



# Saint Matthew's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**Foot Washing & Holy Eucharist**  
**Maundy Thursday**  
**April 2, 2026**  
**7:30pm**



## Welcome to St. Matthew's! We are glad you are here.

Welcome to St. Matthew's! Whether you join us in person or online, we welcome you to this Episcopal Church, one of many in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, throughout the United States and around the world. As part of the Anglican Communion, our ministry stretches over the face of the earth. Our worship, found in the Book of Common Prayer, was established in the middle of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, modified to accommodate contemporary tastes and times.

We invite families with young children to sit close to the Communion Table that you see and hear clearly. A play space for young children is provided on the east side of the church towards the rear. All children are absolutely welcome in worship as their wonder and curiosity inspires us all.

Rubrics, the *italicized* words of the bulletin give guidance for worship—when to sit, stand or kneel. At St. Matthew's, we also embrace silence at various times, occasions when we speak to and listen for God.

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## + THE WORD OF GOD +

### Prelude

*The hymns can be found in the blue hymnals. Please stand as you are able.*

### Processional Hymn 577

UBI CARITAS

*God is love, and where true love is God himself is there*

*Celebrant*  
*People*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
**God's mercy endures forever.**

## Trisagion S102

*sung by all*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The first system contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,'. The second system contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.' The music is written in a simple, homophonic style with block chords and moving bass lines.

## The Collect

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

## **The First Reading**

**Exodus 12:1-14**

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm 116: 1, 10-17

*sung by all*

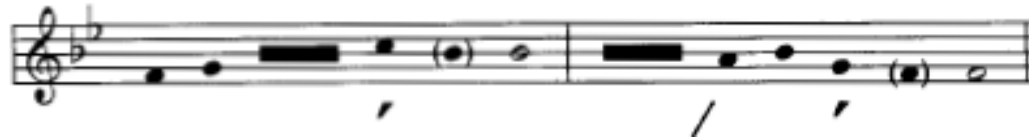
## *Antiphon*



I will lift up the cup of sal - va - tion, and call up - on the Name of



the LORD, hal - le - lu - jah.



1 *I love* the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, \*  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I / called upón him.

10 How shall I repay the LÓRD \*  
for all the good things / he has dóned for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvátion \*  
and call upon the / Name of thé LORD.

12 I will fulfill my vows to the LÓRD \*  
in the presence of / all his péople.

13 Precious in the sight of the LÓRD \*  
is the death / of his sérvants.

14 O LORD, I am your sérvant; \*  
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;  
you have / freed me fróm my bonds.

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and call upon the / Name of thé LORD.

16 I will fulfill my vows to the LÓRD \*  
in the presence of / all his péople,

17 In the courts of the LÓRD's house, \*  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.  
/ Hallelújah! [*Ant.*]

## The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Sequence Hymn 602

CHEREPONI

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love*

## The Gospel

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

*Gospeller* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!"

Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord--and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

*Gospeller*    The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*        **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Dr. Tommy Watson

## The Exhortation

The Exhortation is included in this liturgy. Originally written as an *earnest admonishment*, encouraging those attending churches of the Anglican Communion to partake of the Holy Eucharist, the first form of the invitation was drafted in 1548 and included in the Book of Common Prayer of 1549. Though rarely used today, it was included in the Book of Common Prayer of 1979. We use it tonight; the only time St. Matthew's includes the invitation as it is most appropriate on the night we commemorate Jesus' last meal with his disciples.

*The people may stand or sit.*

Beloved in the Lord: Our Savior Christ, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood as a sign and pledge of his love, for the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of his death, and for a spiritual sharing in his risen life. For in these holy Mysteries we are made one with Christ, and Christ with us; we are made one body in him, and members one of another.

Having in mind, therefore, his great love for us, and in obedience to his command, his Church renders to Almighty God our heavenly Father never-ending thanks for the creation of the world, for his continual providence over us, for his love for all mankind, and for the redemption of the world by our Savior Christ, who took upon himself our flesh, and humbled himself even to death on the cross, that he might make us the children of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, and exalt us to everlasting life.

But if we are to share rightly in the celebration of those holy Mysteries, and be nourished by that spiritual Food, we must remember the dignity of that holy Sacrament. I therefore call upon you to consider how Saint Paul exhorts all persons to prepare themselves carefully before eating of that Bread and drinking of that Cup.

For, as the benefit is great, if with penitent hearts and living faith we receive the holy Sacrament, so is the danger great, if we receive it improperly, not recognizing the Lord's Body. Judge yourselves, therefore, lest you be judged by the Lord.

Examine your lives and conduct by the rule of God's commandments, that you may perceive wherein you have offended in what you have done or left undone, whether in thought, word, or deed. And acknowledge your sins before Almighty God, with full purpose of amendment of life, being ready to make restitution for all injuries and wrongs done by you to others; and also being ready to forgive those who have offended you, in order that you yourselves may be forgiven.

And then, being reconciled with one another, come to the banquet of that most heavenly Food. And if, in your preparation, you need help and counsel, then go and open your grief to a discreet and understanding priest, and confess your sins, that you may receive the benefit of absolution, and spiritual counsel and advice; to the removal of scruple and doubt, the assurance of pardon, and the strengthening of your faith.

To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory in the Church evermore. Through him let us offer continually the sacrifice of praise, which is our bounden duty and service, and, with faith in him, come boldly before the throne of grace and humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

## **The Confession**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**God of all mercy,**

**we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen  
us through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

*The Celebrant says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Washing of Feet

*Celebrant* Friends in Christ, I invite you to come forward, that we may recall whose servants we are, and remember his teaching, that what is done for us is also to be done for others.

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,  
u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: 'U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line: 'u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.' The melody is simple and melodic, with a triplet of eighth notes on the word 'mor,' in the first staff and 'i - bi' in the second staff.

*The People are invited forward to participate in this ancient ritual. If you would like to come forward, please sit to have your feet washed and assist as you wash the feet of the next person.*

*(translation: Where charity and love are, God is there.)*

## The Prayers of the People

*The People respond with the words in bold.*

*Intercessor* Merciful God, on this, the night he was betrayed, your Son Jesus Christ washed the disciples' feet. As we commit ourselves to following his example of love and service, teach us humility. God of grace,  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* On this night, Jesus prayed for his disciples to be one. As we grieve for the divisions in the church, unite us. God of grace,  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* On this night, Jesus prayed for those who would come to believe through the disciples' message. As we take up the mission of the church, as we seek to share the good news of Jesus, renew our zeal. God of grace,  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* On this night, Jesus commanded his friends to love, but he suffered rejection himself. As we open our hearts to the rejected and the unloved, fill us with your love that we might boldly share it. God of grace,  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* On this night, Jesus reminded his people that if the world hated them, it had hated him first. As we face our own fears, we pray for those who are persecuted for their faith; give us your peace. God of grace,  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor*

On this night, Jesus loved his friends to the very end. As we open our hearts to all who face darkness tonight, we pray for the sick, those who mourn, those trapped by violence, addiction, or pain: give healing and hope. God of grace,

*People*

**Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor*

Faithful God, these are the prayers of your Church.

*People*

**We offer them trusting and hoping in you. Hear us and help us. Challenge and change us. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **The Peace**

*Celebrant*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*

**And also with you.**

# + THE HOLY COMMUNION +

*The Celebrant says the Offertory.*

Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name.

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

## Sanctus – Wonder Love and Praise 858

*Sung by all*

5 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. God of power and might, \_\_\_\_\_

9 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

13 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people remain standing or kneel. The Celebrant continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Saint Matthew all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*Celebrant and People*

**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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## Fraction Anthem

*Sung by all*

TAIZÉ

### *Lamb of God, Taizé*

Lamb\_of God, who takes\_a - way\_ the sins of the world. Have mer-cy\_ on us.

5  
Lamb\_of God, who takes\_a - way\_ the sins of the world. Have mer-cy\_ on us.

9  
Lamb of God who takes a - way\_ the sins of the world. Grant\_\_ us peace.

*Celebrant*      The gifts of God for the People of God.

*We receive communion at the altar rails of St. Matthew's. Please follow the ushers guiding you forward down the center aisle to the communion rails, filling in from the outside wall. You may stand or kneel to receive. Gluten-free bread is available. Those desiring gluten-free shall present their hands, palms down. The chalices contain consecrated wine. With guidance from the chalice bearer, those who choose, drink from the common cup. The same cup offered to those choosing to intinct--dipping the bread oneself lightly in the wine and consuming.*

*Please kneel or sit to sing.*

## Communion Hymn 315

SONG 1

*Thou, who at thy first Eucharist didst pray*

## The Postcommunion Prayer

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Blessing

*The Celebrant blesses the people saying*

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit guard you this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

## The Stripping of the Altar

*The People are invited to sit or kneel, to listen and pray.*

*Members of the Altar Guild and clergy remove all the appointments and other symbols of worship during the singing of Psalm 22 by the choir. Guests are invited to remain in the sanctuary or to pray in the narthex at the Altar of Repose. The reserved sacrament remains at the Altar of Repose until consumed at the noonday Good Friday liturgy. The church remains dark on Good Friday as if the tomb in which the body of Jesus was laid. There are no lights and no sounds in the church until the morning of Easter.*

# Psalm 22

*sung by the choir*

*Plainsong*

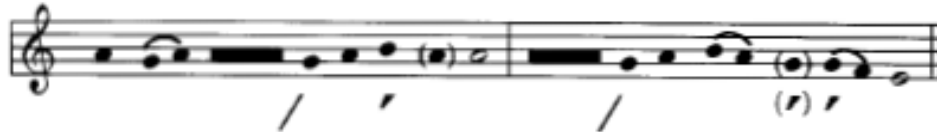
*Antiphon*



They di - vide my gar - ments a - mong them; they cast lots for my



cloth - ing.



- 1 My *Göd*, my God, why have / you forsáken me? \*  
and are so far from my cry  
and from the / words of mÿ dístress?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you / do not ánsver; \*  
by night as well, / but I fínd nöö rest.
- 3 Yet you / are the Hóly One, \*  
enthroned upon the / praises öf Ísräel.
- 4 Our forefathers / put their trúst in you; \*  
they trusted, and / you delívéred them.
- 5 They cried out to you and / were delívered; \*  
they trusted in you and / were not püt fó shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a / worm and nó man, \*  
scorned by all and / despised bý the pëople.
- 7 All who see me laugh / me to scórn; \*  
they curl their lips and / wag their hëads, säying,
- 8 "He trusted in the LORD; let / him delíver him; \*  
let him rescue him, if / he delights íií him."
- 9 Yet you are he who took me out / of the wómb, \*  
and kept me safe up/on my möthër's breast.
- 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since / I was bórn; \*  
you were my God when I was still / in my möthër's womb.



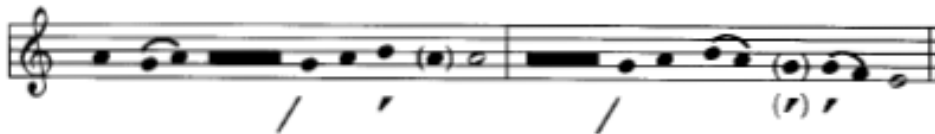
*Antiphon*



They di - vide my gar - ments a - mong them; they cast lots for my



cloth - ing.



- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he / hide his fáce from them; \*  
but when they / cry to hĭm hé hĕars them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the / great assémbly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of / those who wörshĭp him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the / LORD shall práise him: \*  
“May / your heart líve fór ëver!”
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn / to the LÓRD, \*  
and all the families of the na/tions shall böw bëföre him.
- 27 For kingship belongs / to the LÓRD; \*  
he / rules övër thé nätions.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow / down in wörship; \*  
all who go down to the / dust fall bëföre him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;  
my descen/dants shall sérve him; \*  
they shall be known / as the LÖRD's fór ëver.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a / people yét unborn \*  
the saving / deeds that hĕ háäs done. [Ant.]

*The People may remain in the church for a time of silent prayer.  
They may also visit the Altar of Repose and stop to pray.  
The People leave in silence.*

## **Worship Leaders**

*Celebrant*

The Rev. John Branson

*Preacher*

The Rev. Dr. Tommy Watson

*Eucharistic Ministers*

Sharon Pearson, Vytas Kisielius

*Lectors*

Mary Obermayer, John Pearson

*Intercessor*

Beth Baker

*Music Director*

Irina Georgieva

*Choir*

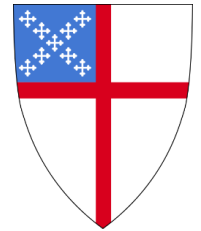
St. Matthew's Church Choir

*Altar Guild*

Jen DeAngelis, Debbie Fuller, Amy Gubner,  
Kim Olson, Betsy Pettit, Nancy Brautigam, Sharon McKenna

# Worship Schedule at St. Matthew's

Holy Eucharist on Sundays at 10am



*Please keep an eye on our website and social media as well as our e-news. You will find information to connect with friends and members of all ages.*

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## **Staff**

Interim Rector	The Rev. John H. Branson, <a href="mailto:john@stmatthewswilton.org">john@stmatthewswilton.org</a>
Formation & Engagement	The Rev. Dr. Tommy Watson, <a href="mailto:tommy@stmatthewswilton.org">tommy@stmatthewswilton.org</a>
Director of Music Ministries	Irina Georgieva, <a href="mailto:irina@stmatthewswilton.org">irina@stmatthewswilton.org</a>
Parish Administrator	Nancy Johnson, <a href="mailto:office@stmatthewswilton.org">office@stmatthewswilton.org</a>
Director of WEPCO	Donna Savage, <a href="mailto:wepco@optonline.net">wepco@optonline.net</a>
Bookkeeper	Louann Miska, <a href="mailto:louann.miska@gmail.com">louann.miska@gmail.com</a>
Technology Coordinator	Matthew Henshaw
Nursery Staff	Lucia Sato
Sextons	Alix Williams, Jairo
Mejia	

## **Wardens and Officers**

Warden	Pam Ely	Clerk	Jennifer DeAngelis
Warden	Keith DeAngelis	Asst. Treasurer	Brian Angerame
Treasurer	Rob Kyle		

## **The Vestry**

Eleanor Arnold	Bob Giolitto	Endy Perry	Kimberly Olson
Brian Angerame	Becky Hudspeth	John Pearson	

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