

Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's

March 27, 2022



Welcome to worship this Sunday in Lent as we journey toward the cross and the empty tomb. Wherever we have been, whatever we have done, our all-loving heavenly Father welcomes us into his arms.

Holy Communion: All are welcome to come forward at the time of communion to receive God's gift of grace at the 8:30 service. Let an usher know if you'd like to have communion brought to you because of mobility challenges.

First Communion Celebration Today: A special welcome to **Owen, Lucas, Mack, and Harper High, Emerson and Finn Ryan** who receive their First Holy Communion this morning at the 8:30 service. Your prayers are appreciated for God's blessing to be upon them as they take this important step in their faith journey.

Mt. Meru Coffee Tasting This Sunday: PREMIUM PEABERRY COFFEE

The Mt. Meru Premium Peaberry Blend comes from a single bean grown inside the coffee cherry where normally there are two beans. They offer a richer taste while being less acidic. These beans are sorted by hand and lightly roasted to bring out their special flavor. Both drip grind and whole bean are available in regular for \$15.00. As always, we have our standard coffees available plus our four flavored coffees. Stop by and see our selections. Thank you for your purchase.



Easter Flowers: We are now accepting orders for Easter flowers for the display at the altar on Easter morning. Look for a form to orders yours at the Welcome Center, church office, or other places around church. You can also sign up online at this link: <https://forms.gle/VwmCJGC1nRadtN9x8>

Sunday, April 10th – Scenes from the Passion will be presented at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services. We invite you to attend this moving service, with participation by our youth and adult choirs in dramatic scenes from Holy Week. Invite a friend to attend with you!

Blood Drive at St. Matthew's! We are pleased to share the date of the first blood drive at St. Matthew's in 2 years: Monday, April 25, from 2:00- 6:00 pm Sign up begins now! There is a paper sign-up form in the Commons, or you can also sign up at this link:

bit.ly/stmattstosa0425

Thanks to Nancy Bowen and Anne DeWitt for their leadership in bringing this back to St. Matthew's! Please consider signing up to give the Gift of Life through blood donation.

Bulletin Announcement Insert – March 27, 2022

Today Adult Education at 9:45 a.m. in the Upper Room: March 27 Discovering the Roots of Christian Hospitality

Led by Dave Zersen and Karen Natterstad

As we think about Christian Hospitality during this season of Lent, we ask ourselves why it's unique. We'll look back at the original setting and the first practices of hospitality by Christians as they emerged from the Greco-Roman world. What about these first practices of hospitality do we still cherish? How can we capitalize on it today? How can we share in the practice of hospitality that these institutions offer?

Next Week:

April 3 **Forgotten, Misrepresented, and Marginalized Figures of Early Christianity (Part Two)** Led by Dan Bice

Mary Magdalene may be one of the best-known figures in the New Testament, but she is widely misunderstood. Was she a prostitute? A witness to Jesus' resurrection? An apostle to Jesus? A holder of his secret teachings? His lover? With time, her story has grown and grown. We will scour biblical and extra-biblical sources to find out more about this enigmatic figure of early Christianity. Future topics in this intermittent series: James, the brother of Jesus; and Mary, the mother of Jesus.

First Fridays Book Discussion Group

We are back to meeting in person at church! Discussion begin at 7 p.m. in the Upper Room. All are welcome.

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

May 6, 2022 Hollywood Park: A Memoir by Mikel Jollett (384 pages)

June 3, 2022 Ordinary Grace: A Novel by William Kent Krueger (336 pages)

Looking Ahead to Good Friday: Filled Easter Eggs Needed! We will offer a Good Friday Children's Service at 10:00 on April 15th, which will include a craft, worship and the popular egg hunt. We will be needing Easter eggs for the children to find. Empty eggs will be available outside the church office in packs of two-dozen, and we ask for people to take some, fill them with a piece of candy or some sort of treat, tape them closed, and bring them back by Palm Sunday, April 10th. Thank you!

Dr. Dawg! Fundraiser for Youth Mission Trip: On Saturday, April 9th, between 11:00 and 4:00, St. Matthew's will earn 10% of all proceeds. (No coupons or codes needed; online orders included). The Dr. Dawg menu includes a wide variety of hot dogs as well as sausages, burgers, veggie burgers, and other sandwiches. They are located at 853 N. Mayfair Rd., at the shopping center where Wisconsin Avenue intersects Hwy. 100. What an easy way to support our youth as they will be serving in Kenosha this June.

“Making Room:

Renewing Our Practice of Christian Hospitality”

Lent 2022 at St. Matthew’s

This Wednesday: (and each Wednesday thru April 6th)

Making Room: Hospitality with



Family
Church
Neighbor
Stranger
Enemy

Watch for 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 through the week of April 4th.

Join us when you can! **Tuesdays at 10:30 AM**
Wednesdays at 10:00 AM & 6:15 PM

FAMILY LENTEN TIME: March 9 – April 6, 2022 *Continues this week!*

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, led by Donna Gardner Manke. Children 3rd grade and younger are encouraged to attend with their parents.

Lenten offerings marked for “Lent offering” will be directed toward Ukraine relief through Lutheran Disaster Response and “Exploit No More,” a local organization working to address and prevent human trafficking.

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Looking Ahead to Upcoming Adult Education: (9:45-10:45am)

Rescheduled date: April 10 Social Ministry “Exploit No More”

A presentation on human trafficking

Exploit No More offers that hope for those who are trafficked. Josh Beaton, Operations Director for Exploit No More, will present “Human Trafficking 101” on April 10th during the Adult Education Forum from 9:45-10:45. The program will cover the definition of human trafficking, breaks down what sex trafficking looks like in our area, and equips the audience with the tools to get involved in the fight to end sexual exploitation and ways it can support Exploit No More in its work because no one is excluded from the fight against sex trafficking! Mark your calendars for this dynamic presentation.

Lutheran Disaster Response is already helping the people of Ukraine currently under attack by Russia. If you wish to make a donation to support LDR’s assistance, you may write a check and mark it “LDR-Ukraine,” give through our website at this link:

Stmattslutheran.org/give or give through the Lutheran Disaster Response website:

Elca.org/ldr Our prayers for the people of Ukraine are also very much needed.

High School Students – We Want to Know What YOU Think!

On April 3rd at 1:00, there will be a Zoom listening session for high school kids interested in becoming involved in advocacy. This is a chance for you to join with other teens from Wisconsin and Upper Michigan to talk about what you think and to share your ideas about responding to injustice in the world. It will be followed by another Zoom gathering on May 1st, with the goal of an in-person event in the fall. To register (and take a short survey) go to this link: <https://tinyurl.com/dtaxfu2k> Or you can talk to Gretchen to get more information. The world needs to hear your voices!

Apartment Needed: Andy Cherney's parents are looking to rent an apartment/duplex in the greater Wauwatosa area beginning May 1st. Andy's father has limited mobility, so first-level options would be preferred. If you have any recommendations, please contact Andy at 414.255.4943.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED: Voting Member to Synod Assembly, May 20 (5pm) -May 21 (4pm); in person or online Each year, the Greater Milwaukee Synod holds an assembly to hear reports, adopt an annual budget, hold elections, and vote on resolutions. The synod is composed of over 120 ELCA congregations who send voting members and their pastors to participate. St. Matthew's is eligible to send 5 voting members. The assembly will be held at the Italian Community Center (and online). This year, a Bishop election will occur. For more information about the Assembly go to: <https://milwaukeeesynd.org/event/2022-synod-assembly/> If you are interested in serving as a voting member, please contact Al Van Lith, Financial Administrator, al@stmattslutheran.org or 414-774-0441.

Saint Matthew's worship is now mask-optional. You may wish to continue to wear your mask, depending on your health, your own risk assessment, and your concern for the vulnerable in your family. We respect and support both masked and unmasked participants at St. Matthew's. Since groups that involve children under the age of 5 are not eligible for the vaccine, such as 3K - 5K Sunday school classes and Praise Kids, those children, directors, teachers and leaders will continue to mask through the end of the school year. Keep watching for updates and please continue to be flexible and gracious as we navigate this new reality together. We give thanks for this opportunity and appreciate seeing the many smiles at church!

Pastoral Staff: Karen Natterstad, Interim Lead and Ann Williams, Associate Pastor

Volunteer Ministries/Small Groups/Adult Education: Sue Swing

Youth Ministries & Children's Education: Gretchen Haugse, Lynne Thomas

Children's Minister: Donna Gardner Manke.

Music Minister: John Paradowski.

Music Staff: David Mohr, Jeff Reeves, Amy Dankwardt, Heide Hughes

Older Adults Coordinator: Julia Murphy.

Technology Coordinator: Brian Smith.

Library Coordinator (volunteer) Linda Wunderlich.

Custodial Staff: Marsha Olson, Dave Fagerberg, Bob Gardner.

Office Staff: Al Van Lith, Bridget Smith, Sonja Mohr