

MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY | THANKSGIVING SUNDAY



Welcome!

If you're visiting for the first time, we'd love to connect with you!

Please complete the **Guest Welcome Form** at MatthewsUMC.org/Getting-Started and stop by the **Welcome Center** to receive your visitor gift.

For families with children, **Praise Packs** are available outside the Gym doors (inside The Commons). These special activity bags, designed for kids ages 3–6 and 7–12, help engage them in worship. **Sensory Bags** are available at the **Welcome Center**.



MOBILE CHECK-IN & ONLINE GIVING

Scan the QR code to download our **Realm Connect Church App** and stay connected with events, registrations, groups, the church directory, and more! You can also sign in, sign up, or learn more by visiting MatthewsUMC.org/Realm.

For those without a smartphone, a check-in station is available at the **Welcome Center**, and attendance books can be found in each pew for guests and members to register their presence.



EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stay informed with the latest ministry opportunities and access the bulletin through the [Celebration Newsletter](#). *Printed copies are available at the Welcome Center. Thank you for helping us reduce paper waste!*

TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

THE COMMONS | 8:15 AM

WE GATHER

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

WELCOME

† OPENING HYMN

No. 327 | Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

No. 881 | The 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;
the third day he rose 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 catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHILDREN'S TIME

WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayer Concerns | Pastoral Prayer

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Allegro Glorioso

Flute Ensemble

Catherine McMichael, arr. Sarah Shefflied

† RESPONSE TO GIVING

No. 95 | Doxology

OLD 100TH

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

† SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 23:33-43 (NRSVUE)

SERMON

"A Curious King"

Rev. David Christy

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

† CLOSING HYMN

No. 715 | Rejoice the Lord is King

DARWALL'S 148TH

† BENEDICTION

† Please Rise in Body or in Spirit

Rev. David Christy, Senior Pastor

Craig Estep, Director of Music & Worship Arts | Eon Malan, Music Ministry Associate & Organist

Jonnie Hildreth, Worship Coordinator

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

GYM | 9:30 AM

Welcome

† **MUSICAL PRAISE**
Because of Your Love
Grateful

Paul Baloche, Brenton Brown
Chris Brown, Stefan Green, Steven Furtick

† **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER | OFFERING

A SONG OF GIVING
To The Table

Zach Williams

The Word

† **LESSON**
Luke 23:33-43 (NRSVUE)

MESSAGE
"A Curious King"

Rev. David Christy

Response

† **MUSICAL PRAISE**
The Blessing

Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe, Steven Furtick

*During the final song, we warmly invite you to come to the **kneelers** for a time of prayer. Whether you're seeking comfort, guidance, or simply a quiet moment with God, this sacred space is open to you. If you would like a pastor to pray with you, please raise your hand as you kneel. Otherwise, we honor this as your personal time with God.*

† **BLESSING**



† Please Rise in Body or in Spirit

Rev. David Christy, Senior Pastor

Byron Murphy, Director of Contemporary Worship | John Biggers, Associate Worship Leader

Tim Martin, Drums | Mike Derby, Bass | Ed Scholl, Keys | Kristen Babb, Vocals

Joel Mullis, Worship Production Director & Electric Guitar | Donna Balisado, Screens

Susan Chambers, Worship Coordinator | Jessica Bridges, ASL Interpreter

TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

GYM | 11:00 AM

WE GATHER

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth arr. Lloyd Larson
Children's Chimes, Karen Price & Tina Fincher, *Directors*

WELCOME

† OPENING HYMN

No. 327 | Crown Him with Many Crowns DIADEMATA

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

No. 881 | The Apostles' Creed

CHORAL ANTHEM

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing arr. Mack Wilberg
Sanctuary Choir

† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHILDREN'S TIME

WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayer Concerns | Call to Prayer | Pastoral Prayer

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Allegro Glorioso Catherine McMichael, arr. Sarah Shefflied
Flute Ensemble

† RESPONSE TO GIVING

No. 95 | Doxology OLD 100TH

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

† SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 23:33-43 (NRSVUE)

SERMON

"A Curious King" Rev. David Christy

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

† CLOSING HYMN

No. 715 | Rejoice the Lord is King DARWALL'S 148TH

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

† Please Rise in Body or in Spirit

Rev. David Christy, Senior Pastor | Rev. Bill Roth, Pastor of Welcome & Hospitality
Craig Estep, Director of Music & Worship Arts | Eon Malan, Music Ministry Associate & Organist
Sanctuary Choir | Joel Mullis, Worship Production Director | Tom Amann, Livestream
David Wilkinson, Production Assistant | Susan Chambers, Worship Coordinator
David Bigham, Acolyte Shepherd | Will Wallace, Acolyte

Our Prayers

In care and sympathy, we lift up family and friends of those who have lost loved ones.

- Please lift up **Carmel Baptist Church**, that their ministry may flourish and be richly blessed.
- **Nancy Miller Campbell**, upon the death of her mother.
- Also remember those in our church family with **special needs and concerns**. We pray for the care and protection of all serving in the military, emergency services, law enforcement, healthcare, long-term care, and education.



ALL EARTH IS WAITING 2025 Christmas Eve Services

1:00 PM | KIDS & FAMILY | Gym

Worship followed by Live Nativity & Animals in the Courtyard

2:30 PM & 4:30 PM | KIDS & FAMILY | Gym

Candlelight Acoustic Worship, Communion & Family Activities

4:00 PM & 6:00 PM | TRADITIONAL | Sanctuary

Candlelight Worship with Choir, Orchestra & Communion

9:00 PM | CONTEMPORARY | Sanctuary

Candlelight Worship with Praise Band & Communion

11:30 PM | VESPERS | Courtyard

30-minute Candlelight Worship with A cappella music, Nativity & Animals

**Nursery (3 & under) provided for all services, except 9:00 & 11:30 PM.*

visit MatthewsUMC.org for more details

WE'RE MOVING BACK INTO THE SANCTUARY!

We're excited to share that our sanctuary renovation project is almost complete, and beginning this week, we'll officially return to worship in the sanctuary!

Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding throughout this process.

A special word of gratitude goes to our **Building Committee** for their dedication, time, and hard work in ensuring that everything went smoothly from start to finish.

We can't wait to gather in our renewed and beautiful worship space—welcome home!

8:15 AM
TRADITIONAL SERVICE
+ WEEKLY COMMUNION
SANCTUARY

9:30 AM
CONTEMPORARY
SERVICE
SANCTUARY

11:00 AM
TRADITIONAL
SERVICE
SANCTUARY

12:30 PM
CCH
SERVICE
SANCTUARY

6:00 PM
YOUTH
WORSHIP
COMMONS

9:30 AM UNITED KIDS FAMILY WORSHIP | 2ND SUNDAYS IN THE GYM

9:30 AM & 11:00 AM services are Livestreamed at MatthewsUMC.org

From the Pastors & Congregation

All are welcome here ... and we do mean all. We take these words seriously. We strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as God's kingdom. We don't all look or act alike; God knows we don't all think alike. We don't all read the Bible the same way. We bring different questions and carry different burdens, but every Sunday, we worship together as one. Our nearly 150-year-old church is filled with some traditional and inspiring untraditional ways. We study the teachings and actions of Jesus. We sing modern songs and old hymns. Yet, in our preaching and prayers, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world. We hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant —a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God. After the service, please stick around. Introduce yourself to one of our pastors or someone at our Welcome Center. We have lots of programs and community groups to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know – you just might be home!

FLUTE ENSEMBLE

Craig Estep, *Director*

Sue Demick, Janice Mangum, Deborah Morrison, Sarah Sheffield, *Flutes*



CHILDREN'S CHIMES



Karen Price & Tina fincher, *Directors*

A big thank you to our Children's Chimes for sharing their beautiful music in worship!

We're so proud of their joyful ringing and the dedication they bring each week.

If you or your child would like to play in the Chimes Ensemble, please contact

Karen or Tina—we'd love to have you join us!



UPON REQUEST

ASL INTERPRETATION AVAILABLE

We are pleased to offer interpreters for American Sign Language.

If you or someone you know would benefit from this service, please see one of our ushers for more details.



COME JUST AS YOU ARE - SUNDAY MORNINGS AT MUMC

8:15 AM Traditional | 9:30 AM Contemporary* | 11:00 AM Traditional*

9:30 AM United Kids Family Worship (2nd Sundays in the Gym)

12:30 PM Centro Cristiano Hosanna (Servicio en Espanol)

6:00 PM Youth Worship (in the Commons)

*Services Livestreamed at MatthewsUMC.org



MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST

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MatthewsUMC.org | MatthewsUMC