November 1, 2026 Worship • 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints Sunday

St. Matthews United Methodist Church

Prelude — *Meditation on Beautiful Savior* — Cathy Moklebust

† Call to Worship

In all our weakness and strength,
with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,
we come to be your people, O God.
Strong in faith and eager with questions,
singing our praise and whispering our prayers,
we come to be your people, O God.
Filled with saintly determination
yet mindful of our human limitations,
we come to be your people, O God.
Made strong in your endless love for us,
we know ourselves to be yours and
we come to be your people, O God.
May we truly become your people today. Amen.

† Hymn 711 — *For All the Saints* — SINE NOMINE

† Affirmation of Faith — *A Modern Affirmation*

Where the Spirit of the Lord is,
There is one true church, apostolic and universal,
Whose holy faith let us now declare:

We believe in God the Father,
infinite in wisdom, power, and love,
whose mercy is over all his works,
and whose will is ever directed
to his children's good.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of god and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance
from sin and death.
We believe in the Holy Spirit
as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance
of the truth of Christ,
and find strength and help in time of need.
We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love
as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,
to the end that the kingdom of God
may come upon the earth.

† Gloria Patri 70 — *Glory Be to the Father* — MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

(11:00) Children's Moment

Offertory

(8:30) Aaron Weaver, baritone — *More Holiness Give Me* — Philip Paul Bliss

(11:00) Sanctuary Choir — *Song of the Wanderer* — Dan Forrest

The barren land around me lies, my flame is burning low;
Cold and pale the winter skies, and I am far from home.
With my light that burns so dim, am I visible to Him?
Does He hear creatures here below?

He wakes the lark and bids her fly to greet the coming spring.
Wakes our hearts and bids us rise then gives our spirits wings.
He speaks and winter melts away,
hears when we come to pray,
Turns our night time into day our Light, our Life, our King.

Glorious joy of summer sun, the gentle healing rain,
Banishing our tears and sighs, with beauty for our pain.
Earth and sky, lay glory by Christ, the Lord, is drawing nigh!
All creation, bow to Him from whom all blessings flow!

Bows the wind, and soon will come the autumn of the year.
With its golden light of love still shining ever clear.
From the rising of the sun to the place where day is done,
Peace on earth has now begun to cast away our fear.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

† Doxology 94 — *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* — LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

† Prayer of Thanksgiving

† Hymn 529 — *How Firm a Foundation* — FOUNDATION

† Scripture Reading

Hebrews 10:21-25 (NIV)

21 and since we have a great priest over the house of
God, 22 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart
and with the full assurance that faith brings, having
our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty
conscience and having our bodies washed with pure
water. 23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we
profess, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let
us consider how we may spur one another on
toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up
meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing,
but encouraging one another—and all the more as
you see the Day approaching.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon — Rev. Adam Sparks — The Generous Life: Connected Through Presence

A Service of Word and Table II
Page 12, United Methodist Hymnal

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
Musical Setting A
Page 17, United Methodist Hymnal

Remembering the saints:
Geneva Madden
Angelo Vaccaro

The Lord's Prayer

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. Amen.

† Hymn 670 — *Go Forth for God* — GENEVA 124

† Benediction

† Closing Voluntary — *Postlude on* OLD HUNDREDTH — Fred Bock

† As you are able, please stand.

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St. Matthews United Methodist Church

extends a warm welcome in the name of Jesus Christ to all those who worship with us today. If you are a guest this morning, we are grateful for the opportunity to worship with you and hope you will return often.

Wednesday Night Live! — Our weekly evening of food, fellowship, and small group opportunities begins with dinner at 5:00 p.m. This week's dinner is homemade vegetable soup, grilled cheese sandwiches, Waldorf salad, cake and brownies. Plain fruit (apples, grapes) will also be available for children. Dinner prices are $7 for adults, $4 for children, with a family maximum of $25. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

Whatever Works Wednesdays — Homework? You got it! Air hockey with Pastor Judy? Game on! Need a nap? No problem! All youth are welcome to grab dinner, hang out in the youth suite, and do their thing. Keep an eye out for special nights featuring fun surprises!

Beyond the Youth Group — A new ministry for those who are too old for Youth Group and younger than Millennials. This is an inclusive and diverse space for all persons, offering support, community, spiritual formation, and of course plenty of shenanigans. We meet on Wednesday nights, including a free meal for all young adults!

Discerning God's Will Together Small Group — Next Wednesday we will begin a new small group, Discerning God's Will Together. Based on a book by the same title, we will explore moving from a decision-making church model to one prayerfully following the Holy Spirit's leading. We will focus on key questions like "What do we sense God doing?" and "How can we join in?" Please RSVP by emailing asparks@stmumc.org. Participants are responsible for purchasing their own books, which are available online in paperback and digital versions. The reading schedule is below. The class will be from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

- Week 1, November 4 What?, Introduction and Chapter 1
- Week 2, November 11 Why?, Chapter 2
- Week 3, November 18 Who?, Chapter 3
- Week 4, December 2 How?, Chapter 4
- Week 5, December 9 Where?, Chapter 5

Staff Appreciation — The Staff-Parish Relations Committee invites you to join us as we celebrate and recognize all of our staff members at a **Staff Appreciation Lunch today, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service.** Please come share a meal, fellowship, and gratitude as we honor those who serve our congregation throughout the year.

Our MISSION is to strengthen Christian faith and service through our ministries, worship, and programs, calling all people to seek God, share the Gospel, and serve their neighbors.

Serving in Worship Today

Greeters (8:30) — Martha & Rick Shafferman
Greeters (11:00) — Diane Koprowski, et al
Liturgist (8:30) — Paul Powell
Liturgist (11:00) — David O'Bryan
Communion Servers (8:30) — Carrie Jarboe, Paul Powell
Communion Servers (11:00) — Emily & Ctibor Sustek
Collection Steward (8:30) — Rick Shafferman
Collection Steward (11:00) — Alan Wild

Church Staff

Rev. Adam Sparks — Senior Pastor
Judy Noel Saunders — Associate Pastor
Yoel Escriba — Associate Pastor
Harrison Zoercher — Director of Discipleship & Missions; Organist
Shannon Seidt — Director of Children's Ministries
Aaron Weaver — Director of Music Ministries
Sandy Hottell — Administrator/Financial Secretary
Allyson McCormick — Nursery Coordinator

In Our Prayers

Gabriel Baldridge
Charlie Boyette
Gary Chapman
The Cox Family
Pam Cox
Corky Hall
Suzanne Hartman
Kristie Jones
Sandy Jones
Jim Meador
Connie Mele
Stephanie Miller
Jane Mills
Susan Raczkowski
Eleanor Rupert
John Sheesley
Ralph Snowberger
Bill Wild
Alice Williams

Senior/Assisted Living, or Rehab

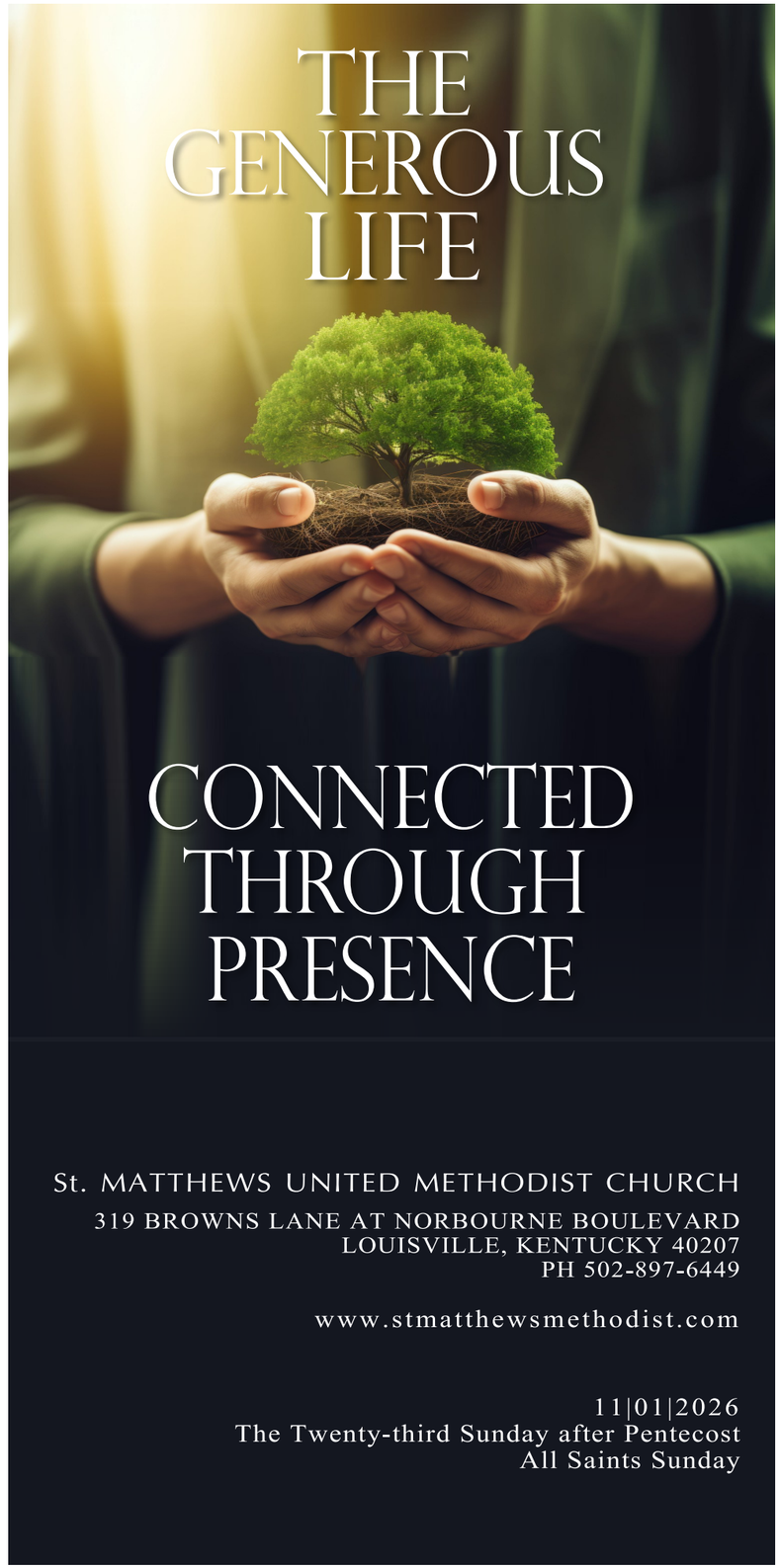
Kathie & Cody Staples
Bill Stratton
Hans Young

You may make a prayer request by phoning the church office, by email at prayers@saintmatthewsumc.org, or on the church website: www.stmatthewsmethodist.com. Please note that prayer requests normally remain on the prayer list for a period of one month.

Thank you for remembering to silence your cell phone as you entered the sanctuary.

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11|01|2026
The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints Sunday

GROW - PRAY - STUDY

THE GENEROUS LIFE: CONNECTED THROUGH PRESENCE
Hebrews 10:21-25

Christ opens _____ to us…

So that we can be present to _____…

And reach out to _____ those who are hurting.

For Reflection and Prayer

Rev. Mark Stamm writes, "We usually think of presence as showing up on Sunday morning… I'm all for showing up on Sunday morning, (but) being present with and for God also may mean being present with and for God in other places, with those who are ill or who need advocacy or who simply are lonely and need someone to stand with them." Who is God inviting you to be present with this week? How is God inviting you to show up?

Daily Scriptures:

Sunday:	Hebrews 10:21-25
Monday:	2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Tuesday:	Ephesians 4:1-16
Wednesday:	1 Thessalonians 5:11-24
Thursday:	John 15:9-17
Friday:	Hebrews 12:1-3
Saturday:	Ecclesiastes 4:7-12

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHEWS

Sunday, November 1–All Saints

Traditional Worship, Sanctuary----------8:30A
Sunday School for All Ages----------10:00A
Traditional Worship, Sanctuary----------11:00A
Staff Appreciation Lunch, Gordon Hall----------12:00P
Sisters Prayer Group, 102----------12:00P
TDA Worship (Español), Gordon Hall ----------1:30P
Youth and Tweens Activities ----------5:00P

Monday, November 2

Morning Ringers, Music Suite----------10:00A
Quilted Memories, 204 ----------11:30A
St. MAM Volunteer Appreciation, Gordon Hall---------- 1:00P

Tuesday, November 3

Gentle Chair Yoga, 109---------- 1:00P
Bible Study Fellowship, 204, 218 ----------6:30P

Wednesday, November 4

Morning Prayers. 218----------8:30A
St. Matthews Ringers, Music Suite----------4:30P
Wednesday Night Live! Dinner, Gordon Hall----------5:00P
Discerning God's Will Together, 204----------6:00P
Children's Choir, 105 ----------6:15P
Whatever Works Wednesday, Youth Suite ----------6:15P
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Music Suite----------7:00P

Thursday, November 5

Kate's Lunch Bunch, Lou Lou's Middletown ----------11:30A
Gentle Chair Yoga, 109----------2:00P
Diabetes Support Group, 218 ----------6:15P

Friday, November 6

Educare Home School---------- 8:00A
TDA Praise Team Rehearsal, Gordon Hall ----------7:00P

Saturday, November 7

No Events

Sunday, November 8

Traditional Worship, Sanctuary----------8:30A
Sunday School for All Ages----------10:00A
Traditional Worship, Sanctuary----------11:00A
Holy Eucharist, Gordon Hall ---------- 12:10P
TDA Worship (Español), Gordon Hall ----------1:30P
Tranquility Tea, Upper Colonnade ---------- 2:00P
Youth and Tweens Activities ----------5:00P