

# EASTER

JESUS IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!



## St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

May 21, 2023

**Ascension of our Lord**  
**Sunday, May 21, 2023**  
(\* indicates the assembly stands)

**Gathering**

Prelude "Prière" L. Boëllmann

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

\*Thanksgiving for Baptism

\*Hymn 393 "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!"

\*Greeting

\*Hymn of Praise 855 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

\*Prayer of the Day

Duet "Church Sonata in F" K. 244 W. A. Mozart

**Word**

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47 (see pg. 4) (sung responsively by full verse)

Second Reading Ephesians 1:15-23

\*Gospel Acclamation "Alleluia!" p. 205

\*Gospel Reading Luke 24:44-53

Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day 579 "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

\*Nicene Creed p. 104

\*Prayers of Intercession **A: Your mercy is great.**

\*Peace

**Meal**

\*Offering Hymn 414 v.1 "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

\*Offering Prayer

\*Great Thanksgiving p. 206

\*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 207

*Thanksgiving at the Table IV	p. 133
*Lord's Prayer ("Our Father in heaven...")	p. 134
Lamb of God	p. 208
Communion Hymns 432, 838	
Table Blessing	
Prayer after Communion	
<b>Sending</b>	
General Announcements	
*Blessing	
*Hymn 392	<i>"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"</i>
*Dismissal	<b>A: Thanks be to God.</b>
Postlude	<i>"Fugue in C"</i> F. Mendelssohn

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**In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven** and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.



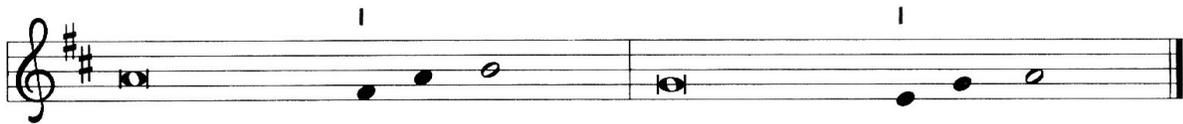
**JOIN OUR MAILING LIST**

Get the newsletter and email updates on upcoming church events, announcements, reminders and service changes.

Contact [info@stmattskw.com](mailto:info@stmattskw.com) today!

## Psalm 47

Tone 1



1 Clap your hands, | all you peoples;  
shout to God with a | joyful sound.

2 For the LORD Most High is | to be feared:  
a great king over | all the earth,

3 who subdues the | peoples under us,  
and the nations un- | der our feet;

4 who chooses our inheri- | tance for us,  
the pride of Jacob, | whom God loves.

5 God has gone up | with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound | of the ram's horn.

6 Sing praises to | God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our | king, sing praises.

7 For God is king of | all the earth;  
sing praises | with a song.

8 God reigns o- | ver the nations;  
God is en- | throned on high.

9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered  
as the people of the | God of Abraham.

The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is high- | ly exalted.

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## Leading Worship Today

**Minister and violinist:** Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

**Assisting Minister:** Linda McLellan

**Diaconal Minister of Music:** Deacon Scott Knarr

**Violinist and Cantor:** Lana Moses

**Broadcast:** Jason Smolak

**Building Monitor:** Steve Dickin (519-580-8407)

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## Worship Notes

**In our prayers** Henry, Marie, Grace, Maureen, Bernice and John.

**All are welcome at the meal** where Jesus is present loving you and forgiving you. The pastor will distribute communion wafers using tongs. Gluten-free wafers are also available; please indicate this request to the Pastor. You may then take a pre-poured wine cup from the larger tray or a juice cup from the smaller tray. If you would (also) like to receive a blessing, please approach the Pastor with your arms crossed over your chest. If you'd like to receive Communion in your pew, the pastor will come to you. Please let an usher or the pastor know before worship if possible.

**Fire Exits:** All Sanctuary fire exits remain operational during lower-level demolition and renovations. This includes the three Narthex (Entrance) doors, the mid-tower door (half-way up the right side), and the staircase at the front left, piano side.

**Church Fire Plan** For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.

## General Announcements

**West Tower Door for Emergency Only.** Due to the ongoing construction planning, when going in to the church house or washrooms, use the west stair tower door and stay on that floor. Use the hallway by the office to the stairway to the floor below. The stairs in the west tower are closed to the lower level sanctuary and should only be used in case of an emergency to exit the building.

**Picnic Sunday June 11th** - The Grand River Ministry Area is celebrating their 4th Annual Church Picnic with five congregations from our Ministry Area participating (All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church, Guelph; St. Matthews Lutheran Church, Kitchener; St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Kitchener; St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kitchener; St. Pauls Lutheran Church, Cambridge). The service of Holy Communion will take place on Sunday June 11th at 10.30 am at St. Luke's Lutheran, 317 Franklin Street North, Kitchener.

Games, Music, Activities for adults and children; Lunch will be served after the worship service; Bring a lawn chair or blanket and/or umbrella for the sun; Seating will include paved area and grassy area.

**Please note there will not be worship at St. Matthews that Sunday.**

### St. Matthews Contact Information

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## Important Information for today's worship

- **Self-Screening:** Members are reminded to continue to perform self-assessments if they have COVID symptoms.
- **Masks:** We support people's choice to wear a mask, and we strongly encourage the following of current guidelines.
- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented at the High Altar during the service.
- **The Peace:** We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Ministers** will be greeting worshippers after the postlude in the Narthex.
- **Please join us for Fellowship Time** after worship in the Fellowship Hall! Use the door nearest to the piano, and follow the signs.



*Social*

Wednesday, May 31st 1-3 pm

FELLOWSHIP HALL

FOOD, CONVERSATION AND MUSIC

(Communion available at 2:30 pm)

Friends are welcome!

Entry: Church Street or Benton Office Door



RSVP: (by May 26) 519-742-0462 / [info@stmattskw.com](mailto:info@stmattskw.com)



## **St. Matthews Lutheran Church**

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