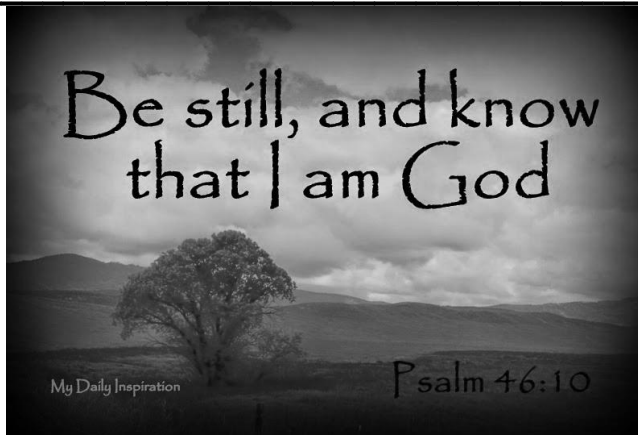


St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Contemplative Worship Service

August 24, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.



Today's service will offer time to think, pray, listen, relax—without any other demands, than to “just be.” In the Gospel from Luke 10, Mary is resting, sitting at Jesus' feet, listening, just being with him. Away from the distractions of everything she is “supposed to do.” Jesus is placing no demands on Mary. He's giving her his time, care, and attention. Pure Gift!

Pastor Christian McMullan

Daniel S. Bower, Music Director

Craig Miller, Director of Youth and Family Ministries

2440 Conestoga Road, Chester Springs, Pennsylvania

610-458-5675

www.stmatthews-church.org

WELCOME

Please stand

GREETING

P: The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

OPENING HYMN

Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing
Praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven
Like the first dew fall on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass

Mine is the sunlight
Mine is the morning
Born of the One Light Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day

Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing
Praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: In the name of God, our Creator,
Redeemer, and Sanctifier.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed
by what we have done**

brief silence

and by what we have left undone.

brief silence

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

brief silence

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

brief silence

Through Jesus Christ, heal our brokenness.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

**so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of ✙ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP

TAIZE

Holy Spirit, Come to Us ELW 406

Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.
Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: O God, you command us to rest and to remember you and everything you have done for us. Help us grasp your grace, renew our mind and body, and rest in your will made manifest in the love and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LECTIO DIVINA

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

A: A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy, the fifth chapter.

¹²Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁴But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. ¹⁵Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Luke 10:38-42

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.

³⁸Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing.[I] Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

TAIZE

Bless the Lord

♩ = 76

p

Dm G Dm B♭ C F A

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

p

Dm G Dm B♭ C Dm

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

p

THE PRAYERS

P: Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

P: Hear us, O God.

P and C: Peace on earth, peace on earth

Lord, hear our pray'r, your peace on earth

Peace on earth, peace on earth

Lord, hear our pray'r, your peace on earth

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please be seated

NOISY OFFERING

OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

In gratitude to God we give out of the abundance that God has given us.

Please stand

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
C: Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to celebrate together your eternal banquet.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

Please be seated

COMMUNION

*This is God's table so all are welcome to join the feast.
Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available.*

P: The kingdom of God is set before you.

Eat and rejoice.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand

BLESSING

P: The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.
C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

You Never Let Go

Even though I walk through the valley
Of the shadow of death
Your perfect love is casting out fear
And even when I'm caught in the middle
Of the storms of this life
I won't turn back I know You are near

And I will fear no evil
For my God is with me
And if my God is with me
Whom then shall I fear
Whom then shall I fear

Oh no You never let go
Through the calm and through the storm
Oh no You never let go
In ev'ry high and ev'ry low
Oh no You never let go
Lord You never let go of me

And I can see a light that is coming
For the heart that holds on
A glorious light beyond all compare
And there will be an end to these troubles
But until that day comes
We'll live to know You here on the earth

And I will fear no evil
For my God is with me
And if my God is with me
Whom then shall I fear
Whom then shall I fear

Oh no You never let go
Through the calm and through the storm
Oh no You never let go
In ev'ry high and ev'ry low
Oh no You never let go
Lord You never let go of me
You keep on runnin' and You never let go
Singin'

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

St. Matthew's Staff

Pastor Christian McMullan cmcmullan71@gmail.com

Daniel Bower, Music Director worship@stmatthews-church.org

Craig Miller, Director of Youth and Family Ministries 484-320-0785

Sandy Elkins, Director St. Matthew's School 610-458-3381

Sara Richardson, Church Administrator 610-458-5675

Sandy Dewees, Cemetery Operations Coordinator 610-458-8121