed and rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

# PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Donna Doughty

## First Reading

Isaiah 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the LORD sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 29

Tone 3

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup>**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD  
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup>**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe  
and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

## Second Reading

Romans 8:12-17

<sup>12</sup>Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

L: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

† Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia"

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## Gospel

John 3:1-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd Chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Trinity Sunday Hymn Sing with Athanasian Creed

Whoever wants to be saved  
should above all hold to the catholic faith.

Whoever shall not have observed it whole and inviolable  
will doubtless perish eternally.

Now this is the catholic faith:  
That we should worship one God in Trinity  
and the Trinity in unity,  
neither confusing the persons  
nor dividing the being.

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Hymn                    *"Come, Thou Almighty King"*

**ELW#408**

For the Father is one [separate] person,  
the Son is another,  
and the Spirit is another.

But of the Father, and the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit  
one is the divinity, equal is the glory,  
co-eternal is the majesty.

What the Father is,  
thus the Son is,  
[and] thus the Holy Spirit.

Uncreated is the Father;  
uncreated is the Son;  
uncreated is the Spirit.

Immeasurable is the Father;  
immeasurable is the Son;  
immeasurable is the Holy Spirit.

Eternal is the Father;  
eternal is the Son;  
eternal is the Holy Spirit.

And yet there are not three Eternals,  
but One who is eternal;  
Just as there are not three uncreated ones,  
nor three immeasurable ones,  
but one who is uncreated  
and one who is immeasurable.

Hymn

*"Kyrie! God, Father"*

**ELW#409**

Similarly, almighty is the Father;  
almighty is the Son;  
almighty is the Holy Spirit:  
And yet there are not three Almightyies,  
but One almighty.

Thus the Father is God;  
the Son is God;  
the Holy Spirit is God;  
and yet there are not three Gods,  
but God is one.

Thus the Father is Lord;  
the Son is Lord;  
the Holy Spirit is Lord:  
And yet there are not three lords,  
but the Lord is One.

As by Christian truth we are compelled to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so by catholic religion we are forbidden to say that there are three gods or lords.

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Hymn

*"All Glory Be to God on High"*

**ELW#410**

The Father is by no means made  
nor created nor begotten.

The Son is solely from the Father  
not made, nor created, but begotten.

The Holy Spirit is from the Father and the Son  
neither made nor created, nor begotten,  
but proceeding [from them].

Thus there is one Father, not three Fathers;  
one Son, not three Sons;  
one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.

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Hymn

*"We All Believe in One True God"*

**ELW#411**

And in this Trinity, none is before or after,  
neither greater nor less;  
but all three persons are in themselves  
coeternal and coequal.

This is how it is, in order that, through all things,

as already said above,  
both the unity in Trinity  
and the Trinity in unity  
is to be worshipped.

Whoever wants to be saved  
this is how one should think about the Trinity.

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Hymn

*“Come, Join the Dance of Trinity”*

**ELW#412**

But it is necessary for eternal salvation  
that one also faithfully believe  
the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For this is the right faith:  
that we [should] believe and confess,  
that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son,  
is God and human.  
He is God from the being of the Father,  
begotten before the ages;  
And he is human from the being of [his] mother,  
born in [this] age.  
Fully God, fully human,  
comprised of a thinking soul and human flesh.  
[He is] equal to the Father in respect to divinity,  
less than to the Father in respect to humanity.

Who, although he be God and human,  
is not thereby two [Christs],  
but one Christ.  
He is one [Christ] not by the changing of the  
divinity into flesh,  
but by the assumption of the humanity into God.  
He is in every way one,  
not by a confusion of being,  
but by a unity of person.

For as the rational soul and flesh are one human,  
so also [the] God-and-human is one Christ:

Who suffered for our salvation;  
descended into the realms below,  
on the third day resurrected from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty:  
thence he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.

At his coming all people have to rise again

in their own bodies  
and they are to provide an account  
concerning their own deeds.

And those who have done what is good  
will go into eternal life;  
those [who have done what is] truly evil  
into eternal fire.

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Hymn            *“Holy God, We Praise Your Name”*

**ELW#414**

This is the catholic faith,  
which one shall have believed faithfully and firmly,  
else it is not possible to be saved. Amen.

*Translation: Alt. by Taylor W Burton Edwards to align with the Latin text.  
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by permission (Sundays and Seasons).*

*You may sit, stand or kneel for the prayers.*

### **Prayers of Intercession**

A: We come before the Triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves,  
and our world.

*A brief silence.*

A: Abba, Father, you have brought us into your family, claiming us as beloved  
children. Bless your family of faith with gifts of cooperation and  
graciousness. Increase our hospitality toward all expressions of faith and  
teach us to honor our shared humanity. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your love and power burst forth in the flashes of lightning, the dance of the  
wind, and the deeply rooted trees of the forest. Sustain fragile and  
interconnected ecosystems, that they flourish for generations to come.  
Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Give your blessing of peace to the nations. Shelter all who risk life and  
livelihood to protect others from violence, conflict, and injustice. On this  
Memorial Day weekend, we remember those who have lost their lives in  
war and conflict. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: You are a God of love and not of condemnation. Quiet the hearts of all who



struggle with shame, regret, or questions of self-worth. Teach us to forgive ourselves and one another. Restore wholeness to all who seek hope and healing. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Strengthen bonds between parents, children, and families of all varieties. We pray especially for adoptive and foster families, multi-generational households, and blended families. Grant gifts of nurture and patience to all caregivers. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

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

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: The Spirit bears grateful witness to all children of God who have now come into their inheritance among the saints, especially Keandra Bashful, WJ Barrs, Eva Brown, Bishop Davis, and Joan Smith. As they lived with hope in your gift of eternal life, so strengthen us in faith, that we recognize your eternal presence even in this mortal life. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen**

## MEAL

Anthem                      *"God is One, Unique and Holy"*                      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 144

Holy, Holy, Holy                      Page 144

Anaphora                      Page 145

Amen                      Page 145

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

**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**

*"Father most holy"*

**ELW #415**

**Dismissal**

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Serve the Risen Christ.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**The Memorial Book Is Open Today to the Glory of God**

**In Memory of:**

*Roman Wojciechowski, 2013*

## Flanders Poppy

A common field poppy of European corn fields, the Flanders Poppy has become an historic emblem of those originally killed in WWI. This tradition has continued along with the poem, “In Flanders Fields”. May we all remember all those lives lost in order that the rest of us could enjoy our freedoms. Including the freedom to celebrate the holiday or not.



## IN FLANDERS FIELDS

BY JOHN MCCRAE

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

**READINGS AND PSALM  
SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2024**

Genesis 3:8-15  
Psalm 130  
Acts 4:32-37  
Mark 3:20-35



*“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*

**May 19, 2024  
Pentecost Sunday**

ATTENDANCE — 60  
(IN-PERSON— 51 , YOUTUBE - 9)  
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 0

*Thankfully offered*

**OFFERING**

Benevolence	\$ 1,380.00
Building	\$ 100.00
Memorial	\$ 100.00
Other	\$ 60.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,640.00</b>

**SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024**

**SERVICES WILL BE AT THE COLUMBUS TRADE  
AND CONVENTION CENTER AT 9:00 AM IN  
CONJUNCTION WITH THE 2024 SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

**Serving May 26, 2024**

Opener/Closer	Allena Sperry
Worship Assistant	Rachel Zarnke
Communion Assistant	Geri Regnier
Lector	Patrick Chappel
Ushers	Katherine Kelly
	Jim Sperry
Altar Guild	Debby Ullman
	Catherine Sayers
Live Streaming	Matt Pettit

**Serving June 9, 2024**

Opener/Closer	Lisa Pettit
Worship Assistant	Rose Johnson
Communion Assistant	Rachel Zarnke
Lector	Jaxson Gardner
Ushers	Sandy Craven
	Randy Craven
Altar Guild	Nancy Gates, Donna Doughty
	Geri Regnier
Live Streaming	Paul Hicks/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  
Betty Davidson  
Ken Hoag  
Myrna Hoag  
Bennie Jackson  
Mairetha Jackson  
Marga Miller  
Traudel Mosely  
Debby Owen  
Dorothy Redden  
Connie Sieg  
Carla Stickles  
Albert VanHousen II  
Margarete Walsh  
Monika Wright

Gary Anderson  
Judy Bultman  
George Capps  
Kyle Carter  
Jim Chappel  
Jean Clemmons  
Rich Curtis  
Xavier Danguilan  
Penny Davis & Family  
Brandy Garnett  
Becky Goldsmith  
Estrella Gonzales  
Doris Grier  
Petra Henderson  
Beverly Huckaby  
Norma Kilby  
Ken Korn  
Boyd Lester  
Laura Lester  
Valerie Karol Louder  
Robert Lowe  
Michelle Matthias  
Brady Meeks  
Tim Moore  
Gary Nearhoof  
Louie Niederhammer  
Kimberly O'Malley  
Michael Owen  
Angela Paul  
Vincent Pawlowski

Tom Pettit  
Beth Price  
Mark Purushotham  
Dwight Redmond  
Tiffany Richardson  
Dayna Ryan  
Yuliia Savitska  
Shirley Scott  
Ricky Skinner  
Betty Townsend  
Sandra Tuggle  
Charlie VanHousen  
Dawn VanHousen  
Martha Zimmerman

Maui  
Morocco  
Israel  
Ukraine  
Gaza

Phuong's Tailor Shop  
Walgreen's  
USPS  
Y & J Health  
Hidden Lake Grocery  
Beauty Queen

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

St Anne's Outreach - collecting toiletries and Travel size toiletries. We always accept monetary donations.

- 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.

**Remembrance Gathering:** Please come to the Remembrance Gathering Tuesday, June 11th at 3:00 PM in the Church House. The gathering is an open invitation to come together and share personal stories or recollections of someone else's life. We share stories to include all wars and conflicts.

**Growing in Grace:** Meets every Friday from 9:00-11:00 AM in the Church House. God's grace is freely given to us. Join the group to learn to cultivate an attitude of grace in your daily life by learning about and adopting habits to move into a state of grace. Contact Beth Hoag at 706-604-8110 for more information.

**Repair Updates:** 1. The chimney removed and roof repaired on the Church House. 2. The pothole replaced with new paving materials 3. Handicapped sideway ramp replaced. Currently, we are waiting for the roof to be repaired on the Church. Thankfully with all the heavy rain we've had the roof hasn't leaked. Thank you so much for all of your contributions to these projects.

## Save the Date

- **June 1st** 10:00-12:00 - Yard Sale Dropoff at Luther Hall
- **June 2nd**- Service at the Columbus Convention & Trade Center
- **June 8th** - 10:00-12:00 - Yard Sale Dropoff at Luther Hall
- **June 9th** - 11:30 Birthday and Church Anniversary Celebration- Fellowship Hall
- **June 11th** - 3:00 - Remembrance Gathering - Church House
- **June 12th** - 10:00-12:00 - Last Yard Sale Dropoff
- **June 15th 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM** - Yard Sale
- **June 15th 1:00 - 3:00PM** - Yard Sale Cleanup - Valley Rescue picking up yard sale remnants at 3:00 PM.



In our June newsletter, we would like to highlight our recent high school or college graduates. If you have a recent graduate, please contact Sonja Metcalf at (706)561-3406 or [office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com](mailto:office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com).



Please note important dates related to our Church Yard Sale:

- **June 1st** 10:00-12:00 - Yard Sale Dropoff at Luther Hall
- **June 8th** - 10:00-12:00 - Yard Sale Dropoff at Luther Hall
- **June 12th** - 10:00-12:00 - Last Yard Sale Dropoff
- **June 15th 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM** - Yard Sale
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## SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD 2024 Assembly



Striving for Justice & Peace  
in all the World

May 31 - June 2, 2024  
Columbus, GA

If you haven't already, please consider volunteering to help with the Synod Assembly. Talk to Pastor Taylor about ways you can help.

# **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