

ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Proclaiming the Love of God for All People

WORSHIP

September 18, 2022 8:15 and 11:00 AM

We welcome all today and are thankful you have chosen to participate in this service as you are able. We pray you are blessed by what you experience. If you have any spiritual needs or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Lesley at pastor@stmatthews-elca.org or call 817-292-1338. This service includes communion; if you are worshiping online, please have bread or crackers and wine or juice available to participate in the Eucharist.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P. Dear siblings in Christ, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection. You may sit, stand or kneel.

P. God of mercy and forgiveness, **C. we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

P. Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN 710 "Let Streams of Living Justice"



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance; pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

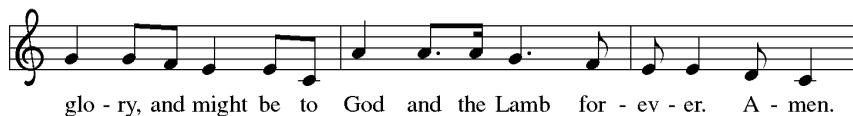
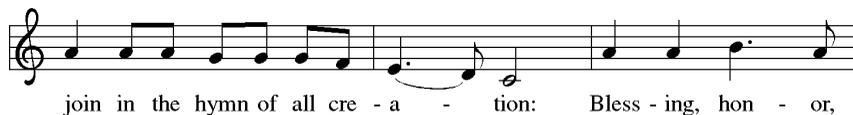
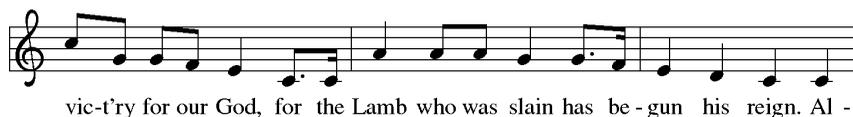
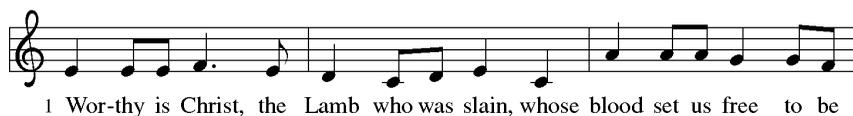
Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
Text © 1989 William Whitla.

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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Sung by all
(Omitted
at 8:15)



Refrain (at top of page)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A. Let us pray: **C. God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

A reading from Amos, chapter 8:

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,
and practice deceit with false balances,
⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."
⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Word of God, word of life. **C. Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 113 *The Psalm is read responsively.*

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.

²**Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.**

³From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.

⁴**The LORD is high above all nations; God's glory above the heavens.**

⁵Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,

⁶**but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?**

⁷The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,
⁸**enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.**

⁹The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

Refrain: The Lord lifts up the poor from the ashes. (*Psalm 113:7*)

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

A reading from First Timothy, chapter 2:

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all - this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Word of God, word of life. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

8:15 am (Spoken) Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

11:00 am Next page

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

a - le - lu - ya! *A - le - lu - ya!*
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL READING: Luke 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

P. The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 16th chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.'

⁷Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

The gospel of the Lord. **C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Rev. Lesley M. Radius

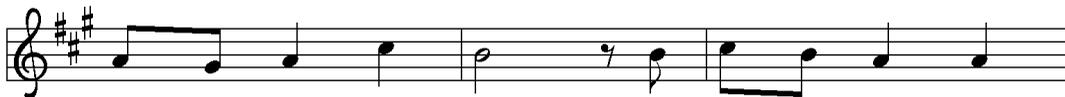


Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY 635 "We Walk by Faith"



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are
5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found:
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine,
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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APOSTLES' CREED

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 INTERCESSION

A. As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

God our Savior, accompany those preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Enlighten preachers, teachers, seminarians, and all those who share your good news with the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Divine teacher, show us how best to care for the earth and its resources, and guide those who work to develop sustainable practices. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Ruler of the nations, give leaders wisdom and compassion so that all may live in peace. Inspire public servants to follow the example of courageous leaders and safeguard the dignity of each person. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Helper of the needy, breathe justice into economic and social systems that perpetuate poverty and hunger. Sustain food ministries, clothing banks, and emergency shelters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustainer and giver of life, you bless this congregation with abundance. Instruct us in the proper and faithful use of wealth and resources, that we share generously. We also pray for you to sustain the congregations of Trinity Lutheran in Clovis and Our Savior Lutheran in Mesquite; and bless the students, staff and faculty at Texas Lutheran University. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered aloud or in our hearts..

God of glory, you gather your saints around your throne. Keep us thankful for the witness of those who have gone before us, and bring us with them to the heavenly feast that has no end. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P. Gathered together in the communion of the Holy Spirit, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C. And also with you.**

CHOIR ANTHEM Hymn 583

Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad (Take My Life, That I May Be)

Text by Vicente Mendoza (1875-1955)

Refrain: Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad, y hazla tuya, nada mas;

Toma, si, mi corazon y tu trono en el tendras.

1. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee
Refrain
2. Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
Refrain
3. Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.
Refrain
4. Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
Refrain

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875-1955. Music: William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954 c. 1999 Augsburg Fortress

(11:00) *As the offering and communion elements are brought forward, please stand and sing:*

OFFERTORY HYMN 885 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDETH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

OFFERING PRAYER

A. Let us pray. **C. Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

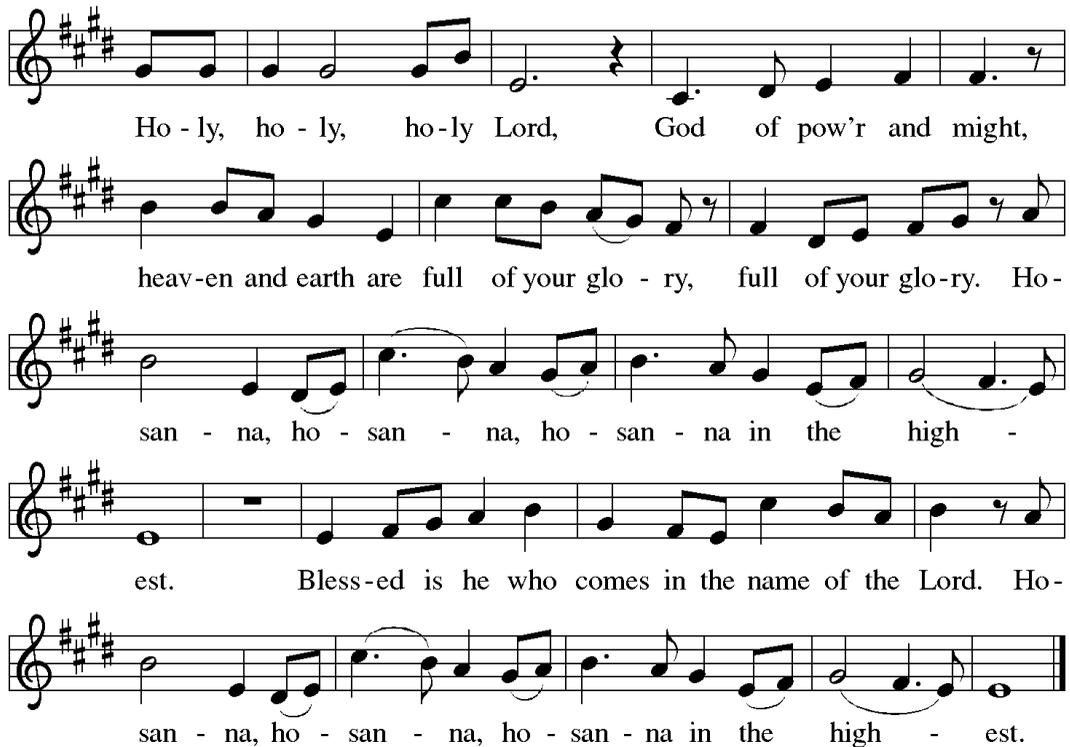
P. Lift up our hearts. **C. We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn (*spoken at 8:15*):



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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 TO COMMUNION

Please be seated; 8:15 go to page 13.

HANDBELL MEDITATION "Amazing Grace" arr. Ellen Jane Lorenz
Sounds of Exaltation Handbell Choir

After all have communed, please stand as you are able.

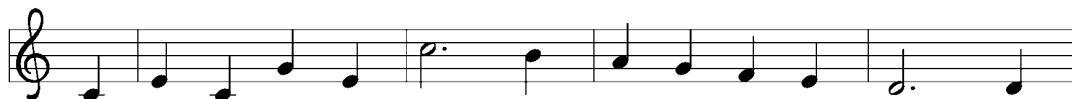
P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace. **C. Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A. God of the abundant tale, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for our journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C. Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

SENDING SONG 550 "On What Had Now Been Sown"



1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731–1789

DISMISSAL

A. Go in peace with Christ beside you! **C. We will! Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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SERVING IN 11:00 WORSHIP

Presiding Minister: Rev. Lesley M. Radius **Assisting Minister:** Steve Weis
Choir Director: Adam Frame **Organist/Pianist:** John Wolf
Lector: Cindy Kammer **Chancel Care:** S. Hadfield. M. Weis
Ushers: P. Massanza, F. Youngblood **Videographer:** Jacob Martella
Handbell Director: Shirley Johnson **Counters:** F. Youngblood, C. Kohn

**The chancel flowers today were prepared by
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church.
A donation has been made to ELCA Good Gifts by Pastor Lesley
in memory of her mother, Marie.**

<p><u>We Pray For:</u> Craig Bridges T. J. Bridges Annasophia Reese Barbara Reid Tommy and Diane Higgs</p>	<p>Pastor Lesley Dustin Riddle Becky Jacobs Daughter of Lauren Anderson Norma Morrow Mother of Cindy Kammer</p>
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**Please note: The church office is now staffed during the following
afternoon hours: 12:30-4:30 pm Mon.-Thurs., 12:30-4:00 pm Fri.**
*You may call in the morning and leave a message if no one answers. If
you are coming to see someone, or have something delivered, please
call ahead to make sure there will be someone at church to let you or
the delivery person in.*

THIS WEEK WITH ST. MATTHEW'S

SUNDAY, September 18

8:15 am Lutheran Service of the Word with communion

9:30 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher

Sunday School for St. Matthew's

11:00 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's

Sunday School for St. Christopher

MONDAY, September 19

12:00 pm Joint St. Matthew's/St. Christopher staff meeting.

TUESDAY, September 20

3:00 pm-6:00 pm Stone's Throw Produce Truck

3:30 pm Go! Center tutoring/mentoring

5:30 pm Children's Choir

7:00 pm Handbell Choir

7:00 pm Candleridge Garden Club

WEDNESDAY, September 21

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, September 25

BOOK SALE IN THE LIBRARY ALL MORNING

8:15 am Book of Common Prayer, worship led by St. Christopher

9:30 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher

9:30 am Sunday School for all ages for St. Matthew's

11:00 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's

Sunday School for St. Christopher

4:00 pm Azteca Folklorico Ballet – Wedgwood Arts Series

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. MATTHEW'S CHOIR OPPORTUNITIES:

Chancel Choir (High school through adults) **meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.** Bring a friend; we will socialize a bit and get to know each other better.

Children's Choir meets every Tuesday afternoon from 5:30 to about 6:15 pm on September 13. Children from the Go! Center will be able to participate along with children from St. Matthew's and St. Christopher and their friends. Spread the word!

Handbell Choir meets Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to about 8:30 pm. We would love to have new ringers – come any Tuesday!

GO! CENTER TUTORING & MENTORING St. Matthew's Go! Center for tutoring and mentoring will have their **Fall Kickoff this Tuesday, September 13.** If you wish to be part of the tutoring team and make a difference in a young student's life, contact Kelly Riddle, St. Matthew's Community Engagement Coordinator at 817-292-1338 or email at gocenter@stmatthews-elca.org. The Go! Center is open every Tuesday afternoon from 3:30-5:30 pm.

Go! Center Request for Snacks: Please bring snacks for the Go! Center. Popular items are individual bags of crackers/cookies; granola bars; fruit snacks. (No nut products please!) Bring donations to church on Sundays. **There will also be an upcoming tutoring opportunity at Wooday Elementary School's after school program.** Watch for further information.

WEDGWOOD ARTS SERIES Our second year of the Wedgwood Arts Series will kick off with a performance on **Sunday, Sept. 25 at 4:00 pm by Ballet Azteca Folklorico.** They are Fort Worth's oldest Folklorico dance group. If you missed them last year, please come to see these colorful dancers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL **Sunday School for ages 3 through 5th grade is meeting every Sunday morning at 9:30 am.** We will again use the Godly Play model of teaching stories from the Bible. **We need: your children, and we need a few more storytellers** (teachers) for the class. Please let Cindy Kohn know if you could help – even occasionally!

SEPTEMBER GOSPEL-ALIVE We will be collecting toiletry items for the DRC's efforts to end homelessness. Please take a list of suggested items from the front table in the narthex and bring your donations to the designated box through Sept. 25. The DRC is formerly Fort Worth's Day Resource Center.

BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER Beginning Sunday, Sept. 25 you will find a book sale set up in the Library. Books from Jim and Jancie Breitenstine will be for sale; proceeds will benefit our youth program and the Wedgwood Arts Series.

PET BLESSING On Saturday, October 1st, from 10:00 am to Noon, a Pet Blessing will take place, hosted by St. Matthew's and St. Christopher. Bring your pet (any type) to receive a blessing and a treat!

NURSERY ATTENDANT NEWS Congratulations to our nursery attendant, Jocelyne Angeles, who has completed her Associates Degree from TCC. Jocelyne is now working fulltime with the Crowley schools, and so is moving on from St. Matthew's. We pray God's continued presence and guidance in her life, and we thank her for her service to our little ones.

SAVE THESE DATES:

NT-NL MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Saturday, October 1st 6:00-9:00 pm at Faith Lutheran Church, Fort Worth

Dinner, silent auction, raffle, entertainment, and celebration of MEF grant recipients. Contact Rev. Donna Wright: prdonnawright@gmail.com to make a reservation

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S HOPEWALLAH FUNDRAISER

Saturday, October 15th 6:00-9:00 pm at St. Matthew's

To raise funds for the India Leprosy Mission.

Dinner, silent auction, raffle, and entertainment; \$20/ticket
You may buy tickets from Andy Babbili on Sundays or from Mary Nedde in the church office Mon-Fri in the afternoons.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES DAY OF SERVICE

Saturday, October 15th 9:00 am – 1:30-pm

Meet at Catholic Charities, 249 W. Thornhill Drive.

Join them for their first ever Day of Service
to give back and serve the community.

OCTOBER 22 – VISIONING WORKSHOP

FOR ALL MEMBERS OF ST. MATTHEW'S

9:00 am – 1:00 pm IN PERSON AND ON ZOOM

Irma Bernales from the NT-NL Synod Renewal Team
will lead us in a visioning journey.

Mission Statement:
Living in Christ through faith.
Living for neighbor through love.

CHURCH STAFF

Lesley M. Radius, Pastor
Adam Frame, Director of Music Ministries
John Wolf, Organist/Pianist
Shirley Johnson, Director of the Sounds of Exaltation Handbell Choir
Kelly Riddle, Community Engagement Coordinator
Mary Nedde, Administrative Coordinator
Jocelyne Angeles, Valerie Dyke, Nursery Attendants

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

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We are Reconciling in Christ; welcoming to all!