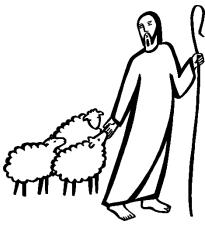
# *The Fourth Sunday of Easter* May 11, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship

We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

# PRELUDE

# \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen. C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

*P*: In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come. *C*: Amen.

*P*: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, *C*: make us one as you are one.

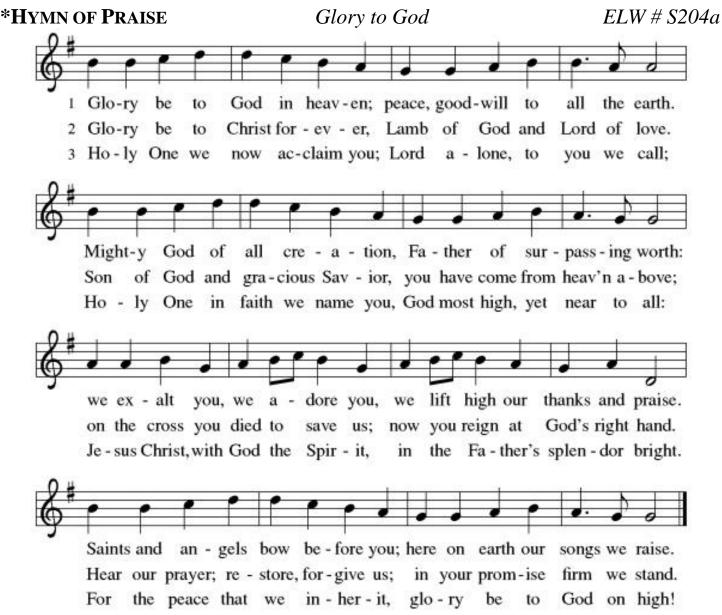
*P*: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, *C*: make us one as you are one.

*P*: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, *C*: make us one as you are one.

*P*: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. *C*: Amen.

## \*GREETING

*P:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *C:* And also with you.



## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray ... O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

## FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

<sup>36</sup> Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup> At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup> Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup> So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup> Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner. *L*: The word of the Lord. *C*: Thanks be to God.

**PSALMODY Psalm 23**Shepherd Me, O GodELW # 780

## **SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17**

<sup>9</sup> After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup> They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup> And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup> I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup> For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. <sup>16</sup> They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

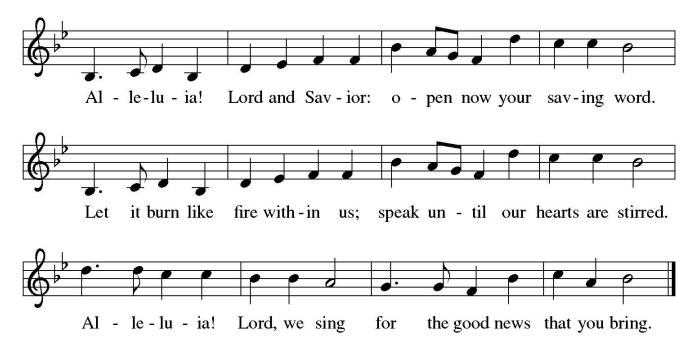
<sup>17</sup> for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

# L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

#### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*ELW # S 205a* 



# \*Gospel: John 10:22-30

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup> At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup> and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup> So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> The Father and I are one."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

## HOMILY

## \*HYMN OF THE DAY My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

### *ELW* # 782

## \*NICENE CREED

- *P*: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Nicene Creed.
- *C*: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
- We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
- For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

- *A:* God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.
- *A:* You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God. *C:* Your mercy is great.
- A: You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God. *C*: Your mercy is great.
- A: You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God. *C:* Your mercy is great.

- A: You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. Hear us, O God. *C:* Your mercy is great.
- A: You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- *P:* We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. *C:* Amen.

# **\*THE PEACE**

*P*: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

# C: And also with you.

Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.

# **\*Offertory Prayer**

An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave; we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:

*A: Let us pray*... Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

# C: Amen.

# \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

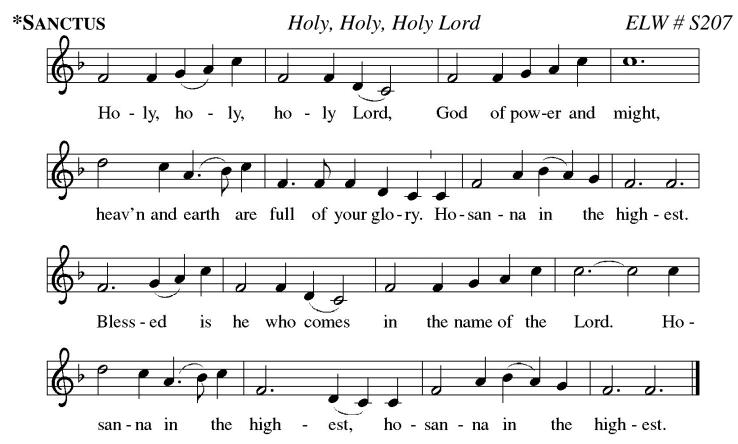
*P*: The Lord be with you.

# C: And also with you.

- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- *P*: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

# **\*PROPER PREFACE**

- *P*: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
- And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## **\*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:

Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life;

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.

You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

# C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

- *P:* Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
- And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

# C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

*P:* Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

# C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

- *P*: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.
- *C*: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

## \*LORD'S PRAYER

- *P*: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen



## \*INVITATION

*P*: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life. *C*: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION HYMNYou Satisfy the Hungry HeartELW # 484

## \*BLESSING

*P*: May the body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. *C*: Amen.

## **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray... Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. C: Amen.

## **\*BENEDICTION**

*P*: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. *C*: Amen.

**\*SENDING SONG** The King of Love My Shepherd Is ELW # 502

## \*DISMISSAL

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

*P*: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

# C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006 Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #SB105031 Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

**Today's Altar Flowers** are placed to the Glory of God in honor Ruth Marshall and in memory of my mother Mary Feathers by Jean Sinal.

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Mary Jane Allision, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ann & Larry Irvin, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Jean Stonerook, Pat & Robert Winston.

So we can give special attention to those with pressing needs, names were removed at the end of the month. Please let the office know if a name should be added to the prayer list for an extended period of time.

**Prayer Concerns:** Greta Buchart, Doug Bush, Dr. Ramon Burket, Terry Creek, Marilyn Horton, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Kristen Malloy, John Russell, Dan Sinal, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.** 

Away at School: Max Baker, Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jeff Hoenstine, Lacey Ripka.

**Those Serving in our Armed Forces:** Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Colin Guyer, Nathan Smith (Germany).

# Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott Our Organists – Mary Nelson, DeAnna Cree Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck Our Sexton – Phil Claar Our Assisting Minister – Jane Hoenstine Our Lector – Jeff Hoenstine Our Lector – Jeff Hoenstine Our Acolyte – Mace Baker Our Usher – Melissa Fetzer Our Usher – Melissa Fetzer Our Altar Guild – Jackie Lightner, Janet Stewart Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

# Second Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Youth & Camping"

# This Week at St. Matthew:

# 814-793-2413: Office Hours

\*Pastor Traci continuing ed. 5/12-5/16.

For immediate emergencies please call Pastor Eli Hess at 814-381-5925. Jen – Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

# This Week Events

Today –	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
	Mother's Day
	Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
	Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday –	Mending Ministry 2:00-4:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Thursday –	Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m., Allegheny St.
Sunday –	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
	Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
	Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
	Death Workshop and Luncheon
	Following Worship, Fellowship Hall

# **Martinsburg Food Pantry**



The Food Pantry will be open for distribution of food on Thursdays, May 1 and May 15 from 9:00a.m. until

11:00a.m. Those helping with distribution will be volunteers from Martinsburg Church of God, besides the regular volunteers.

Following are items from our "Wish" list for May: Fruit, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Cereal, and Paper Towels.

Many thanks for your monetary gifts, food and other items to the Food Pantry!

Linda K. Smith



Favorite clothing in need of repair?

Bring laundered clothes that need mending to work on yourself or get help from our sewers. Materials, machines, & expertise provided. *And we'll have snacks!* 

Wednesday, May 14th 2PM to 4PM

> St. Matthew Lutheran Martinsburg Fellowship Hall 115 E Penn Street (Maple Street Parking Lot)



# **Social Ministry Committee Corner**

## 1. Lenten Meals

Thank you to all the Committee Chairmen, committee members and Pastor Traci who assisted in making the Lenten Meals a success.

Also thank you to Kaye Burket, Sarah Detwiler and Peggy Steinfurth who delivered the meals to our home bound members.

For 2025 we averaged 20 attending at the church and 14 takeouts.

2. Mending Ministry

Mending Ministry will be May 15 from 2 to 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall at St Matthew. Snacks will be provided.

A light takeout will be provided to our home bound members if desired.

3. Young At Heart Luncheon

Invitations for Young at Heart Luncheon will be available by the end of May. You can give/invite friends and neighbors to attend this luncheon. A delicious meal and entertainment have been planned.

The theme for 2025 will be CHRISTMAS IN JULY.

4. Social Ministry Corner Highlight

The May Corner Highlight is Camden Kuster.

He is the son of Alan and Stacy Kuster and big brother to Gavin and Norah. Sunday May 4 Camden received his Eagle Scout Award. His project was Community Garden Boxes here at St. Matthew. He gave a presentation to council about his plans, (approved), prepared a budget, secured supplies and organized the construction of the boxes. They are ready for planting as weather permits. Camden is also St. Matthew Audio/ Video guy who makes sure the service is available to our listeners who cannot attend the service in person. Camden is a senior at Central High School. Following graduation, he plans to attend St. Francis University to obtain his Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Then complete the requirements to be a Licensed Nurse Practitioner. (We know his Nana Beach is so proud of him to know he is following in her footsteps in studying Nursing.)

Social Ministry Committee wishes only the best for Camden as he faces the next chapter in his personal and spiritual life.

As we approach the growing season let us also consider, Christ is the one who brings growth. Let us take a simple step to plant the seed to speak with kindness and show Christ's love in our actions.

Happy Mother's Day! Social Ministry Committee





Come to Tend to share in intentional time of faith discussions, good music, art, worship, ecology, and fellowship. This event will have an open schedule allowing participants the freedom to pick what is right for them. It will include options for multiple workshops, open recreation & hiking, food and time to refresh yourself and the family.



# You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

Where: St Matthew Lutheran Church 115 E Penn St Martinsburg, PA 16662 When: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 June is Men's Health Month

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease **Risk** Screenings.

#### Trusted by over 10 million customers.

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

Who should attend: Anyone over the age of 40

#### Special Pricing for \$159

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
   Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
   Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening • Plus a FREE Hypertension Screening

#### 4 ways to book your appointment ...

Scan here:



Call 888-814-0466 Visit and use promo code: HSCA001

LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA

Text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease.

Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or proced



# THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)

The Third Century Fund continued to have good earnings in 2024 and as a result has \$6,334.60 for distribution in 2025. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting Laura Orczeck, chairperson, or committee members: Allen Kuster, Barb Wilt, Beth Garner, or Pastor Traci.

Deadline to submit a request is Sunday, May 25, 2025. Funds will be distributed in June of 2025.

The following is from the by-laws of the Third Century Fund and outline the guidelines for fund requests.

#### PURPOSE

The St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund is established to encourage responsible Christian stewardship and to promote the mission of the congregation. In response to God's love and mercy, the Endowment Fund seeks to enhance and expand the mission outreach objectives of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church. Members and friends of St. Matthew congregation are encouraged to practice responsible Christian Stewardship by making contributions to the Endowment Fund. There are a variety of ways such gifts can be made such as cash, securities, bequests through wills or living trusts, life insurance policies, charitable gift annuities and life estates. The Endowment Fund provides financial support for the church in a manner that is separate from the expenditures normally funded by the annual operating budget of the congregation.

#### **USE OF THE FUND**

All contributions to the St. Matthew Lutheran Church Endowment Fund will be undesignated and added to the principal balance of the fund. The Endowment fund principal balance will be retained and only the dividend income will be used for annual disbursements. Consideration for awarding fund requests will be given using the following guidelines:

- 1. Youth of all ages scholarship support of congregational members and their children; for youth events, for church camps or similar Christian programs, and education.
- 2. Christian outreach ministries and missions of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, its members, and the ELCA.
- 3. Worship and Music support for the worship of St. Matthew.
- 4. Capital Projects major renovations or building projects of St. Matthew.

**\*OPENING HYMN** 

The Lord's My Shepherd

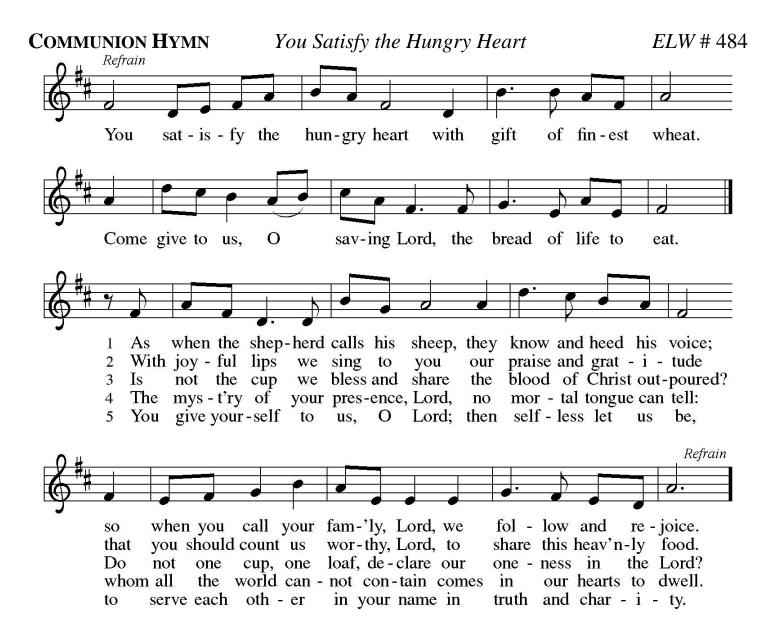


Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650 Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain Shepherd Me, O God

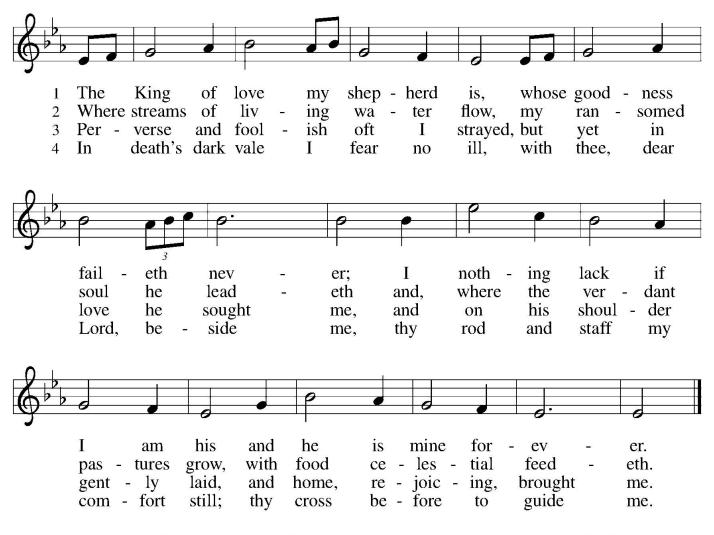




Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt., based on Psalm 23 Music: RESIGNATION, North American traditional



Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997 Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996 Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The King of Love My Shepherd Is



- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth; and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never. Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877 Music: ST. Columba, Irish tune