

*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.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FAMILY JOYS AND CONCERNS – Please share!**

**PRAYER FOR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

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

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 68**

(L) Let the righteous be joyful!

(L) Let them rejoice before God.

**(ALL) Let us all be jubilant with joy!**

(L) Sing to God, all peoples of the world.

(L) Sing praises to God most high.

**(ALL) From the sanctuary of heaven,**

**(ALL) God gives life and renews the face of the earth.**

(L) Let the righteous be joyful!

(L) Let them rejoice before God.

**(ALL) Let us all be jubilant with joy!**

**OPENING HYMN *Only a Holy God* Page 11**

**CALL TO CONFESSION 1 Peter**

God not only desires our repentance,

but longs to offer us forgiveness.

Therefore, cast all your anxiety on God,

because God cares for you eternally.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**We confess that we have silenced Your voice when it challenged our comfort.**

**We have ignored Your prompting to speak words of truth and love.**

**We have divided ourselves by fear, prejudice, and pride, rather than living in the unity of Your Spirit.**

**We have sought our own strength instead of relying on Your power.**

**We have been slow to share the good news, hesitant to serve, and reluctant to forgive.**

**Lord, in the quiet of this moment, we bring before You the ways we have fallen short.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON 1 Peter**

The spirit of God is resting on you,

to restore, support and strengthen you.

Therefore, be at peace in the One who forgives and loves you;

rise up and give God thanks.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Gabby Bentley**

**"THE PASSING OF THE PEACE"**

**PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE FOR OFFERING**

Deuteronomy 8:11-14, Page 145

"Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you [today](#).

When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery"

**MIDDLE HYMN *Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God* Page 865**

**SCRIPTURE READING Linda Koehler**

**New Testament Scripture**

**Luke 14:7-11, page 849**

"When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

## **Psalm**

### **Psalm 33:8-12, Page 441**

“Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm. The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage. The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind. From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth—”

**SERMON     Pastor Wil Hoffman**

**Sermon Title   “Stepping on the Scale”**

**Sermon Scripture   Daniel Chapter 5**

**Sermon Notes**

### **\*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    *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*     Page 465**

### **\*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 24	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	-Sanctuary, 9am
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day	-Office closed
Wednesday, May 27		-Office Open 10am – 2pm
	Bible Study	-Lg classroom, 6:30pm
Thursday, May 28		-Office Open 10am – 2pm
	Exercise Group	-Gathering Rm, 10:30pm
Sunday, May 31	Band and Breakfast	-Sanctuary, 9am

Pastor: Wil Hoffman

Council President: RJ Cramer

May Lead Usher – Jamie Garita

### ❖ **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.

### ❖ **Car Show trophy sponsors needed - \$36 each. See Magen Snyder**

### ❖ **June 14<sup>th</sup> – graduation Sunday.** Forms are available on the information table. **Deadline for submission is today.**

### ❖ **Laymen's Fellowship will be having the PA Dutch Raffle** at our Annual Strawberry Festival on Sunday, June 21. We would greatly appreciate items for the raffle, valued at least at \$25. Please bring your donation to the Church no later than **June 14**. Thank you in advance for your support.



**St. Matthew's EC Church Kunkletown**

**May 24, 2026**

102 Church Rd, Kunkletown, PA 18058

610-381-2442, [stmatts@ptd.net](mailto:stmatts@ptd.net)

[www.stmattseckunkletown.com](http://www.stmattseckunkletown.com)

## St. Matthew's Prayer List – May 24, 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
- **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

- **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:

- **Darryl Breinich/5\***
- **Lee Byrne's son/5\***
- **Harry Eckhart/1**
- **Mary Eckhart/1**
- **Deb Everett** (Sue Hamlin's sister)/3
- **Kyle Frantz/3**
- **Brenda Hawk/1**
- **Rosa Hawk** (friend of Rose Fritz)/5\*
- **Charles Prince** (Sue Hamlin's father)/3
- **Jean** (Robbin Eckhart's mother)/4
- **Calvin Smith** (Angie Procita's dad)/4
- **June Strohl** (Marie Christman's friend)/1
- **Susan** (Justin Guyer's friend)/4
- **Tom** (Pat Martin's neighbor)/4

### BEREAVEMENT:

- **Brenda** (Wendy Peddigree's stepmother)/4
- **Lois Bachman** (Homer Borger's sister)/5\*
- **Joann Hunsicker**(Penny Hawk's mother/5\*