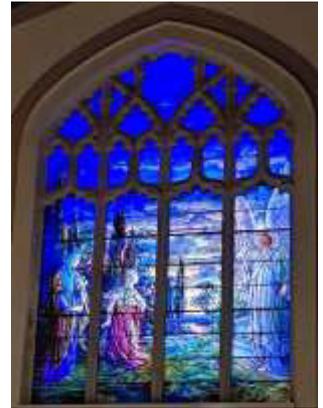


I am the vine,
you are the branches

JOHN 15:5

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Office: 717-637-7101
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 2, @ 10:45 a.m.



WELCOME! ARE YOU NEW? We are a group of people gathered together to make a difference. We seek to make a difference in ourselves, in our neighborhoods, and in our world. We are thankful that you are here today. Check out our website at www.stmattlutheran.org, where you can find out more about us and get connected into our community.

Please tear off and put in the offering basket as you leave:

Names of everyone attending Sunday, **May 2, 2021, at 10:45 a.m.:**

Would you like to be added to our email list? **Please list your name and email address:**

Would you like to be contacted by a pastor? Please list phone number:

**IN ORDER TO BE WORSHIPPING INSIDE THE BUILDING
DURING THIS PANDEMIC, WE MUST OBSERVE THESE GUIDELINES:**

- Wear your mask throughout your time in the church building. If you forgot a mask, one will be provided for you. Make sure it is over both your nose and mouth.
- Practice social distancing (at least 6 feet) always.
- Be respectful to all and help the ushers who are trying to seat everyone properly.
- Do not consider yourself to be an exception to the rules.
- Seating will be as directed by the Ushers with social distancing being practiced (one household unit per pew or 2 individuals.) Pews will be marked for seating. Please be kind and cooperate with the ushers.
- Bulletins, communion cups with wafers and Ziploc baggies (for empty communion cups) will be handed out as you enter. A waste basket for the communion cup baggies is placed at the exits.
- Everyone will exit as directed by the ushers. At the conclusion of the service, wait to be ushered out. The ushers will release everyone a row at a time.
- There will be no nursery care available.
- Please do not stand in Fellowship Hall, the hallways or the Gathering Place having conversation with anyone.
- Offering plates will not be passed. There is a basket at each door.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PRELUDE

Panis Angelicus (O Lord, I Pray to Thee)
(Judy Porowski and Helen Smith, Soloists)

Franck

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: In the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your
Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one
another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.
In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things we have done and things we have failed to do.
Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy
Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

All: Amen.

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN.....*This Is the Day* – Garrett

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made, that the
Lord hath made. We will re - joice, we will re - joyce and be
glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day that the

Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

FIRST READING: 1 John 4:7-16 *We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

Pastor: The word of the Lord.

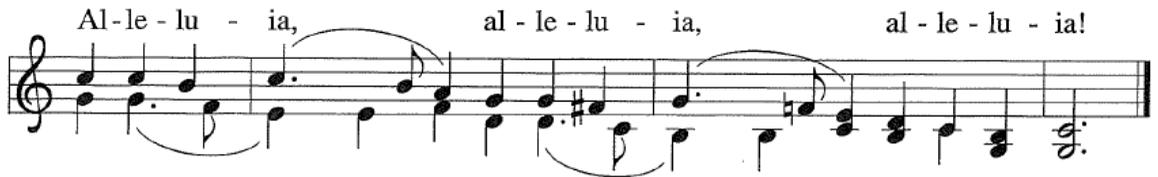
All: Thanks be to God.

(10:45)

Ring and Celebrate
(Pre-School and Primary Choirs)

Nix

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please hum or follow along silently)



Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 15:1-8 *On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.*

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Kathy Vitalis Hoffman

MUSICAL OFFERING

Joy in the Morning
(Judy Porowski and Helen Smith, Soloists)

Sleeth

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Pastor: Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**All: 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

Each petition concludes, "*Hear us, O God.*" and the congregation responds, "*Your mercy is great.*"

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

*(The congregation is invited to greet one another **with nods and waves**)*

THE MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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

All: 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

Pastor: The risen Christ invites us to this table.

Come, eat and be satisfied.

All: Amen.

RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS OF BREAD AND WINE

Pastor: The body of Christ, given for you.

All: Amen. (*Eat wafer*)

(*Pause*)

Pastor: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

All: Amen. (*Drink juice*)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

BLESSING

Pastor: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ – No. 674*



Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

* * * * *

Please note: Music for this service is covered under CCLI # 1000682 –
Also #A-708989 *One License.net*

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Phone: 717-637-7101

General mailbox ext. 221

Email: info@stmattlutheran.org www.stmattlutheran.org

The Rev. Kathryn Vitalis Hoffman, Lead Pastor, ext. 231

The Rev. M. David Kiel, Interim Associate Pastor, ext. 229

The Rev. Faye C. Snyder, Visitation Pastor

Scott G. Fredericks, Minister of Music, ext. 235

Our warm thanks to all those assisting in our worship services this morning:

MusiciansJudy Porowski and Helen Smith, Soloists
(10:45) Preschool and Primary Choirs

Worship Assistants (5:00) Greg and Cathy Frock

Ushers (10:45) Lori & Barry Unger, Scott Livelsberger, Joel Ruths,
Karen Sowers, Irvin Sowers Jr.

Rachel’s Day is observed by Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) annually on the first Sunday in May. Rachel’s Day is a time set aside to mourn the loss of our children and to renounce the forces of violence and fear. The day takes its name from Jeremiah 31:15-17, in which the matriarch Rachel grieves for her children.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS have been given to the Glory of God and in observance of Rachel’s Day, a day on which we uphold the children who are victims of violence and trafficking, by the Women of the ELCA; and in honor of Curtis David and Ladora Stremmel Hoff of Hanover PA who will be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary on May 5, 2021. The couple were married at St. Matthew on May 5, 1951, by Rev. Harry Beidleman. Given in celebration by their eight great grandchildren, Curtis and Lilly Haskin, Penelope, Olivia and Tommy Coyne and Milo Hoff and Cayden Coyne; and in loving memory of Esther M. Losman by Richard and Elizabeth Losman Whipkey.

THE BULLETINS are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ethline Granger by Michael and Cynthia Zinn; and in honor of Curtis David and Ladora Stremmel Hoff of Hanover PA who will be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary on May 5, 2021. The couple were married at St. Matthew on May 5, 1951 by Rev. Harry Beidleman. Given in celebration by their eight great grandchildren, Curtis and Lilly Haskin, Penelope, Olivia and Tommy Coyne and Milo Hoff and Cayden Coyne.

Attendance:	(04/24)	Saturday 5 p.m. service	43
	(04/25)	9:00 a.m. Drive-in service.....	121
		10:45 Worship service.....	101
	(04/19-04/25)	Online views	163
		Total	428

RECOMMENDED SCRIPTURE READINGS for the week of May 2, 2021:

Sunday: John 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 10:1-34

Monday: Galatians 5:16-26

Friday: Acts 10:34-43

Tuesday: James 3:17-18

Saturday: Mark 10:42-45

Wednesday: John 14:18-31

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS for St. Matthew scholarships are available in the church office and on the church website at www.stmattlutheran.org. General college scholarships, a music scholarship and scholarships for anyone pursuing a Christian vocation are all there for you to apply for. Applications must be completed by **Friday, June 4, 2021**. You are eligible to receive the undergraduate scholarship twice and once at the graduate level.





WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

to St. Matthew Lutheran Church this morning:

Lee and Nadine Baughman with sponsor
Jane Lawrence

Richard and Janice Chaney and son Michael with sponsors
Robert and Barbara Strangfeld

Erin and Stephen Dozier and their children, with sponsors
Diane and Lea Coppola

Keith and Jenny Troup and their children
with sponsors Diane and Lea Coppola

Corbin and Tara Wood and their children
with sponsors Drew and Kayla Steffens

St. Matthew Calendar May 2-9, 2021

Sun.	Drive-In Worship with Holy Communion.....	9:00 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave).....	10:45 a.m.
	Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)	6:00-8:00 p.m.
Mon.	Discovery Place Classes.....	8:45-11:15 a.m.
	Girl Scouts	6:30-8:00 p.m.
Tues.	Discovery Place Classes.....	8:45-11:45 a.m.
Wed.	Discovery Place Classes.....	8:45-11:45 a.m.
	Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	10:30-11:30 a.m.
	Primary Choir	4:20-5:00 p.m.
	Junior Choir	4:45-5:30 p.m.
	Bible Study (Zoom).....	7:00-8:00 p.m.
Thurs.	Discovery Place Classes.....	8:45-11:45 a.m.
	NO Preschool Choir	
	NO St. Matthew Ringers	
Fri.	Discovery Place Classes.....	8:45-11:45 a.m.
Sat.	Worship with Holy Communion (Fellowship Hall)	5:00 p.m.
Sun.	Drive-In Worship with Holy Communion.....	9:00 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave).....	10:45 a.m.

GOT A GREEN THUMB AND A HEART TO SERVE? Spring is here! You know



what that means? Time for the garden — the Healthy Hanover Community Garden, that is. St. Matthew is seeking volunteers to take a one-week turn to help weed, water and harvest produce from our plot along Chestnut Street near the porte co-chere. All vegetables will support the Hanover Area Council of Churches, with extra produce donated to other agencies such as God’s Meal Barrel and New Hope Ministries. No real experience necessary but we will be planting soon, so now is the time to act! If you are interested in helping, please contact Gail Mummert, 717-574-6992.



DAY CAMP IS COMING TO ST.

MATTHEW! St. Matthew will be hosting Day Camp this summer on our church property. Day Camp is a program for children who will be entering 1st through 6th grade in the fall of 2021. Staff from Camp Nawakwa will be at St. Matthew

the week of July 19-23 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. While at camp, children will learn about God’s love through playing games, singing songs, doing crafts, and worshipping “camp style.” In addition, St. Matthew will host children who need to come earlier than 9:00 and stay later than 3:00 upon request. This is a wonderful opportunity for young children that will not only be offered to St. Matthew children, but children within the community around St. Matthew. Cost for Day Camp is \$50 per child. A deposit of \$15 is required upon registration that will be applied to the total cost. Scholarships will also be available upon request. If you are interested in registering your child, please contact Kit Curlen (our congregational coordinator), the church office or go to the St. Matthew website: www.stmattlutheran.org to register. Space is limited to 32 children so don’t hesitate in registering your child.

SPONSORING A CHILD FOR DAY CAMP St. Matthew is hosting Day Camp along with Camp Nawakwa the week of July 19-23. (See Summer Day Camp article above). Total cost for Day Camp is \$125 per child. We want this wonderful experience to be affordable for young families and we also see this as an opportunity for outreach in the community. We are seeking folks in the congregation to sponsor a child at Day Camp. Any donation will be accepted, however we are specifically looking for a partial sponsorship of \$75 and/or a full sponsorship at \$125. If you would like to sponsor a Day Camper at any of these amounts (or whatever you can afford), please contact Kit Curlen (our congregational coordinator), or the church office, 717-637-7101 or info@stmattlutheran.org as soon as possible. If you would like to contribute, please make your check out to “*St. Matthew Lutheran Church*” with “*Day Camp*” in the memo line.



"Lord, When Did We See You Hungry?"

THE CARING CUPBOARD NEEDS YOU

During the past year, the Caring Cupboard has provided emergency food relief to countless families and individuals in our community, 24 hours a day/7 days a week, thanks to the tireless efforts of the Social Ministry Team and food donations from members of St. Matthew. Because the Caring Cupboard has demonstrated repeatedly the very deep need for this ministry, we are in the process of transitioning the responsibility of the Cupboard to the Church at large.

The Caring Cupboard now has a Coordination Team consisting of Barbara Strangfeld, Jill Keeney and Andrea Hirsch, and we are currently seeking church families and individuals to volunteer one day per month to monitor the Cupboard to assure the continued supply of emergency food. Monitors are asked to check the Cupboard on their assigned day and insure it is reasonably stocked by bringing donations of food or by using the food stockpile closet located in the Administration Building. The stockpile closet is available during regular office hours, Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The Coordination Team has developed a backup system so that backup help is always available for volunteers. We hope you will consider joining us in this much needed community ministry. If you are able to help, sign below and return in the offering basket, or email the office at info@stmattlutheran.org. Donations of food to the Caring Cupboard are welcome at any time.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

My (Our) Preferred day of the week is: _____

Any Day of the Week Will Work



St. Matthew Youth Group
Chicken Barbecue Dinner Fundraiser
Food Prepared by Miller's Barbecue
Saturday, June 19, 2021

10:30am - 1:00pm (or until Sold Out)

If you do not pick up your pre-ordered meal by 1pm, it will be donated

Pickup Location: St. Matthew Lutheran Church
30 West Chestnut St. Hanover

\$10 Meal includes: ½ BBQ Chicken, Baked Potato, Apple Sauce and
Roll w/butter

Orders and Money Due by Sunday, June 6

Pre-orders are Recommended

Please contact *info@stmattlutheran.org*

Bring orders in an envelope to the church office, put into collection plate or
give to youth group

Baked Goods and Beverages will be available for additional donations

Number of dinners purchased: _____

Keep top ticket for redemption

Return bottom ticket with payment to church

Sold to: _____

Phone number: _____

Number of dinners purchased: _____

**Sunday, May 23
at Drive-in Worship**

FILL OUR TRUCK WITH YOUR DONATIONS FOR



Golden Visions
Adult Day Services

PLEASE HELP...

by donating any of the following items...

Laundry Detergent	Dryer Sheets
Dish Detergent	Computer Paper
Envelopes	Stamps Tape
Paper Towels	Toilet Paper
Pudding or Jello	
Cake or Cookie Mix	
Snacks -Individual packs or Large bags	
DVD of old Movies or Shows	

For the indoor services, there will be a box in the Gathering Place and in the Elevator Lobby for your donations.

Checks made out to 'St. Matthew Lutheran Church' with 'Golden Visions' in memo line

Thank you for helping!

Mother's Day

NEXT WEEK we celebrate God's love as we honor and remember mothers and those who provide motherly care. Muffins will be offered at all services.

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY has begun. This week, Pastor Kathy will be leading the Bible Study on next week's Gospel reading, **John 15:9-17**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m. and by Zoom at 7:00 p.m. Please e-mail the office at info@stmattlutheran.org or call 717-637-7101 to sign-up.

M&M FUNDRAISER



**ENJOY THE CANDY!! WHEN YOU ARE DONE,
FILL IT BACK UP WITH QUARTERS.
EMPTY THE TUBE OF QUARTERS INTO THE BAGGIE
and PLACE IN THE OFFERING BASKET.**

**We invite you to do this as often as you would like!!
THANK-YOU for supporting this Youth Ministry
Fundraiser as we prepare for the next ELCA Youth Gathering.**

FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Psalm 22:25-31**SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this

way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17.

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Tracks 1 and 2
ELCA-R