

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.

PRELUDE

WELCOME EVERYONE!

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**

(L) Come, all who seek to know the Lord!

(ALL) We come, asking God to increase our faith!

(L) The Lord responds: "Even faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains."

(ALL) We trust not in the size of our faith, but in the greatness of our God!

(L) Come, let us worship the One who makes the impossible possible.

(ALL) To Him who can uproot trees and plant them in the sea!

(L) We gather not as heroes seeking glory, but as servants finding joy.

(ALL) We are God's people, called to faithful service!

(L) Let us worship with humble hearts and willing hands.

(ALL) We have done only what we ought to do—we worship because He is worthy!

(L) Come, let us place our trust in the God who is faithful.

(ALL) Our small faith rests in His great love!

All: Let us worship the Lord with gladness and serve Him with joy! Blessed be the name of the Lord!

***OPENING HYMN**

Page 190 – ‘My Jesus, I Love Thee’

CALL TO CONFESSION

We turn to God in praise and prayer not from a position of power and strength, but from the broken edges of our lives, from the broken edges of the world and the church. We offer our prayers of confession, trusting in the One who is reconciling all things.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and gracious God,

We come before you as people who ask you, “to increase our faith.”

Yet, we shy away from your call to have faith the size of a mustard seed.

We want more. We busy ourselves with what is meaningless rather than resting in you. We choose to dress up our tables to please the world, rather than feeding those who hunger. We believe we deserve special praise, forgetting our call is to love as you have loved us. Help us to remember whose we are and to live faithful lives. Nurture us to grow to be the faithful disciples you have called us to be.

In the name of the Good Shepherd, Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

If we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

Therefore, consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.²

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

TIFFANY LAKATOSH

“THE PASSING OF THE PEACE”

PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE FOR OFFERING

Matthew 6:31- 33

31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’

32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

MIDDLE HYMN

Page 101 - ‘Come, Let Us Return to the Lord’

Sermon Notes:

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING John 21:15-29

15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.”

16 He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.”

17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.

18 Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go."

19 (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”

SERMON

What keeps the Church alive?

(Sustaining the early church)

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, dead and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy general 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

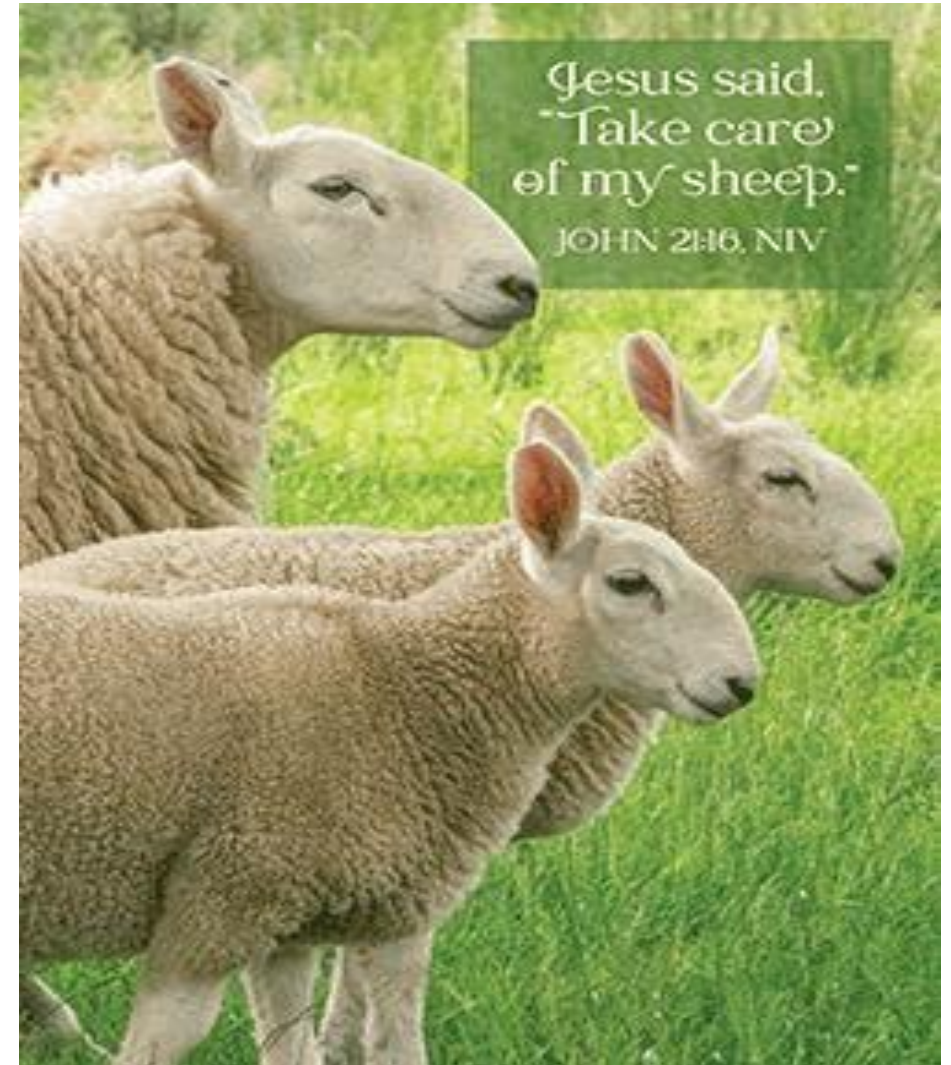
Page 438 – ‘A Charge to Keep I Have’

*CLOSING PRAYER

*CONGREGATIONAL SUNG 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)



St. Matthew's EC Church Kunkletown
October 5, 2025

102 Church Rd, Kunkletown, PA 18058
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www.stmattsecckunkletown.com

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, Oct. 5		-Sanctuary, 9am
	New Member Class- #3	-Social Hall, 10:30am
Monday, Oct. 6		-Office Open 10am -2pm
	Exercise Group	-Common Room 10:30am
Wednesday, Oct. 8		-Office Open 10am – 2pm
Thursday, Oct. 9		-Office Open 10am – 2pm
	Exercise Group	-Common Room 10:30am
Sunday, Oct. 12		-Sanctuary, 9am

Altar Flowers:
Vase #1 – Happy 15th Anniversary Colin and Cayle, Love Mom
Vase #2 – available for purchase - \$15

Pastor: Wil Hoffman	Council President: RJ Cramer
Children’s Ministry Director: Tiffany Lakatosh	Church Secretary: Renée Keiper
October Lead Usher: Mitch Hawk	

- ❖ **Apologies to those that have an October birthday that didn’t appear in the White Dove.** The report that was created in Realm missed these folks: Gerald Kresge, Jonathan Petzold, Karol Meitzler, Steven Kocher, Justine Shirghio, Brian Snyder, Barry Greenzweig, Larry Hahn, Jennie Rose Serfass, Tracy Smith, Bill Slawter, Tom Hockman, Corey Peddigree, Eleanor Long, Yvonne Hosler, Kerry Peddigree and Sherry Shupp.
- ❖ **The Prayer Team is looking for volunteers to join the team. See Pastor Wil.**
- ❖ **Greeters are needed – see Brenda Sheckler if you are interested.**
- ❖ **October Joyful Noise –Pediatric Cancer Foundation of Lehigh Valley**
We provide family-centered programs and services throughout all stages of the pediatric cancer journey with compassion and integrity.
- ❖ **New Hymnal dedication slips on the table in the Common Room. \$20 for each dedication.**

- ❖ **Please consider using your free Bill Pay service offered by banks & credit unions.** Payments are sent by your bank via paper check. You can choose a one-time payment or set up a recurring one. We currently have 12 families that use this feature. Checks are mailed to the Church during the week & added to the offering collected on Sunday.
- ❖ **Shoebox deadline is only 1 1/2 months away!!**
Please start thinking about filling the shoe boxes you took last year. Fill them to the brim with lots of toys, crafts, needed items. Check the table for the pamphlet in the Gathering Room for ideas. You do not need a red and green box to fill with items. Any shoe box will do. We provide the labels. Please be age and gender specific, as it helps with the processing.



- ❖ **October 12th – Eldred Twp. Historical Society Bingo in the Social Hall. Doors open at 12pm, bingo starts at 1pm.**
- ❖ **October 12th – Hymn Sing, Tamaqua Bethany EC Church at 3pm.**
- ❖ **October 19th – Special Guest Speaker – Denise Jaramillo, Executive Director of Community EC in Sinking Springs.**
- ❖ **October 25th – Family, Faith and Fun Night 3pm – 5pm.**
- ❖ **October 28th – Visitation Team Meeting 9am.**
- ❖ **November 1st –Annual Bazaar. Laymen’s Fellowship is asking for donations of items valued at \$25 or more for the Pa Dutch Raffle.**