

## *Third Sunday of Advent*

**December 11, 2022**

9:30 a.m. Adult & Youth Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary



*Masks are optional but available in the narthex for anyone who feels more comfortable taking that precaution for themselves or on behalf of others.*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**C Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.**

P Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

P God of new beginnings,

**C we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.**

P People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on ✠ Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**C Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Light Dawns on a Weary World*

ELW # 726



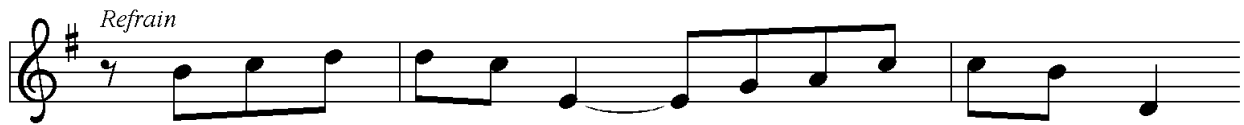
1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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**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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

*Glory to God*



**☐** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



**☐** Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might- y God and Fa- ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



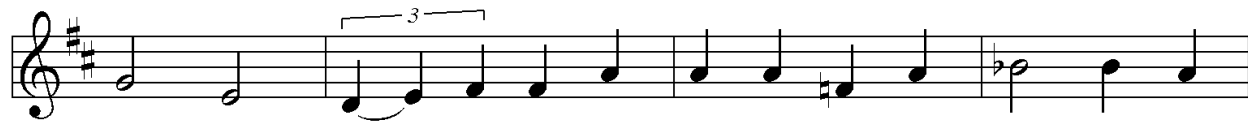
**☐** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



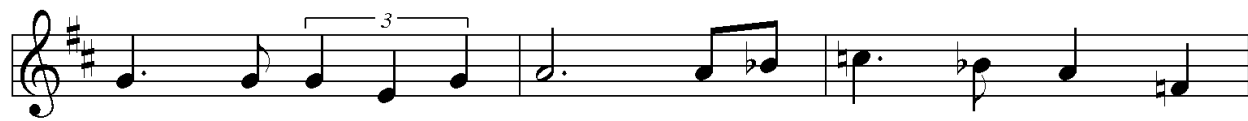
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



**☐** Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re- ceive our prayer.

**C** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

**I**  
**II** For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.

**C** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** *Let us pray ...* Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

## \*LIGHTING ADVENT CANDLES

### ADVENT LIGHTING HYMN

### *O Come O Come Emanuel*

(vs 3)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite

Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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## FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup>A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. <sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. <sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

**HYMN**

*My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness*

*ELW # 251*



1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!  
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer-cy ev - er flows.  
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.  
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.  
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—  
 The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;  
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.  
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.  
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat  
 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune  
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

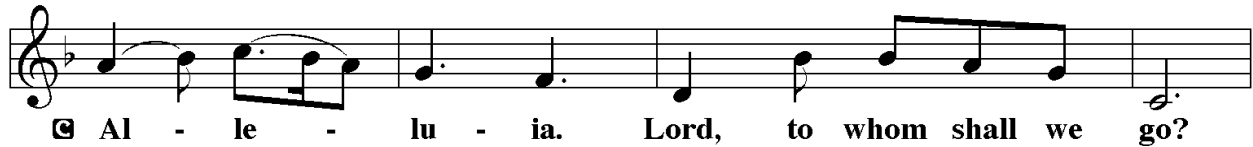
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## SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup>Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## \*Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

<sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

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

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

ELW # 255



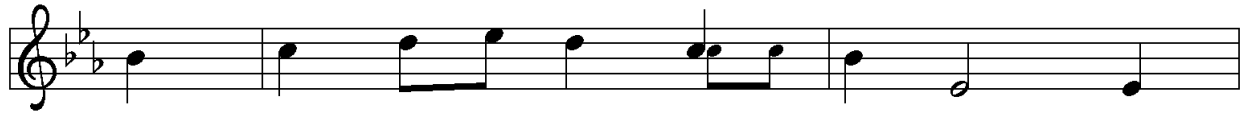
1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -  
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the



high - way, a high - way for our God!  
 peo - ple the com - ing of their king.  
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.



The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like  
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of  
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now



plac - es where God, our God, may go!  
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.  
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Text: James Lewis Milligan, 1876-1961, alt.  
 Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Bancroft, 1904-1988  
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RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER JEROME P. ALLEN



## \*CREED

A Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C 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.**

## \*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A Gracious God, we rejoice in the gifts of your Spirit. Equip the global church to magnify your love and peace in every land. We pray for the work of the Lutheran World Federation and ELCA Global Mission. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

A Abundant God, we rejoice in your creation. Revive lands we have squandered and depleted. Make gardens flourish in cities and neighborhoods. Cleanse polluted air and water so living things may breathe, drink, and praise you. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

A Righteous God, we rejoice in your justice. End racism and oppression. Deliver all who are unjustly imprisoned or persecuted. Reconcile nations and peoples in conflict. Help us pray for our enemies. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

A Healing God, we rejoice in your compassion. Comfort any in distress because of worry, illness, or loss. Strengthen and protect health care workers, rescue teams, crisis counselors, and all who risk themselves to keep others safe. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

A Abiding God, we rejoice in your company. Give us calm and patient hearts as we gather with family and friends. Keep us mindful of those for whom this season is not happy. Console the grieving and surround them with loving support. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

A Faithful God, we rejoice with Mary, Mother of our Lord, and with all the saints, that your mercy endures for all generations. Look with favor on those who have died and lead us to joyfully sing of your everlasting promises. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

P God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **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 and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**☩** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.

At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **C Amen**

## LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## THE AGNUS DEI

### *Lamb of God*



☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## INVITATION

P Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

*Note: White grape juice is available in the cups in the center of the trays. The Usher will invite the lectern side, then the piano side, then the back section forward for communion.*

## BLESSING

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

☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -  
one what God has done. Let all who seek the  
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.  
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and  
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -  
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A *Let us pray...* Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **C Amen.**

# BLESSING

P God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, † bless you now and forever. **C Amen.**

## ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

### \*SENDING SONG

*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

*ELW # 242*



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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## **Dismissal**

P Go in peace. Christ is near. **C Thanks be to God.**

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**Please be advised that worship services are recorded and/or  
live-streamed on social media.**

**Today's Altar Flowers** are placed to the Glory of God in memory of Jean's parents from Jean and Dan Sinal.

**Candy Order Forms are at the Usher's Station**

### **Serving God and Us**

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Organist – Mary Nelson

Our Missionary Family – On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Lector – Greg Haffling

Our Acolyte – Jay Hoenstine

Our Altar Guild – Jackie Lightner, Jane Fagans

Our Usher – Ed Kreider

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

**Fourth Quarter Ventures in Faith to “*United Lutheran Seminaries*”**

**Welcome to the Family** of St. Matthew through Affirmation of Faith, Jerome (Jerry) P. Allen

**Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> during the worship service. Topics: 2023 Budget & 2023 Council Slate.**

**Glasses:** There was a pair of taped glasses found two weeks ago. If you lost them they are in the lost and found box under the mailboxes.

## **Martinsburg Food Pantry**

We will be open for distribution of food on Thursday, December 15 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Volunteers from Redefined Community Church will be assisting in the distribution of food with the regular helpers. There are 12 churches that help each month at the food pantry.

**Holiday Foods will be the focus in December:** Beverages, Canned Meat, Potatoes, Stuffing Mix, Vegetables, Fruit.

Please place any of these foods in the basket at church. Many thanks to all who generously gave all year to the Food Pantry! It is greatly appreciated! *Linda Smith*

### **This Week at St. Matthew:**

**814-793-2413**

#### **Office Hours**

Pastor Traci – Wed. 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Lori Tremmel – Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### **This Week Events**

- Today –** Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.  
Congregational Meeting during worship  
Candy making in the Kitchen following worship
- Monday –** Scouts, Scout Rooms 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday -** Bible Study 4:00 p.m. via Zoom  
Council Meeting via Zoom 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday –** Employee Meeting, Fellowship Hall 10:00 a.m.  
Yoga, Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.
- Friday -** Confirmation Trip, Altoona 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday -** Janet Kreider's Birthday Celebration, Fellowship Hall  
1:00-3:30 p.m.
- Sunday –** Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Youth/Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.  
Candy Pick Up, Fellowship Hall following Worship



**St. Matthew now has a new email address:**

**stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com**

Please send all correspondence to this address.

We will no longer use AOL.

## Mitten Tree

Our annual Mitten Tree is in the narthex until December 18<sup>th</sup>. Please be thinking as you shop, and bring school-age children's mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, earmuffs or socks to be hung on the Mitten Tree. These will be distributed by the school nurses at the Spring Cove Elementary Schools for needy children. Donations of money can be given by marking a **pew envelope "Mitten Tree"**. Let's help children have a warmer Winter!

### Cove Christmas Love

It's time to think about children who will get very little or nothing for Christmas. These children within the area covered by the Martinsburg Association of Churches will receive **new** toys, books and blankets with the help of contributions from people in the community.

Please bring your donations to the church and place in the Christmas box located in the Narthex. Monetary contributions are also welcome. Checks are to be made out to "Cove Christmas Love" and placed in the offering plate.

All donations of gifts and monetary contributions are due by Monday, December 12, 2022. *Social Ministry Committee*

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Carl Alexy, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenburg, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Jere Hess, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Bill Stahl, Joy Williams.

**Prayer Concerns:** Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, David Bolger, Bonnie Brobst, Diane Cappel, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry & Cathy Creek, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Audrey Kensinger, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Kay McGraw, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Paul Ruth, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, Rev. Jack Timm, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

**Our college students:** Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Camryn Gates.

**Those Serving in the Army Overseas:** Nathan Smith (Germany), Melody Estep.





**Dear Members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church:**

The 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Here in, and for your review, is a copy of the 2023 Ministry Proposal (Congregational Budget) for St. Matthew Lutheran Church.

The budget process begins with all committees providing their budget requests to the finance committee, who then review the individual proposals and ultimately agree on a budget. The Finance Committee unanimously approved the 2023 Budget at their meeting on October 26, 2022. Church Council then reviews the budget, and in this case, approved it at their November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**The congregation will also be asked to approve the following 2023 recommendations for Venture in Faith, which are the same as 2022:**

- 1) The first quarter will go to local needs.
- 2) The second quarter is for Youth and Camping
- 3) The third quarter will go to On Eagle's Wings & Holy Family Lutheran Church & Rocky Boy Ind. Res.
- 4) The fourth quarter is for the United Lutheran Seminaries both in Gettysburg and Philadelphia.

**The congregation will also be asked to approve the 2023 recommendations for Special Envelopes, which are identical to what was used in 2022:**

- 1) Easter envelopes go to the Breezewood Truck Ministry.
- 2) Special envelopes for Children's Sunday go to Good Shepherd children's home.
- 3) Harvest Home envelopes go to ALSM (ILUMIN).
- 4) The special envelopes for Blanket Sunday go to Lutheran World relief.
- 5) Christmas envelopes are used for St. Matthew's current expense.

If, after reviewing the budget and the recommendations for Ventures in Faith and Special Envelopes, if you have questions or concerns, there will be a **question and answer session on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> following the 10:30 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary.** You may also contact Jim Barley by phone (814-793-4623) or by email ([jimbbarley@gmail.com](mailto:jimbbarley@gmail.com)).

*In response to God's love, St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
Shares God's word and serves all people.*

**Jim Barley**  
**Finance Committee Chairperson**

St. Matthew Lutheran Church Proposed Budget 2023

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	Proposed Budget	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
<b>MINISTRY OF THE PASTOR</b>							
Base Salary/Housing Allowance	\$ 60,470.00	\$57,350.00	\$57,281.04	\$56,073.12	\$53,815.12	\$10,724.32	\$0.00
Social Security Allowance	\$ 4,626.00	\$4,387.00	\$4,290.00	\$4,198.08	\$4,039.92	\$652.84	\$0.00
Transitional Pastors Stipend						\$24,000.75	\$26,925.00
Total Compensation	\$ 65,096.00	\$61,737.00	\$61,571.04	\$60,271.20	\$57,855.04	\$35,377.91	\$26,925.00
Pension Contribution	\$ 7,812.00	\$7,409.00	\$7,244.52	\$7,088.52	\$6,822.93	\$0.00	\$0.00
Medical	\$ 10,936.00	\$9,878.00	\$9,443.16	\$8,831.46	\$7,817.92	\$2,622.64	\$0.00
Disability and Death	\$ 1,107.00	\$1,358.00	\$1,328.16	\$1,092.84	\$1,535.03	\$9.00	\$0.00
Disability Insurance Supplement	\$ -			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Retirement Support	\$ -			\$413.52	\$397.44	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Benefits	\$ 19,855.00	\$18,645.00	\$18,015.84	\$17,426.34	\$16,573.32	\$2,631.64	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL COMPENSATION &amp; BENEFITS OF THE PASTOR</b>	\$ 84,951.00	\$80,382.00	\$79,586.88	\$77,697.54	\$74,428.36	\$38,009.55	\$26,925.00
<b>PROFESSIONAL REIMBURSEMENT</b>							
Automobile Reimbursement	\$ 2,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$940.46	\$671.95	\$2,269.68	\$317.95	\$400.38
Continuing Ed, Books & Periodicals	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$657.29	\$935.50	\$1,002.74	\$77.16	\$588.53
Assembly/Conference Expense	\$ 600.00	\$600.00	\$40.00	\$25.00	\$461.00	\$143.00	\$426.00
Other Professional Exp	\$ 500.00	\$1,100.00	\$90.96	\$0.00	\$1,397.38	\$18.88	\$12.45
Transition Pastors Mileage and Lodging	\$ -					\$9,243.52	\$10,785.42
<b>TOTAL PROFESSIONAL REIMBURSEMENT</b>	\$ 4,100.00	\$5,700.00	\$1,728.71	\$1,632.45	\$5,130.80	\$9,800.51	\$12,212.78
<b>PARISH ADMINISTRATION</b>							
Parish Administrative Assistant	\$ 33,600.00	\$31,992.00	\$31,897.00	\$31,200.00	\$30,599.94	\$29,618.00	\$26,367.26
Employer's SS Taxes Parish Admin Ass't	\$ 2,570.00	\$2,447.00	\$2,273.44	\$2,227.35	\$2,224.38	\$2,126.44	\$1,847.69
Employee Benefits Parish Admin Ass't	\$ 11,791.00	\$13,867.00	\$13,641.24	\$13,548.30	\$13,093.08	\$14,161.66	\$11,429.07
Assistant to Administrative Assistant	\$ 1,008.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,280.81	\$641.37	\$2,064.51	\$1,697.25	
Employer's SS Taxes Ass't Admin Ass't	\$ 77.00	\$230.00	\$92.57	\$57.23	\$161.34	\$112.45	
Office Supplies	\$ 2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,017.65	\$2,132.07	\$2,956.78	\$2,586.16	\$2,718.75
Postage	\$ 1,300.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,245.65	\$1,034.48	\$1,381.71	\$1,370.16	\$1,587.89
Telephone	\$ 3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,855.97	\$2,957.12	\$2,927.98	\$2,841.07	\$1,997.98
Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$822.06	\$3,366.35	\$1,523.26	\$916.58
Computer Program & Updates	\$ 1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,574.85	\$1,049.47	\$1,627.00	\$1,882.91	\$1,894.09
Copier Lease	\$ 2,604.00	\$2,604.00	\$4,134.60	\$4,134.60	\$4,134.60	\$4,150.70	\$3,960.13
Misc. Expenses	\$ 200.00	\$200.00	\$82.67	\$148.84	\$0.00	\$141.70	\$161.88
<b>TOTAL PARISH ADMINISTRATION</b>	\$ 60,900.00	\$63,890.00	\$61,096.45	\$59,952.89	\$64,537.67	\$62,211.76	\$52,881.32

<b>WORSHIP AND MUSIC</b>															
Supply Pastors Compensation	\$ 1,000.00						\$350.00	\$290.82				\$1,063.14			\$1,575.00
Organists' Stipends	\$ 9,420.00						\$8,150.00	\$7,785.00				\$3,950.00			\$4,282.28
Adult Choir Dir. Stipend							\$1,600.00	\$1,100.00				\$0.00			\$0.00
Organ, Piano, and Carillon	\$ 700.00						\$720.00	\$360.00				\$870.00			\$350.00
Choir Music	\$ 150.00						\$96.34	(\$50.00)				\$34.67			\$107.24
Worship Supplies	\$ 1,500.00						\$801.50	\$1,841.82				\$1,481.25			\$1,807.78
Devotional Guides	\$ 150.00						\$105.01	\$316.13				\$413.50			\$396.50
Bulletins	\$ -						\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00			\$70.90
Flower Fund	\$ -						\$0.00	\$33.40				\$21.95			\$90.00
Journey to Bethlehem	\$ -						\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00			\$591.86
Audio Tech Person	\$ 1,485.00						\$1,325.00								
Employer's SS Taxes	\$ 114.00						\$63.10								
<b>TOTAL WORSHIP AND MUSIC</b>	<b>\$ 14,519.00</b>						<b>\$13,210.95</b>	<b>\$11,677.17</b>				<b>\$7,834.51</b>			<b>\$9,271.56</b>
<b>EVANGELISM</b>															
Evangelism Projects	\$ 500.00						\$435.93	\$246.07				\$298.20			\$255.43
<b>TOTAL EVANGELISM</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>						<b>\$435.93</b>	<b>\$246.07</b>				<b>\$298.20</b>			<b>\$255.43</b>
<b>FELLOWSHIP</b>															
Fellowship Expenses	\$ 1,000.00						\$233.07	\$427.58				\$1,179.11			\$1,103.23
<b>TOTAL FELLOWSHIP</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>						<b>\$233.07</b>	<b>\$427.58</b>				<b>\$1,179.11</b>			<b>\$1,103.23</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>															
Synod Assembly (2 delegates)	\$ 400.00						\$80.00	\$0.00				\$286.00			\$378.00
SCS Christmas Gifts	\$ 100.00						\$42.37	\$0.00				\$38.02			\$80.07
Vacation Church School	\$ -						\$500.00	\$150.00				\$0.00			\$1,019.41
The Lutheran	\$ 1,000.00						\$622.67	\$971.79				\$1,044.98			\$1,071.40
Curriculum & Supplies	\$ 500.00						\$480.26	\$403.35				\$538.31			\$812.11
St. Matthew Youth Events	\$ 500.00						\$172.62	\$22.43				\$0.00			\$11.99
National Youth Gathering Advisor	\$ -						\$0.00	\$0.00				\$1,000.00			\$0.00
Advent and Lenten Workshop	\$ 200.00						\$54.23	\$0.00				\$0.00			\$0.00
FBI Background Checks	\$ 100.00						\$119.55	\$35.00				\$61.20			\$16.00
<b>TOTAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>	<b>\$ 2,800.00</b>						<b>\$2,071.70</b>	<b>\$1,582.57</b>				<b>\$2,968.51</b>			<b>\$3,388.98</b>

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	Proposed Budget	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
<b>PROPERTY MAINTENANCE</b>							
Insurance	\$ 5,000.00	\$5,500.00	\$4,553.00	\$4,589.00	\$4,286.00	\$7,999.45	\$5,119.00
Electricity	\$ 9,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$7,969.55	\$7,882.13	\$12,599.92	\$13,662.03	\$14,254.45
Janitorial Services	\$ 16,443.00	\$15,405.00	\$12,771.78	\$15,411.80	\$14,867.11	\$14,205.00	\$15,361.10
Employer's SS Taxes	\$ 1,258.00	\$1,178.00	\$1,014.60	\$1,187.74	\$1,179.25	\$1,066.53	\$1,150.17
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 2,300.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,469.38	\$595.26	\$2,529.08	\$4,762.68	\$2,787.11
Utilities (Water/Sewer/Gas/Garbage)	\$ 4,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,606.22	\$3,106.83	\$2,850.06	\$2,572.30	\$2,081.35
Operating Supplies	\$ 1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,108.71	\$985.90	\$760.23	\$596.35	\$1,074.06
Maint Fees (Snow Plowing & Shoveling)	\$ 1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,072.00	\$516.00	\$1,384.00	\$1,754.25	\$1,205.50
Security	\$ 700.00	\$700.00	\$539.88	\$539.88	\$539.88	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>\$ 41,601.00</b>	<b>\$42,683.00</b>	<b>\$35,105.12</b>	<b>\$34,814.54</b>	<b>\$40,995.53</b>	<b>\$46,618.59</b>	<b>\$43,032.74</b>
<b>STEWARDSHIP</b>							
Stewardship Education	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$745.20	\$926.52	\$920.91	\$906.47	\$624.37
Offering Envelopes	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$751.50	\$983.85	\$665.41	\$490.03	\$1,964.41
<b>TOTAL STEWARDSHIP &amp; FINANCE</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,496.70</b>	<b>\$1,910.37</b>	<b>\$1,586.32</b>	<b>\$1,396.50</b>	<b>\$2,588.78</b>
<b>SOCIAL MINISTRY</b>							
Social Ministry	\$ 300.00	\$300.00	\$55.86	\$0.00	\$95.54	\$208.08	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL MINISTRY</b>	<b>\$ 300.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$55.86</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$95.54</b>	<b>\$208.08</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>							
Miscellaneous	\$ 500.00	\$500.00	\$1,107.38	\$178.74	\$411.31	\$393.60	\$332.15
<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$1,107.38</b>	<b>\$178.74</b>	<b>\$411.31</b>	<b>\$393.60</b>	<b>\$332.15</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 213,171.00</b>	<b>\$ 219,835.00</b>	<b>\$ 196,128.75</b>	<b>\$ 190,119.92</b>	<b>\$ 202,587.17</b>	<b>\$ 170,918.92</b>	<b>\$ 151,991.97</b>
Average Weekly Needed per Budget	53 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	53 Sundays
	\$ 4,022.00	\$4,227.60	\$4,287.77	\$4,299.48	\$4,096.94	\$4,413.40	\$4,181.47
<b>Faith Commitment (Allegheny Synod)</b>	<b>\$ 20,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>
Note: Faith Commitment (Decrease) is %	23%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Note: Budget Increase (Decrease) is %	-3.03%	-1.40%	-0.27%	4.94%	-7.17%	3.56%	2.50%

**Ventures in Faith for 2023**

First quarter will go to local needs; Second quarter is for Youth & Camping; Third quarter OEW's & Holy Family Lutheran Church & Rocky Boy; Fourth quarter is for the United Lutheran Seminaries (Gettysburg & Philadelphia)

**Special Envelopes for 2023**

Easter - Breezewood Truck Ministry.; Children's Sunday - Good Shepherd Children Home.; Harvest Home - ALSM (ILLUMIN); Blanket Sunday - Lutheran World Relief.; Christmas - St. Matthew Current Expenses.



Dr. Adam Smith, Piano

# AN ADVENT CONCERT

7PM - Monday, December 19th  
*St. Matthew Lutheran Church*  
 115 East Penn Street, Martinsburg  
 Free Admission - Free Will Offering to Benefit  
*Camp Sequanota*



# Snow Camp 2023

*"Come to the Table"*  
 Friday-Sunday, January 27-29  
 Camp Sequanota, Jennerstown PA  
 6th - 12th Grade

Games, Crafts, Food, Sledding, Worship, & Learning  
 Accommodations in Sequanota's Winterized Cabins  
 Register from December 15 to January 20 at [www.sequanota.com](http://www.sequanota.com)

\$80-includes food, lodging, materials  
 Families are asked to pay \$10: St. Matthew will cover the rest.

Please contact Pastor Traci with any questions.  
**\*\*Adult Helper(s) Wanted!\*\***



**Advent Concert**


Dr. Smith has graciously offered to share his musical gift in an Advent concert, Monday, December 19 at 7PM, followed by cookies and cocoa, with a free will offering to benefit Camp Sequanota. If you are interested in supporting Camp in advance through this event, please note "Sequanota Concert" on your donation and specify how you want your name to appear in the program.

**Birthday Celebration, Saturday, December 17, 2022**  
**1:00-3:30 p.m. (Note time change)**

Janet Kreider will be 90 years young on December 16. Her family is planning a birthday celebration here at St. Matthew in the Fellowship Hall. The congregation is invited. You can RSVP by completing the form below or you can email the church office at: [stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com](mailto:stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com) by **December 12, 2022**

*Menu: Pizza, Assorted Subs, Beverage, and Cup Cakes.*

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Adults                  \_\_\_\_\_ # of Youth



## YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program is ready for new volunteers! This year, for the first time since early 2020,

YAGM participants are walking alongside our international neighbors. Now, it's time for the YAGM team to find the next volunteers ready to step out into the world. Do you know one of them? Applications are now open, and you can invite young adults on this journey abroad for the 2023-2024 program year. If you know young adults aged 21 to 29, this is the time to reach out. Encourage them to apply for YAGM by the deadline of Feb.1, 2023. (Priority deadline is Jan. 15, 2023.) Through YAGM, young adults will learn what it means to serve in a spirit of accompaniment as they walk alongside global church companions. They'll become immersed in a new community and form deep relationships. And they'll confront issues of wealth and poverty, racial privilege, gender privilege, economic disparity and globalization, all through the lens of faith. [Learn more at ELCA.org/YAGM](http://ELCA.org/YAGM).

### December Bible Study – Dreaming of Christmas

We'll study a different dream from Matthew's Christmas story each Tuesday at 4PM on Zoom; the Zoom link will be sent out by email.

December 13: The Magi's Dream & Joseph's Second Dream (Matthew 2:1-13)

December 20: Joseph's Third Dream (Matthew 2:16-23)

### Advent Concert Cookies

A time of fellowship refreshments will be held in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the Advent Concert by Dr. Adam Smith on Monday, December 19, 2022.

Please bring the cookies to the church no later than Monday, December 19 at 5 p.m.

If you are interested in donating a couple dozen cookies, please indicate the amount on the following form. You can place it in the offering plate or in the Jane Fagans' mailbox.

Thank you on behalf of the Fellowship Committee.

Yes, I will donate \_\_\_\_\_ cookies for the reception following The Advent Concert on December 19.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

# BUILDING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

## CONTINUE GROWING IN CHRIST

Last week, we returned our Statement of Intent cards for the *Building a Culture of Generosity* stewardship effort. We certainly witnessed significant generosity from you.

Last year, we received three Statements of Intent cards.

This year, we received twenty-one (21) cards -- quite an increase!

If you didn't do so last week, you can still return your card in the offering plate or to the church office this week, and your intent will be recorded. Please remember that intents are not binding but are used for us to proclaim our faith through acts of generosity and to help the congregational leadership in making plans for the coming year.

Growth in stewardship is like any other kind of growth—a journey, not a destination. Whether we are working on becoming more consistent givers or working toward growing our gifts, we are on this generosity journey together. Thank you for your generosity in planning to support and participate in our ministry here at St. Matthew in the new year.