

Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's

February 20, 2022



In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we welcome you to worship, that together we may be wrapped in God's Word, love and grace. May your soul be nourished, your faith be strengthened and your life be touched by God in a special way while you're here.

Holy Communion: All are welcome to come forward at the time of communion to receive God's gift of grace at the 11:00 service. Let an usher know if you'd like to have communion brought to you because of mobility challenges.

Today Adult Education at 9:45 a.m. in the Upper Room:

Our Global Partnerships – Learn about our partnerships with the Meru Diocese congregation of Sing'isi Lutheran Church in Tanzania and with Pan de Vida Lutheran Church in El Salvador. Hear from those who have traveled to our partners' countries, see video greetings from partners, and learn how you can become involved.

Mt. Meru coffee tasting will be offered on February 20th: Peaberry coffee is a premium coffee blend that is richer and less acidic than regular coffee. It is created when a single coffee bean is used that is grown within each coffee berry instead of the normal two beans, and only 5% of coffee is Peaberry. It will be available at \$15 for 12 oz., regular only. We have regular and decaf in both drip grind and bean. They are still only \$10 for 12 oz. ***Justice never tasted so good!***

Farewell to Pastor Sheila: We give thanks for the interim ministry of Pastor Sheila Rawn, who has been with us since May 2021. She will be ending her time with us on February 20, when she will be the preacher of the day. St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Greendale has completed their MET process and has a call committee in place; Pastor Sheila will be assisting them as interim minister until their new pastor is called. We are grateful to Pastor Sheila for her strong and thought-provoking sermons, her willingness to help wherever needed, and her beautiful voice as part of our Senior Choir.

Sunday School has resumed!

In-person Sunday school classes for preschool – 8th grade takes place each Sunday from 9:40-10:30. All COVID protocols will continue to be in place: masking, distancing, and air purifiers. If you have any questions, contact Gretchen Hauge.

Bulletin Announcement Insert – February 20, 2022

Undie Sunday underwear collection runs February 13 - March 13

Benefits clients of Guest House & Benedict Center's Sisters Project

This collection is sponsored by the Social Ministry Committee. Here's what we're collecting:

Men's briefs or boxer briefs (Sizes S, M, L, 2X and 3X)

Men's Socks, size 6-12

Women's panties, sizes 4-24

Women's Bras, sizes 34A - 42C

Women's Socks

Women's pajamas and long underwear, sizes up to 2X

If you'd like to contribute to this donation, there is a collection box outside the church office. Thank you for sharing of your resources to benefit those in our community worthy of some additional help. *Handy Tip: You could place an Amazon order for these items and have them shipped to church!*

Did you Miss the Communion Class on February 13th ?

Here's how you can make it up. . .

If your child is in 2nd grade or older and you weren't able to attend the communion class on February 13th, you can still participate in a communion celebration with your child at one of several services this spring. Please contact Gretchen Haugse for information on how you can make up the class and sign up for a service.

Ash Wednesday worship will be held on March 2 at 10:30am and 7:15 pm. Plan to join us as we enter into the reflective season of Lent. *On the other side of this sheet*, read about Lenten Wednesday plans beginning on Wednesday March 9th.

Looking Ahead to Upcoming Adult Education:

- **Feb. 27: Planning a Good Funeral** with Pastor Karen Natterstad; we'll discuss what might be involved in leaving your loved ones some of your wishes for your 'celebration of life.'
- **March 6: A Prophetic Artist** -- Artists who work with Christian themes are typically from the West, but increasingly Asian artists have been exploring the Gospel with various media. One whom many regard as the "Dean" of Asian artists is Pulidindi Solomon Raj, a true polymath who combined interests in batiks, woodblock prints, poetry, dance and drama. He died at his ashram at the age of 98 two years ago in his native city in India, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh State. And surprise, he also had a Ph.D in communication from the University of Birmingham (UK) and was a Lutheran pastor! A visual presentation of his art and Christian message will be shared at the March 6 Adult Forum Class by Dr. David Zersen who served as his representative for over a decade.

“Making Room: Renewing Our Practice of Christian Hospitality”

Lent 2022 at St. Matthew's

Making Room: Hospitality with



Family
Church
Neighbor
Stranger
Enemy

For this Lent season you are invited to consider how we make room or might want to make room in our hearts and in our daily life to connect with others. As we remember and give thanks for the welcome God gives us through Jesus Christ, we share in a ministry of extending that hospitality to family, friends, neighbors, and strangers. We can learn from the past, from

scripture, from one another how this ancient Christian practice is much more than entertaining someone. We make room by being aware of those around you each day, simply taking notice of who God puts in your path. We make room by adjusting our attitudes or actions. We make room through enjoying the company of our church family gathered in worship, learning, or serving. Together we journey to the cross and make room once again for the welcome God has prepared for us.

Each week there will be a **midweek worship video** that will arrive in your email inbox, inviting you into reflection and prayer with the weekly theme.

Be part of a **small group conversation** during Lent **starting the week of March 6th.**

- **At Church: Tuesdays at 10:30 AM, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM & 6:15 PM**
- **On Zoom: Tuesdays at 7:00 PM** - Zoom Link available soon
- Start your own group - We can help you do that!

Sign up for a group in the Commons or just join us when you can!

FAMILY LENTEN TIME: March 9 – April 6, 2022

Parents and younger children, come and join us in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday nights! Join us for the midweek family time, 6:15 to 7:00 each Wednesday. There will be stories, songs, projects, prayer, and a brief worship, led by Donna Gardner Manke. Children 3rd grade and younger are encouraged to attend with their parents. Participants will learn about Bible stories addressing our Lenten theme of HOSPITALITY. It's going to be fun! Come and join us!

Call Committee Update: The first group of candidates provided by the synod office did not yield a candidate, and the committee has asked for another group of names. Brian Due, Chairperson of the Call Committee, spoke at the Annual Meeting and expressed the committee's disappointment over the necessity of lengthening the process for several more weeks and months. As soon as new names are provided, the Call Committee will determine whom to interview and move forward as quickly as possible. They feel the urgency that many have expressed to place a new lead pastor into ministry, but also feel a large responsibility to call the right person. Prayers are greatly appreciated for our Call Committee, as well as whomever may be our new lead pastor, now in discernment.

Contribution statements for 2021 have been sent out by mail and email. If you did not receive one, please contact Al in the church office, 414.774.0441 or al@stmattslutheran.org

First Fridays Book Discussion Group

Discussions begin at 7 p.m. on the dates listed. For now, the meetings will continue through the use of Zoom. Those on the email list will receive a Zoom link for participation. All are welcome.

Mar. 4, 2022 **The Water Keeper** by Charles Martin (352 pages)

April 1, 2022 **Black Bottom Saints** by Alice Randall (368 pages)

Youth Forum to Meet in Lent, beginning March 6

After a "COVID hiatus," youth forum for high school students will begin meeting in-person again starting on the first Sunday in Lent, March 6th, during the education hour (9:45-10:45). This is a chance for teens to get together to talk about what's going on in their worlds, play games, reflect on short videos, explore current events and trends, and do occasional service projects. It's a great way to connect with other teens at St. Matthew's! If you have questions, contact Gretchen Hauge.

Quilt Ministry Blitz planned for Saturday, March 12. The time is 9:00 – 1:30 pm. Please plan to attend, even if you haven't come in the past. All are welcome to contribute to the projects in progress. Bring a lunch if you wish.

Altar Flower & Library Book Sign-Up: You are invited to sign up for altar flowers or a library book for a special occasion which will be noted in the bulletin. Flowers are \$35 and will be ordered by the office staff. Please make out a check and mark it for altar flowers. You can sign up to donate a book to the library. A book will be chosen for the occasion and you will be notified of which book was chosen. Library books are \$20. This is a great way to support St. Matthew's worship and library ministries in a meaningful way. The Sign-up Book is outside the Upper Room, in a binder on the table.