

St. Matthew's
CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Pentecost Sunday

May 24, 2026

WELS
Christ's Love, Our Calling.

Welcome to St. Matthew's!

We are delighted that you have joined us for worship today! It is our prayer that God would fill you with His grace and peace as we worship our Lord and Savior Jesus. If you have questions about St. Matthew's or would like to speak to one of the pastors, please feel free to reach out to us using the contact information on the back cover.



Joyful Generosity ~ Week Three: Regular and Intentional!

Through his prophet Malachi, the Lord revealed the hearts to the Israelites. They were holding back, they were not trusting the Lord. With strong words the Prophet proclaimed, "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

May our Lord work in our hearts a faith that trusts the Lord to provide, so that with freedom and joy we bring regularly and intentionally worship the Lord with our first-fruit offerings.

For Your Convenience

- ◊ A Hearing Loop system is available; switch your device to the "T" (telecoil) program to connect. Further instructions are available in the Church Office.
- ◊ Restrooms are located down the hallway on the left.
- ◊ A Parents' room is available in the back of the sanctuary for those with small children.
- ◊ A Mother's room, located in the parents' room, offers privacy for nursing mothers.
- ◊ Large Print Service Folders are available from an usher upon request.
- ◊ Please silence your cell phones before worship.
- ◊ View services on Charter 985 on Thursdays at 12PM and 7PM or Sundays at 10AM. You can also visit https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=st+matthews+oconomowoc
- ◊ St. Matthew's is on Instagram. You can follow us @St.MatthewsOconomowoc.

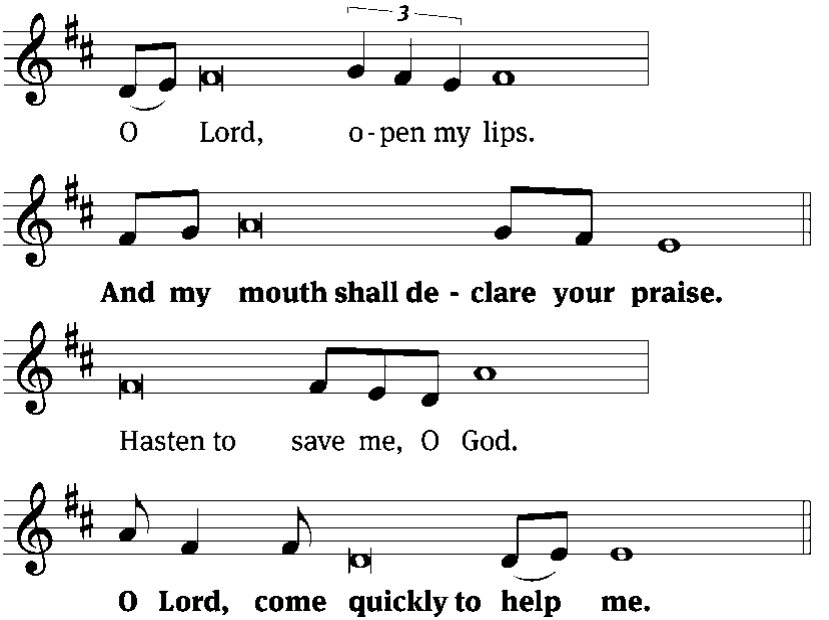
The Order of Worship for
Pentecost Sunday

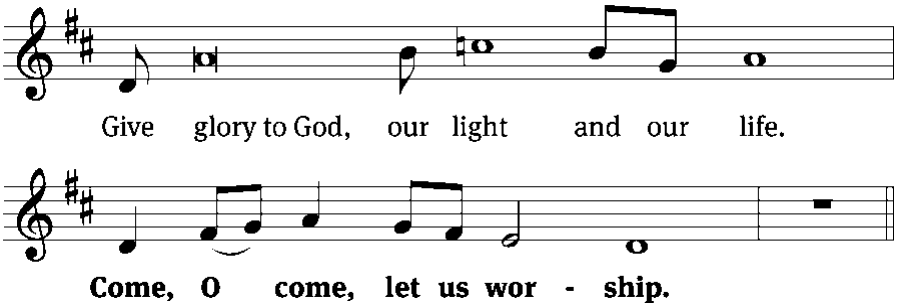
May 24, 2026

MORNING PRAISE

"Morning Praise" is based on the historic service called "Matins." Joined to Christ, our risen Lord, we glorify God as we rise to the activities of this new day.

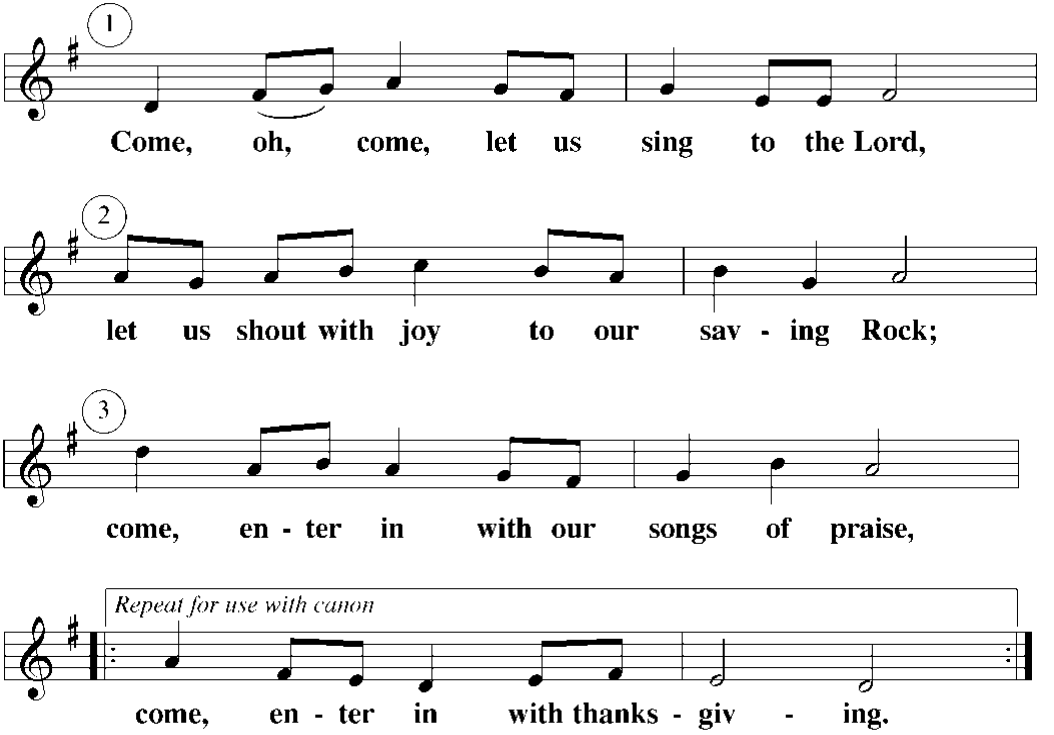
Hymn 624 **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

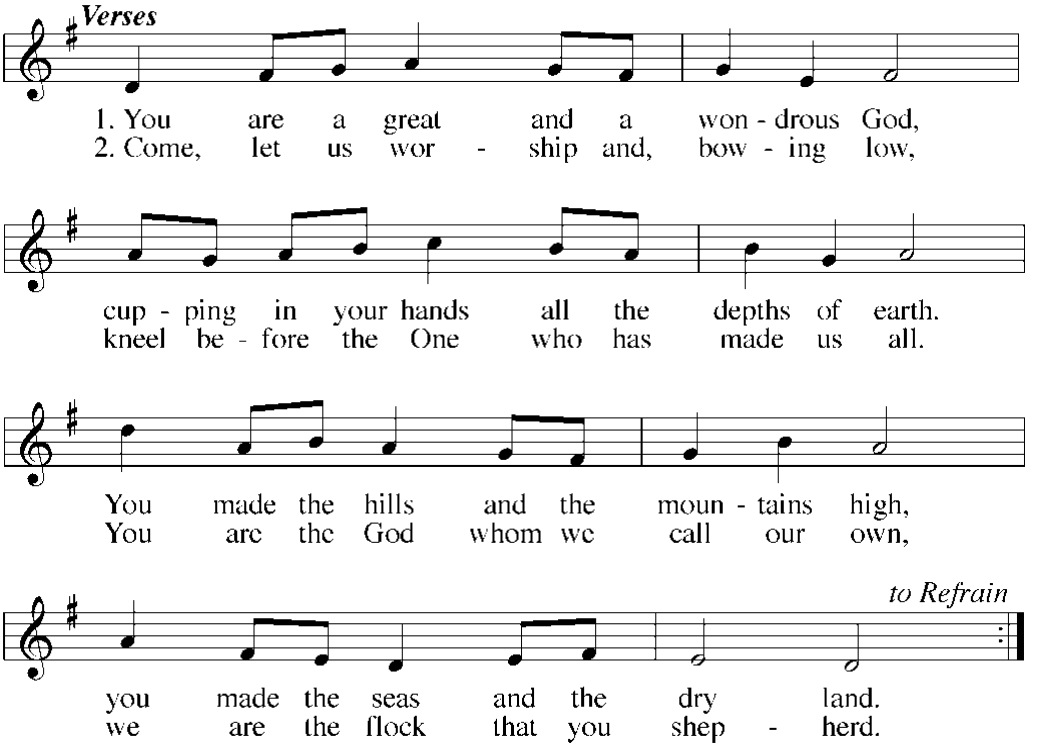




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Come, Oh, Come, Let Us Sing To The Lord





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First Reading — Malachi 3:6-12

One can never "out-give" the Lord, but we can rob him of what is already his. The Lord calls us to trust him with our whole heart and honor him with gifts and offerings of love.

6 "I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. 7 Ever
since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept
them.

Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty.

"But you ask, 'How are we to return?'

8 "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.

"But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?'

"In tithes and offerings. 9 You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are
robbing me. 10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my
house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the

floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. [11]I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the LORD Almighty. [12]"Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67F — May the Peoples Praise You

1 You have called us out of darkest night into your glorious light,
that we may sing the wonders of the risen Christ. (v. 2)

2 May our ev'ry breath retell the grace that broke into our strife
with boundless love and deepest joy, with endless life. (Refrain)

Refrain

May the peoples praise you, let the nations be glad.
All your blessing comes that we may praise, may praise the name of Jesus.

3 All the earth is yours and all within, each harvest is your own,
and from your hand we give to you, to make Christ known. (v. 4)

4 May the seeds of mercy grow in us for those who have not heard.
May songs of praise build lives of grace to spread your Word. (Refrain)

5 This our holy priv'lege to declare your praises and your name
to ev'ry nation, tribe, and tongue, your church proclaim. (Final Refrain)

Final Refrain

May the peoples praise you, let the nations be glad.
All your blessing comes that we may praise, may praise the name of Jesus.
May the peoples praise you, let the nations be glad.
All your blessing comes that we may praise, may praise the name of Jesus.

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Second Reading — Philippians 4:14-20

Gifts of given in love and faith are a "pleasing aroma" to the Lord who promises to meet all our needs.

14 Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. 15 Moreover, as you Philippians know,
in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia,
not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only;
16 for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in
need. 17 Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account.
18 I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that
I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an
acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. 19 And my God will meet all your needs according to
the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

20 To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

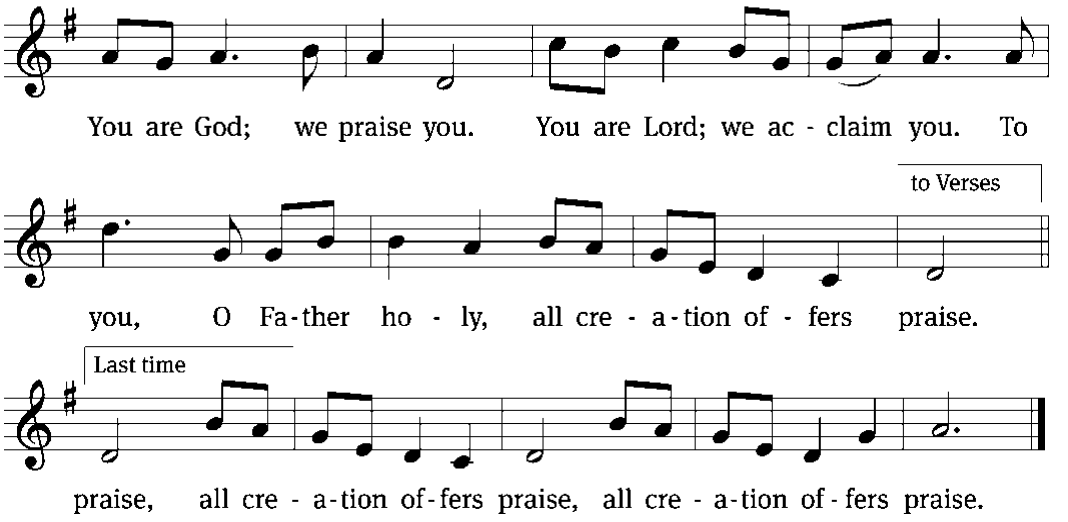
Hymn — I Gave My Life for Thee

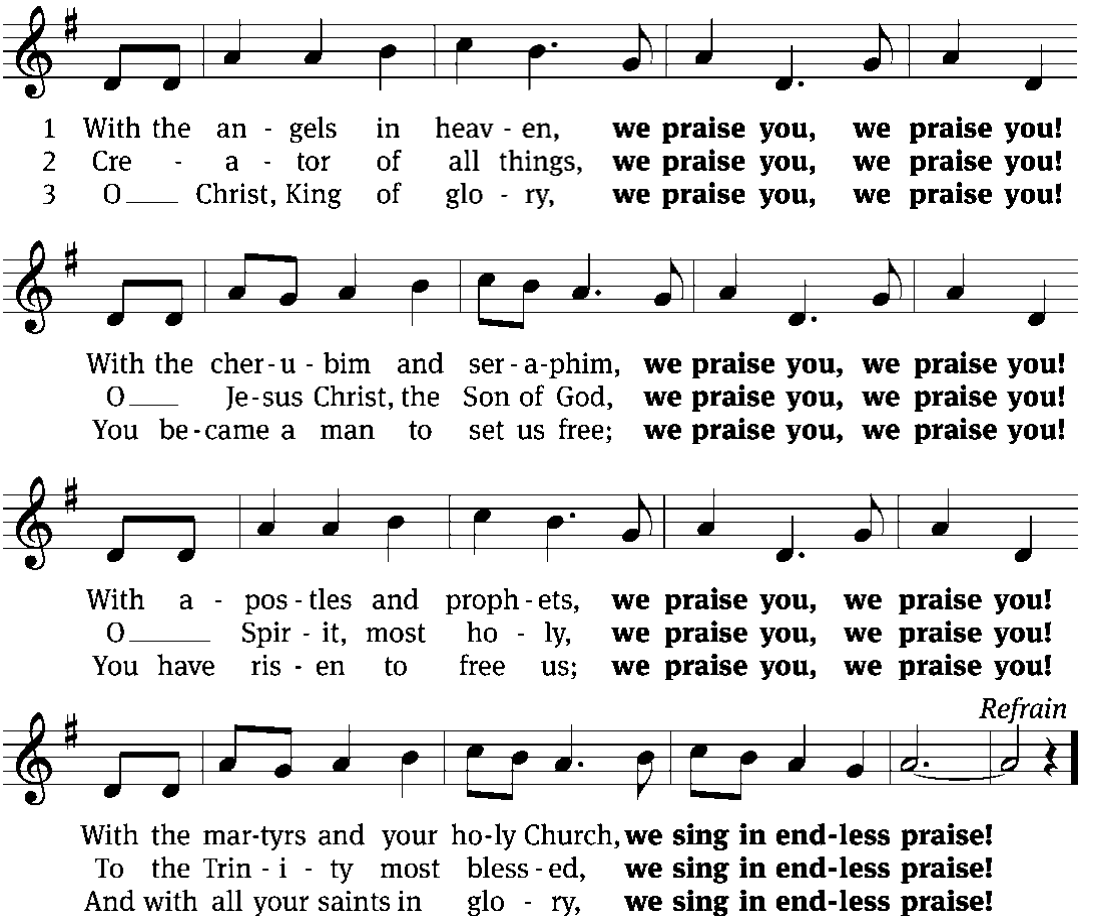
Sermon — Joyful and Generous Doesn't Just Happen

Pastor Philip Bigelow

You Are God; We Praise You

Refrain *Cantor/choir first time; assembly repeats, then sings after each verse*





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Connection Cards and Offerings

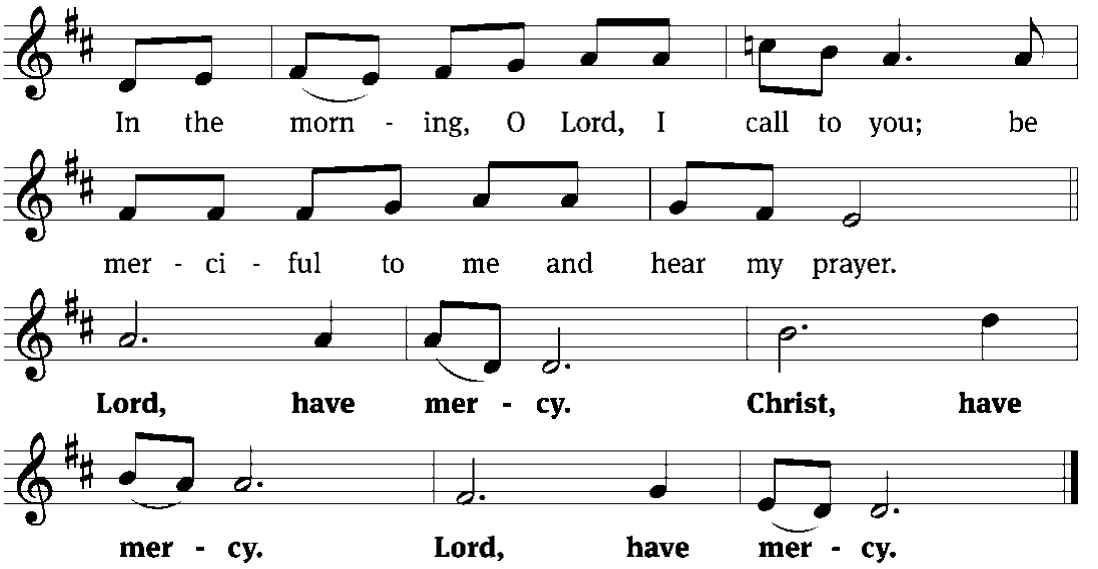
We are delighted you have joined us for worship today and we would love to stay connected with you. To help us do so, please fill out the Connection Card in the seat back. You may place it in the offering plate as the offering is gathered or hand it to one of the ushers. You also have the ability to record your worship or give a gift using the appropriate QR code below. Those who have downloaded the St. Matthew's App can check-in and give offerings directly through the app. You may also text GIVE to 833-921-6451.

Guest Form

St. Matthew's App

Give Online

Lord, Have Mercy



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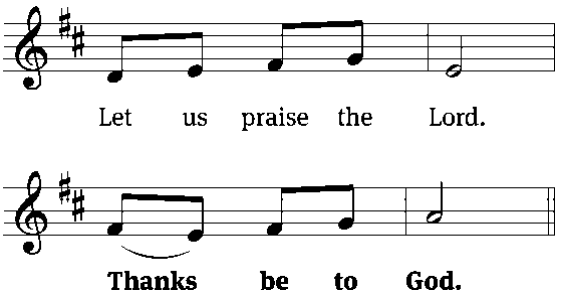
Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

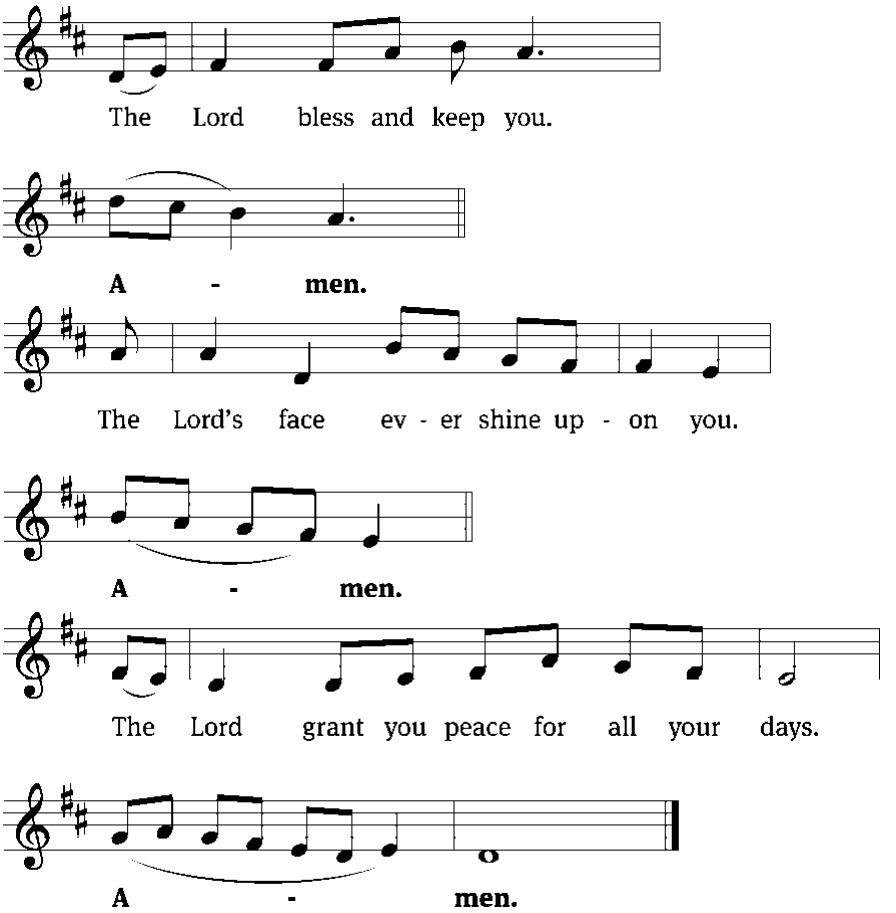
Prayer of the Day

Prayer for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Amen.



Blessing



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Closing Hymn 750 **We Give Thee but Thine Own**

In Our Prayers: We rejoice with **Carl & Christy Courtois** who are celebrating their 20th Wedding Anniversary; and **Dennis & Shirley Gimmel** who are celebrating their 63rd Wedding Anniversary.

Mr. Tom Plitzuweit and Mrs. Beth Plitzuweit have returned their calls to Bethlehem Lutheran School in Menomonee Falls, WI and will continue serving at St. Matthew's.

We give thanks to the Lord for these **"Sons and Daughters of St. Matthew's"** who have received calls into fulltime Gospel Ministry. May God pour out his Spirit upon them as their share the love of Jesus Christ!

Martin Luther College Teacher	WI Lutheran Seminary Pastor	WI Lutheran Seminary Vicar
Annemarie Backus – St. Mark's, Bemidji, MN, grades 3-5 (granddaughter of Ralph & Tracy Schmidt)	**Micah Otto** – Good Shepherd, Omaha, NE (brother of Anna Prost)	**Ethan Cloute** – Beautiful Savior, Marietta, GA (his wife is **Elyse**, daughter of Charlie and Amy Vannieuwenhoven)
Aubrey Bode – Luther Prep, Tutor (fiancé of Matthew Hillmer)	**Marcus Sims** – Spirit of Life, Caledonia, MI (his wife, Maggie, daughter of Rev. Mark & Angie Gabb)	**Benjamin Hillmer** – Santisima Trinidad, Medellin, Columbia (son of Pastor & Jenny Hillmer)
Laura Kopplin – Risen Savior, Milwaukee, grade 1 (brother of Jacob Kopplin)	**Rev. Daniel Waterstradt** – Mt. Calvary, Redding, CA (his wife is **Melissa**, daughter of Jason & Michelle Cox)	**Mason Prost** – Beautiful Savior, Carlsbad, CA (brother of Morgan Prost)
Katie Kutz – Luther Prep, Tutor (granddaughter of Rev. Jim Schneider)	**Rev. Malachi Mortensen** – reassigned as Tutor at Martin Luther College (son of Mara Dahms)	**Seth Weide** – Our Savior, San Antonio, TX (grandson of Curt & Lila Weide)
Heidi Schindler – St John's, Lomira, WI, grades 5-6 (daughter of Christine Schindler)		

Correction: Altar flowers last week were provided by Tim & Carolyn Thiele in memory of Nancy Thiele.

Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Adult Bible Study – *Joyful Generosity*
Join us Sundays at 9:15 as we dive into the topic of ***Joyful Generosity.*** We'll share Biblical principles of stewardship as well as practical resources for your joy-filled response to God's Grace. This prepares us for Commitment Sunday on May 31st as we present our plans to the Lord. It also coincides with the adoption of next year's Ministry Plan to support our Gospel Ministry.

Sunday School and Teen Study
Today is the final day of Sunday School and Teen Study until September. Sunday School will be studying the account of Pentecost. PreK-K meet in the Flex Room (over halfway down the school hallway). Grades 1-6 meet in a Sunday School Room across from the Band Room. Teens, meeting in the room across from the band room, will be studying what it's like to have focused living in Christ.

Thursday "Women in the Word" Bible Class
Join us on Thursdays at 8:30am as we journey through the Book of Esther. See God's amazing wisdom as he works all things for the good of His Kingdom and the salvation of souls.

Men's Bible Breakfast – 2nd Saturdays of the Month
Calling all men to come for a great breakfast and a study of God's Word. Breakfast starts at 7:30am on the second Saturday of each month. Pastor Bigelow is leading the topic, "Connecting Sinai to Calvary."

This Week at St. Matthew's		
Saturday	5:30 pm	Worship Service
Sunday	8 & 10:30 am 9:15 am	Worship Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; Teen Bible Study
Monday	6:30 pm	Church & School Offices Closed
Wednesday	10:00 am	Shorehaven Service
Thursday	8:00 am 8:30 am	SCRIP Orders Due Women in the Word
Saturday	5:30 pm	Communion Service
Sunday	8 & 10:30 am 9:15 am	Communion Service Adult Bible Study

Thank you for Serving our Savior and Us		
	This Weekend	**Next Weekend – May 30 & 31**
Ushers	**Saturday** – Andy Andress **Early –** Jim Fulmer **Late –** Todd Helwig	**Saturday** – Scott Heins **Early –** Eric Wegner **Late –** Toby Brandenstein
Greeters	**Early** – Ralph & Tracy Schmidt **Late** – Mike & Jeanne Ward	**Early** – Dave & Betty Reul **Late** – Eric & Beth Ziel
Hospitality	**Saturday** – Kyle Bence **Early –** Gary & Karen Haertel **Late –** Rudy & Chris Dovnik	**Saturday** – Dan & Liz Schmidt **Early –** Tim & Sandy Torgerson **Late –**
Flowers	School Graduation	Paul & Brenda Pillard – 30th Wedding Anniversary
Organist	Joy Elowski	Pastor Jon Kehren
Special Music	Rejoice!	
Projectionist	**Saturday** – Emily Stewart **Early –** Ava Hillmann **Late –** Harper Gerczak	**Saturday** – Dan Shaw **Early –** Lily Winkelman **Late –** Grace Heins
Sound	**Saturday** – John Stewart **Early –** Rik Krahn **Late –** Rik Krahn	**Saturday** – Char Bouche **Early –** Heather Bigelow **Late –** Kathy Goggins
Livestream	Tim Taubenheim	Tim Taubenheim

Highlights and Announcements

SCAM EMAIL REMINDER
Please be aware of scam emails that appear to come from St. Matthew's pastors or staff. **No St. Matthew's pastor or staff member will ever ask you for money or gift cards.**
A quick check: *hover over the sender's email* ***and*** *review the reply-to address.* If either does not end in **@smls.org**, it is not from us. Some scam emails can appear to come from an SMLS address but redirect replies elsewhere. When in doubt, call the person directly or contact the church or school office to confirm.

Celebrating Mr. Torgerson's Retirement
Join us Sunday, May 31, as we celebrate the retirement of 6th grade teacher Tim Torgerson after 43 years of faithful service. Tim will be recognized during both services, with a cake reception between services as we give thanks for his Christ-centered teaching and the many students and families he has impacted over the years.

Summer Meditations Available
Meditations is an inspiring, personal devotional booklet offering daily Scripture based studies of God's Word. *Meditations* booklets can be found on the information table.

Voters' Meeting – Tuesday, June 9; Open Forum – June 6 & 7
Our Spring Voters meeting date has been pushed back to Tuesday June 9 at 7pm. In preparation for that meeting, we will hold brief presentations after the worship services on the weekend of June 6 and 7. We will also hold and Open Forum between Sunday services. The topic will be our Ministry Plan for 2026-27.

NEW! Children's Giving Envelopes
Children's Giving Envelopes are now available on the table near the Guest Center. We encourage and invite families to pick up a box and use it as a simple way to help teach children the joy of giving to God's church and supporting His work together.

Blue Butterfly Work Night: June 1
Join us for our monthly Blue Butterfly Work Night on June 1 (skipping July) from 4–6:30 PM! Please contact Bev Fulmer by call or text at 262-569-1969 to let her know you're coming.

ACTS Pool Party
All teens in 7th–12th grade are invited to an afternoon of summer fun at the **Lenz's house on Sunday, June 7 from 12–3 PM!** Come enjoy lunch, swimming, yard games, and time with friends. Please RSVP on Sign-up Genius to let us know you're coming!

Save the Date: 20/30s Bonfire & Bible Study
All St. Matthew's 20s/30s adults, join us for three Friday evenings this summer—June 12, July 31, and August 21—at 6:00 PM for bonfires, Bible study, fellowship, and conversation. Locations and topics are still being finalized, but we wanted to share the dates so you can plan ahead. Whether you've joined us before or this would be your first time, we'd love to have you there. Feel free to bring your own beverage and a snack to share if you'd like. More details coming soon!

Mark Your Calendars: Canticum Novum Concert
Canticum Novum will be performing at St. Matthew's on **Friday, June 19 at 7:30 p.m.** They are a WELS chamber choir devoted to proclaiming Christ through sacred choral music, seeking artistic excellence that reflects the Gospel and encourages others in their musical service. More details will be shared soon!

Help Needed!
Help serve behind the scenes! We are need of help across all three of our A/V teams—livestream, soundboard, and projection. Students in 7th grade and up are welcome to join the projection team! If you're interested in learning more about soundboard, livestream, or assisting with projection, please contact the church office at jmanssen@smls.org. All volunteers will receive training and will serve alongside an experienced team member for their first two services.

NEW Shaped to Serve Workshop Dates for 2026!
We're excited to offer another year of our *Shaped to Serve Workshops*—a meaningful opportunity to discover how God has uniquely gifted you to serve. Enjoy fellowship, coffee, and a free Go, Serve, Love T-shirt as you explore your gifts.

Each series includes **three 1-hour sessions between worship services in the small chapel**. Choose from:

- June 7, 14, 21
- September 13, 20, 27
- November 8, 15, 22

Visit **smls.org/events** to sign up. Questions? Email Eric Ziel at eric.w.ziel@gmail.com.

Sip Into Summer Wine Tasting Event
All members age 21+ are invited to a relaxed afternoon of fellowship at our *Sip into Summer Wine Tasting Event* on **June 28, 2026, from 2:00–4:00 pm**. We'll meet at Edwin Brix Vineyard for wine tasting and conversation. Bring a chair, and feel free to bring a snack to share. Questions? Contact Jill Sharp. Sign up by JUNE 20 at smls.org/events.

VBS Registration is Open!
July 20–24 | 8:30 AM–12:30 PM
Get ready for an exciting week at **St. Matthew's Vacation Bible School**, where kids will *"Ride the Wave"* and discover how God is with us through every challenge and joy, based on **Isaiah 43:2**. This fun-filled experience includes Bible stories, music, games, crafts, and friendship. Join us to "Ride the Wave" this summer! **Registration is open now - June 29**

Family Night at the DockHounds
Join St. Matthew's families for a fun night at the ballpark as the DockHounds take on the Milwaukee Milkmen on **Tuesday, June 23 at 6:35 PM** at DockHounds Ballpark. Tickets are $20 each, with $10 supporting St. Matthew's School. To purchase tickets go to https://www.gofevo.com/event/StMatthewsHC26

Note: The Fellowship Committee will also be planning their annual DockHounds Night at a separate date (TBD), providing another opportunity for St. Matthew's church and school families to enjoy a summer evening together at a game.

Acknowledgments
Morning Prayer (alternate) from Christian Worship
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OUR MISSION *COMPELLED BY THE LOVE OF CHRIST,*

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School seek to reach out to our families, community and world, using Law and Gospel to make disciples, growing and nurturing them in their Christian faith and life.

PHILIP BIGELOW
Pastor
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STEVEN HILLMER
Pastor
shillmer@smls.org

MARK VOSS
Pastor
mvoss@smls.org

St. Matthew's
CHURCH AND SCHOOL

First Steps
CHILD CARE CENTER

SCHOOL OFFICE
schooloffice@smls.org

CHURCH OFFICE
churchoffice@smls.org

FIRST STEPS
firststepsoffice@smls.org

WORSHIP SERVICES SATURDAY: 5:30 PM
SUNDAY: 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Christian Education For All
SUNDAY 9:15 AM

Phone :

Church:	262.912.6060
School:	262.912.6364
First Steps:	262.912.6338

Welcome Visitors:
Please fill out the connection card in pew or scan

SCAN ME

Location :
1650 Brown St, Oconomowoc

Social Media:
@StMatthewsOconomowoc

Website : SMLS.ORG