



"I believe;
HELP MY UNBELIEF!"

Mark 9:24 ESV

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 22, 2021

10:00 a.m.

ELW Liturgy

“Living God’s Love”

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

400 North Broadway Street ✠ Medina, Ohio 44256

330-725-8885 ✠ office@stmatthewmedina.org

www.stmatthewmedina.org

GATHERING

** Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome and Announcements

Good News Moment

Melody Costello

Prelude

*Confession & Forgiveness

P: In the name of the father, ✚ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our provider,

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live.

We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn?

Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, ✚ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

*Gathering Song

When Morning Gilds the Skies

No. 853

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Bill Diehm

WORD

First Reading

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God.

^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land

of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

Psalm

Psalm 34:15-22

- ¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous,
and God's ears are open to their cry.
¹⁶**The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**
¹⁷The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them
and delivers them from all their troubles.
¹⁸**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves those whose spirits are crushed.**
¹⁹Many are the troubles of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers them from every one.
²⁰**God will keep safe all their bones;
not one of them shall be broken.**
²¹Evil will bring death to the wicked
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.
²²**O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 6:10-20

- ¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

*Gospel

Mark 9:14-29

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

- ¹⁴When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵When the whole crowd saw him, they were immediately overcome with awe, and they ran forward to greet him. ¹⁶He asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" ¹⁷Someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak; ¹⁸and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so." ¹⁹He answered them, "You faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me." ²⁰And they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him,

immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ Jesus asked the father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. ²² It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us." ²³ Jesus said to him, "If you are able! — All things can be done for the one who believes." ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out, "I believe; help my unbelief!" ²⁵ When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You spirit that keeps this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!" ²⁶ After crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he was able to stand. ²⁸ When he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" ²⁹ He said to them, "This kind can come out only through prayer."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Bill Diehm

Hymn of the Day:

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

No. 632

***Apostle's 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**

P: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P: God of courage, bless all leaders of your church. Make them ready to proclaim the gospel of peace and strengthen them to preach your loving word. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of creation, bless fields and orchards. Protect the land from drought and bring life-giving rain to support growth. Instruct your people in wise treatment of the world you have provided for all your creatures. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples. Give guidance to bridge-builders, heal divisions, and inspire cooperation in times of crisis, disaster, and war. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of compassion, bless all who are in any need. We pray for those on our prayer list: Mary Baker, Michael Bazilius, Alexis Scala, Joyce Henschel, Caleb Johnston, Greg Mckee, Ed Berchert, Todd Costello, John Siebert, Chuck Payne, and Ron Svoboda. Accompany all who are lonely and feeling abandoned and remind them of your abiding presence. Accompany all who are persecuted and exploited and open us to their cries. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of change, bless our transitions. Guide all who are embarking on new stages in life such as a new job, new school, or new community. Sustain enduring friendships and kindle new relationships and interests. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones. We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Renew our confidence in your promise of resurrection and life in the world to come. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

***Peace:** *The peace will be an acknowledgement with your neighbor of God's reconciling love by nod or bow.*

MEAL

Offertory

Offering Prayer

P: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

***Eucharistic Prayer**

***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**

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Communion Hymns:

In the Singing

No. 466

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

No. 461

***Table Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

P: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

***Sending Song:**

On Our Way Rejoicing

No. 537

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude**

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PRAYERS

Prayers for Healing: Mary Baker, Michael Bazilius, Alexis Scala, Joyce Henschel, Caleb Johnston, Greg McKee, Ed Berchert, Todd Costello, John Siebert, Chuck Payne, and Ron Svoboda.

Altar Flowers this morning are given to the glory of God.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Today, Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost, we worship in person and online at 10:00 a.m. with ELW liturgy and Holy Communion.

Thank You to Cindy Piovarchy for providing our accompaniment during this morning's worship service.

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost, we will worship in person and online at 10:00 a.m. with Praise liturgy and Holy Communion.

Pastor's Book Study - *The Universal Christ*. 11:15 a.m. in person and Zoom.

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AVAILABLE
FROM AN USHER UPON REQUEST.**

WORSHIP SERVANTS		
Date	August 22	August 29
Service	10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Song Leader	--	Heather Rohde
Reader	Judy McLaughlin	
Ushers	Bruce Reed	Bruce Reed
Communion Serv-	Melody Costello	Christy Gabler
Sound	Larry Mohler	Larry Mohler
Video	Brian Harris	Rex Rickly
Altar Guild	Mary Dunham	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor's Book Study - The final session of Pastor Bill's book study on Richard Rohr's new work, **The Universal Christ** is next Sunday, August 29. You can join us in person at 11:15 a.m. in the fellowship hall or via Zoom.

Gods Work Our Hands will take place Sunday, September 19. St Matthew will be participating in meal packing with Rise Against Hunger, an organization whose goal is to end world hunger. Please see their website for more information about their mission.

<https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/global-impact/>. We will be packing 10,800 meals!

We will be participating with our cluster churches (Holy Trinity, New Horizons, Our Saviour, and Zion). Holy Trinity in Brunswick will be providing lunch at their outdoor pavilion at 12:30pm before the meal packing event. Please bring your own beverage. The meal packing will begin at 1:45pm at Our Saviour in Hinckley, and should last until around 4pm. Masks are required due to meal prep, and Covid guidelines. Please note that lunch is at Holy Trinity and the packing event is at Our Saviour.

There is also a need for volunteers to help set up at Our Saviour at noon, as well as volunteers for clean up after the event.

An accurate count for both lunch and meal packing is requested from the host churches, as well as if you want to help with set up or clean up. If you are planning on attending either the lunch or meal packing, please RSVP to the church office by Sept 12th. You may email or phone your response. Please indicate what you will be participating in, as well as if you are volunteering for set up or clean up.

Thank you!

Nursery Attendant Needed - Our nursery at St. Matthew is an important service that we provide to our families with young children. It allows the parents the opportunity to worship without the disruption of their children allowing them to fully take in and participate in worship.

We are currently looking for someone to staff the nursery. The right candidate should enjoy children; be willing to play with them; change diapers/help them use the toilet, etc. The position would involve, roughly, 4 hours each Sunday (fall through spring) and 1 ½ hours during the summer and is a paid position.

If anyone in the church is interested, please contact Melody at 330-461-1149. If you know someone who could be a fit, please pass along my contact information for further discussion.

We Are Now Live Streaming on YouTube! Subscribe at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbMSkGvyBcRUoHWduYpW8EA> so you can view worship services as an alternative to Facebook and our videos.

Electronic Offering Updates - If anyone needs help in changing their electronic giving (ACH) through Vanco please feel free to contact Thaddeus Neururer 617-360-1342 or email at thaddeus.neururer@gmail.com.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

HVAC anti-COVID air treatment / Equipment installed earlier this year

No Singing / Restrictions Lifted

Limiting Attendance / Restrictions Lifted

Keep Exterior Doors Open / Restrictions Lifted

Mask Mandate / Masks are now optional

Fellowship After Worship /

Casual fellowship after church is resuming

Ropes to Encourage Social Distance / Ropes removed June 18

Hymnals / Hymnals returned to pews June 18

Communion / Covid protocol still in place

Sharing of the Peace / Covid protocol still in place

Masks and Sanitizer available / Covid protocol still in place

Saturday, August 28

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

**DON'T MISS OUT...
EVERYTHING IS FREE!**

Broadway BLOCK PARTY

LIVE MUSIC by local band, CPR

FOOD JT's BBQ Food Truck
Dan's Dogs Food Truck and Ice Cream
from Chill

MAGIC & BALLOON ART
by Nate the Great

FACE PAINTING
CRAFTS & GAMES
by our High School Youth

RAFFLE BASKETS

- All-Medina Basket
 - Native American Flute Basket
 - Country Made Ice Cream Basket
- and more...

*Please join us, your
friends, and neighbors in the*

**ST. MATTHEW
PARKING LOT**

400 N. Broadway Street
Medina OH 44256

**NEW
FRIENDS**

PARKING
in the
overflow lot,
across the
street, and
Pearl Street at
N. Broadway

*Come
together at
3:30 pm
for a moment
of worship.*

**NEIGHBORHOOD
FELLOWSHIP**

**FAMILY
FUN**

Finance Report for May and Year-to-Date
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
 St. Matthew had the following revenue
 and expenses for June.

	Month of June 2021	Year-to-Date June 2021
Total Revenue	\$ 22,272.17	\$ 176,355.41
Total Expenses	\$ 35,434.51	\$ 181,479.22
Net Operating Revenue	\$ (13,162.34)	\$ (5,123.81)
Net Other	\$ --	\$ 88.62
Net Revenue	<u>\$ (13,162.34)</u>	<u>\$ (5,035.19)</u>

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. William Diehm	Interim Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Bailey	Director of LGL Ministries
John Burke	Organist
Deb Musil	Office Administrator
Joyce Davis	Custodian
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Sue Gircsis	Nursery Attendant
Nancy McNeal	Luther Choir Director
Heather Rohde	Youth Worship Music Director

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM