

Welcome to St. Matthews

"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ."

We are honored to have you worship with us today and we hope that you will receive a warm welcome and experience the presence of our Lord in a significant way.

FAMILY JOYS AND CONCERNS – Please share!

PRAYER FOR JOYS AND CONCERNS

*****FRIENDSHIP PAD – Please sign and include any contact info updates.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP 1 Peter**

Let us offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God,
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

OPENING HYMN *He Is Making All Things Right* Page 729

CALL TO CONFESSION 1 Peter, Psalm

Whoever believes in Christ will not be put to shame.
Confident in this promise,
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION 1 Peter

**Almighty God,
your word offers freedom from sin,
but we confess that we have not obeyed your word.
We have harbored malice toward our enemies;
we have been deceitful in our relationships;
we have been insincere in our commitments;
through gossip we have slandered our friends.
Forgive us our sins and lead us to genuine repentance.
Help your children long for your pure, spiritual milk
that we may grow into the joy of salvation
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Sisters and brothers,
once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.
In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Tiffany Lakatosh

"THE PASSING OF THE PEACE"

PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE FOR OFFERING 2 Corinthians 8:12-24 Page 941

"For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have. For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness."

MIDDLE HYMN *Sovereign Ruler of the Skies* Page 83

SCRIPTURE READING

New Testament

1 Peter 4:12-17 Page 986

"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?"

Psalm

Psalm 34:15-19 Pages 441 and 442

"The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry. The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their

troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.”

SERMON **Pastor Wil Hoffman**

Sermon Title **“Freedom in the Fire”**

Sermon Scripture **Daniel Chapter 3 Page 719 and 720**

Sermon Notes

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (APOSTLES CREED)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
and in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the universal Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***THE LORD’S PRAYER – 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen**

***CLOSING HYMN** *God Leads Us Along* **Page 633**

***CLOSING PRAYER**

***CONGREGATIONAL SONG RESPONSE – ALL** *Go Now In Peace*

***Go now in peace; never be afraid, God will go with you each hour of every day. Go
now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go
now in love, and show you believe, reach out to others, so all the world can see. God
will be there, watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen.
Amen. Amen.***

(CCLI #2810357 Don Besig)

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, May 3	5th Sunday of Easter New Member Class #3 of 3	-Sanctuary, 9am -Fellowship Hall 10:30am -Office Open 10am -2pm
Monday, May 4	Exercise Group Luke Bible Study	-Gathering Rm, 10:30am -Lg classroom, 6:30pm
Wednesday, May 6	Bible Study	-Office Open 10am – 2pm -Lg classroom, 6:30pm
Thursday, May 7	Exercise Group 1st Thursday Game Day	-Office Open 10am – 2pm -Gathering Rm, 10:30pm -Lg classroom, 12:30pm
Sunday, May 10	6th Sunday of Easter Mother's Day	-Sanctuary, 9am

Pastor: Wil Hoffman

Council President: RJ Cramer

May Lead Usher – Jamie Garita

Altar Flowers

Vase #1 – In memory of Mae Borger

Vase #2 – In memory of Jerry Haydt

❖ **May Joyful Noise is Cystic Fibrosis**

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation was established in 1955 to assure the development of the means to cure and control cystic fibrosis and to improve the quality and length of life for those afflicted with this disease. The Foundation creates and funds innovative research designed to save children's lives.

- ❖ **St. Matthew's apparel – hats, t shirts and sweatshirts.** Order blanks are on the informational table. Orders and payment is due today.
- ❖ **Iron Pigs Game – August 14th, \$13 per ticket.** Sign up sheet is on the information table - deadline is May 17th.
- ❖ **Car Show trophy sponsors needed - \$38 each. See Magen Snyder**
- ❖ **June 14th – graduation Sunday.** Forms are available on the information table. Deadline for submission is May 24th.



St. Matthew's EC Church Kunkletown
May 3, 2026
102 Church Rd, Kunkletown, PA 18058
610-381-2442, stmatts@ptd.net
www.stmattsecckunkletown.com

St. Matthew's Prayer List – May 3, 2026

KINGDOM WORK:

- **Sister Helena** – Zambia – raising chickens, growing vegetables feeding the children and can now put a roof on facility
- **Randy & Deb Sheagley** – Touch the World website

MILITARY:

- **Major James Beidleman** (son of Kathy and Brian Beidleman): Pilot at Dover Air Force Base
- **LT Noah Krechel** (Grandson of Henry and Doris Krechel): Serving in the US Navy stationed in Norfolk, VA
- **Logan Mackes** (Grandson of Rose Fritz): Serving in the U.S. Army in Poland
- **Bryce Silliman** (Irene and Dean Zacharias' grandson) US Navy
- **Conner Wise** (Hal's cousin's son): U.S. Marine deployed to Iwakuni, Japan (via Hawaii & Guam) for 6-9 months.

LONG-TERM NEEDS:

- **John Armbruster** (friend of Rose Fritz): immunotherapy for a year
- **Conner Bittenbender** (Bittenbender Family Member): Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy; lab test results & healing
- **Roberta Heffley** (Eleanor Long's Sister): Cancer
- **Wade Koehler** (Vivian Smith's friend)
- **Shannon Osinski** (wife of James Osinski) Ehlers Danlos Syndrome
- **Eileen Ravalico** (Roy Zeruth's friend): Cancer
- **Sheila Sherer** (Eleanor Long's Niece): Fluid on her brain
- **Scott Smith** (Doris and Henry's son-in-law): Cancer
- **Hudson Stewart** (Bittenbender Family Member): Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy; no symptoms yet

SHUT INS:

- **Gloria (Jeannie) Anewalt:** Walden Building III, Room 118, 325 N. Broadway, Wind Gap, PA 18091
- **Lois Bachman** (Homer Borger's sister): 6714 PA Rt 873, Slatington PA 18080
- **Gene and Sandy Borger** – P.O. Box 907, Kresgeville PA 18333
- **James Borger**—526 Wood Street, Apt 439, Bethlehem PA 18018-4463
- **Kyle Frable**—104 5K Lane, Kunkletown PA 18058

- **Joann Hunsicker**—Mrs. Bush's Personal Care—2W, P.O. Box 327, Kunkletown PA 18058
- **Shirley Kuntz**—Getz Personal Care Home, 1026 Scenic Dr, Kunkletown PA 18058
- **Gladys Meixsell**—Stroudsburg Post Acute Nursing and Rehabilitation, 4227 Manor Dr, Stroudsburg PA 18360
- **Jacqueline Mock**—Mrs. Bush's Personal Care—P.O. Box 327, Kunkletown, PA 18058
- **Marlette Palermo** – 276 Bollinger Rd., Kunkletown PA 18058
- **Velma Silfies**—Mrs. Bush's Personal Care, 302 Kunkletown Rd, Kunkletown PA 18058
- **Leah Jane Sterner**—300 Covered Bridge Rd, Kunkletown PA 18058
- **Jesse Ziegenfus**—Brookmont Healthcare Ctr, 510 Brookmont Dr, Effort PA 18330

PRAYERS NEEDED FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING:

- **Helen Alpaugh/2**
- **Harry Eckhart/4**
- **Mary Eckhart/4**
- **Rich Frantz/3**
- **Brenda Hawk/4**
- **Dawn Hockman/2**
- **Tiffany Lakatosh and family/3**
- **Jean** (Robbin Eckhart's mother)/3
- **June Strohl** (Marie Christman's friend)/3
- **Dora Tartar/1**

** indicates changes from last week. For additions, updates or removals, please contact the Church Office at 610-381-2442 or complete and return a Prayer Card.*