Saint Matthew's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Holy Eucharist - Rite II
The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026
10:00 am

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 16th 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.

+ THE WORD OF GOD +

Prelude

Prelude in F Major — formerly attr. to J.S. Bach

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

Processional Hymn 423 — ST. DENIO

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

The Celebrant and People say together

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song of Praise

sung by all

setting by John Rutter



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

The First Reading — Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

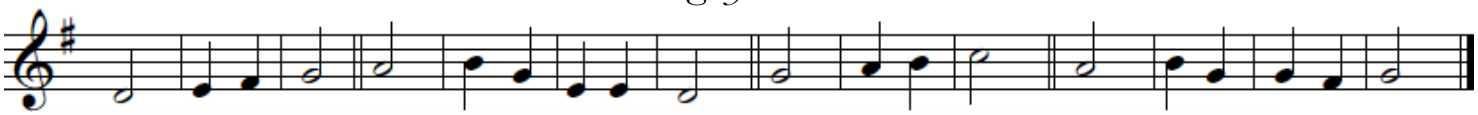
Be silent before the Lord GOD!
For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.
At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
"The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.
The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.
I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.
Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90:1-8, 12

sung by all



1 Lord, you have ' been our ' refuge *
from one gene ' ration ' to a ' nother.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the ' earth were ' born, *
from age to ' ag̈e ' you are ' God.

3 You turn us back to the ' dust and ' say, *
"Go ' back, O ' child of ' earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday ' when it is ' past *
and ' like a ' watch in the ' night.

5 You sweep us a ' way like a ' dream; *
we fade away ' suddenly ' like the ' grass.

6 In the morning it is ' green and ' flourishes; *
in the evening it is ' dr̈ied ' up and ' withered.

7 For we consume away in ' your dis ' pleasure; *
we are afraid because of your ' wrathful ' indig ' nation.

8 Our iniquities you have ' set be ' fore you, *
and our secret ' sins in the ' light of your ' countenance.

12 So teach us to ' number our ' days *
that we may ap ' ply our ' hearts to ' wisdom.

The Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 594 CWM RHONDDA

God of grace and God of glory

The Holy Gospel — Matthew 25:14-30

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

The Sermon The Rev. Kerith Harding

All stand for

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy".

Intercessor Everything we have comes from God. Let us offer our prayers and thanksgivings for all that God has given us, saying:
Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We thank you for the gift of your creation. Give us the strength and courage to recognize your presence and goodness in all that you have made. Help us to respect, protect, and preserve the earth, sky, and sea, plants and animals, and one another. Teach us to be faithful stewards of the world you have entrusted to our care.
Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We give you thanks for the many blessings of our lives: for the people who love and sustain us, for our families and friends, for the work we are given to do, and for the gifts and abilities that make each of us unique. We thank you for moments of joy and beauty, for opportunities to grow and serve, and for the gift of life itself. Help us to receive these blessings with grateful hearts and to share them generously with others.
Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Give us the grace to nurture our relationships with you and with one another. As we worship, may we hear your call to love our neighbors as ourselves, to honor the dignity of every human being, and to seek the good of those whose lives are different from our own. May our lives reflect our gratitude for the abundance of your gifts.
Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We pray for the leaders of our world, our nation, and your Church. Grant them wisdom, humility, and compassion, that they may exercise their authority with integrity and use the resources entrusted to their care for the good of all. Guide them to seek justice, pursue peace, protect the vulnerable, and serve not their own interests, but the common good.
Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We pray for all those in danger or trouble: for the sick and the suffering, the hungry and the oppressed, the unemployed and the grieving, for prisoners and captives. Open our hearts to their needs, and help us to share generously the blessings we have received.

Intercessor We pray especially today for all those on our parish prayer list, especially Kelsey, Isador, Dan, Aaron, Liz, Scott, Judy, Vanessa, Melinda, Kathy, Shelly, Patty, Joan, Susan, Kristen, Vinny, and Antonio.
Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We pray for all who have died. In your compassion, comfort all those who mourn, and strengthen us in the hope of the resurrection.
Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We pray for your Church, its mission, and its members. Help us to be faithful stewards of all that you have entrusted to us—our time, our talents, our resources, and our very lives. Give us the courage to participate in your work of love and reconciliation. And when we fall short, as we will, remind us of the redeeming love of your Son, who calls us always to begin again. Help us to trust in your abundance and to share your gifts with joyful and generous hearts.
Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

The Confession

Then the Celebrant says Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. The people may stand or kneel.

Celebrant and People say together

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against
you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your
will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

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

Celebrant says an Offertory sentence, the congregation is seated.
Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem

There's a wideness in God's mercy St. Helena by Calvin Hamption
arr. by Tim Lind

There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner,
and more graces for the good;
there is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in his blood.

There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.
There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of the mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we should take him at his word;
and our life would be thanksgiving
for the goodness of the Lord.

Whether you've joined us today from near or far, in person or online, we invite you to make a gift of thanksgiving to support God's work St. Matthew's. Visit www.stmatthewswilton.org/offering. Designate it as a gift or as part of your pledge.

Please stand as you are able.

Doxology at the Presentation

THE OLD HUNDREDTH



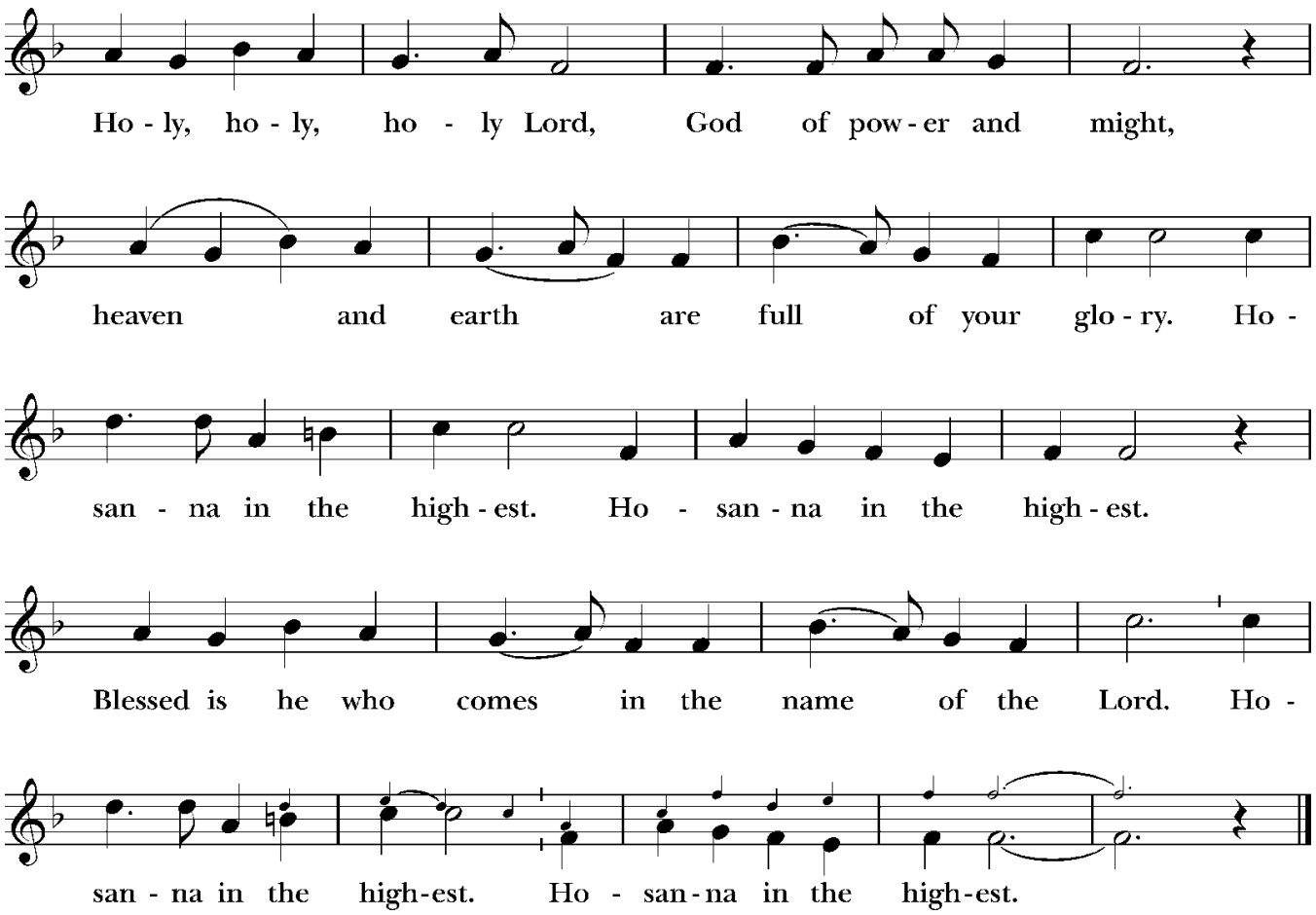
The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus *sung by all* *setting by Richard Proulx*



The People remain standing or kneel. The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many 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
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 tresspasses,
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

by Franz Peter Schubert
arr. by Richard Proulx



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.

Communion Solo

The Call by Ralph Vaighan Williams

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:
Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, My Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length:
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part:
Such a Heart, as joys in love.

Communion Hymn 315 SONG 1

Thou, who at thy first Eucharist pray

The Postcommunion Prayer

The People stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Almighty and everliving God,**
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Stewardship Reflection

Parish Announcements

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn 556 vv. 1-5 MARION

Rejoice, ye pure in heart

The Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

Fanfare by Théodore Dubois

Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Kerith Harding
Eucharistic Ministers	Beth Baker, Anne Newton
Lectors	Eleanor Arnold, Bob Giolitto
Intercessor	Janet Nobles
Music Director	Irina Georgieva
Choir	St. Matthew's Church Choir
Altar Guild	Amy Gubner, Jennifer DeAngelis
Offering Counters	Keith DeAngelis, Bill Brautigam
Coffee Host	Cynthia Karamitis

Prayer Requests *Specific prayer requests will be kept on the prayer list for six weeks. Please call or email the office if you have additions or deletions to the prayer list.* You are encouraged to offer your own prayers silently or aloud as indicated in the Prayers of the People.

Today and throughout the week, we remember all those who have been commended to our prayers. For those who are sick or in need: Kelsey, Isador, Dan, Aaron, Liz, Scott, Judy, Vanessa, Melinda, Kathy, Shelly, Patty, Joan, Susan, Kristen, Vinny, and Antonio. For those serving in the military, Matthew Comeau. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Paul's, Windham; Grace Church, Windsor; St. James', Winsted; Ministries with older adults. For the Brotherhood of St. Andrew and the Daughters of the King.

Stewardship 2027 at St. Matthew's



We are *Making All Things New Again* at St. Matthew's.
Stewardship is a form of renewal itself - we are bringing new life to our physical space, our clergy, our presence in community, newcomers, our personal spiritual practices, and how we give back to God all that He has given us. In the spirit of renewal, please consider significantly increasing your pledge in support of all things that God and St. Matthew's are making new again.

"Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the first fruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow."
Proverbs 3:9–10

Please plan to join us on Sunday, December 6th, as we come together to celebrate our commitments to this community. On this day, we will bring our pledge cards forward and offer them to God on the altar, blessing them to God's work and service through St. Matthew's Church. If you are unable to attend on this day, please consider giving your pledge card to either Brian Angerame or the Rev. Kerith Harding in advance (or make your pledge commitment online) and they will be sure it is included in the blessing!

Weekly Calendar – November 15 – November 22

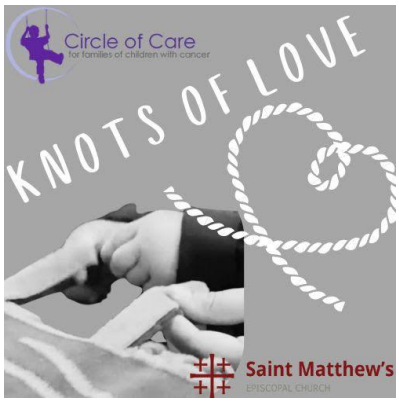
Sunday, November 15	**The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost**
10:00am	Holy Eucharist – Rite 2
11:15am	Coffee Hour
Monday, November 16	
7:00pm	Education for Ministry (Zoom)
7:00pm	Finance Committee meeting (Zoom)
Tuesday, November 17	
11:00am	Staff meeting
Thursday, November 19	
7:30pm	St. Matthew's Church Choir rehearsal
Sunday, November 22	**The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King**
10:00am	Holy Eucharist – Rite 2
11:15am	Coffee Hour and Bells of Hope
11:30am	Vestry meeting
4:00pm	Taizé Candlelight Service with Flutist Bärli Nugent



Taizé Candlelight Service with Flutist Bärli Nugent
Sunday, November 22 at 4:00 PM

Join us for a peaceful and contemplative Taizé service by candlelight, featuring the beautiful music of flutist Bärli Nugent. Through simple sung prayers, Scripture, silence, and music, Taizé invites us to slow down, listen, and rest in God's presence.

A light reception will follow the service.



Join the Knots of Love workshop on **Wednesday, November 18th. We have new hours- 4 to 8 pm. Come at the time that works for you!**
We will be in the Upper Core tying blankets for children with cancer. It will be a special day because Jeff Selguero, Circle of Care's Marketing Director, will come by at 5:45pm to photograph our workshop in action and have photos of all that goes into making the blankets. It will not be anything fancy- just bring your miles! Questions? Contact Becky Hudspeth

On **Wednesday, November 18th**, St. Matthew's Spirited Sisters will join Becky Hudspeth's Knots of Love Blanket Workshop for Circle of Care. Please feel free to join us any time between 4-8pm in the Upper Core to work on the simple knots for the blankets.
No experience needed!

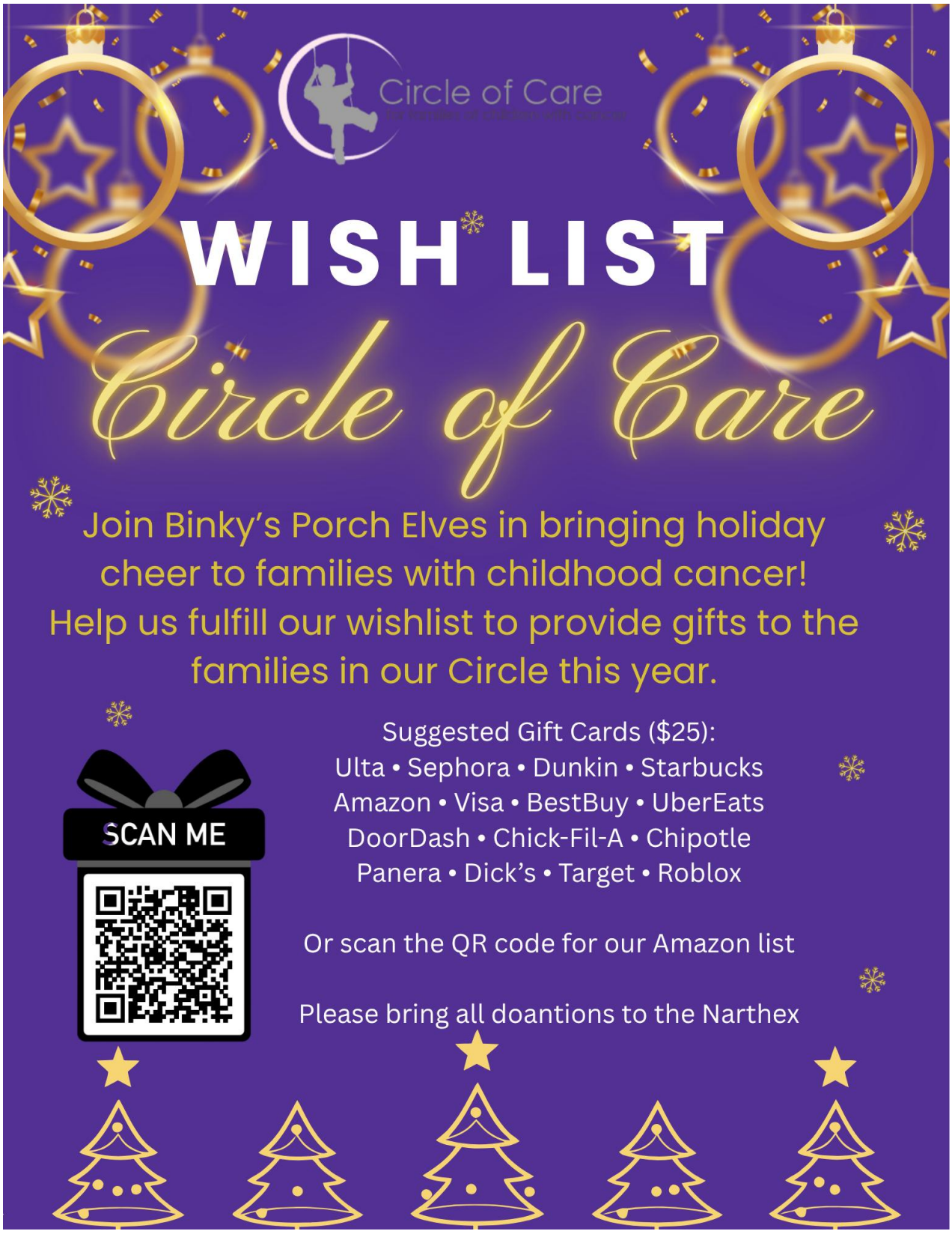


CT FOSTERS

Bells of Hope
Sunday, November 22nd

In recognition of national adoption awareness month, St. Matthew's is participating in *Bells of Hope,* a statewide faith-based awareness initiative to shine a light on children waiting for permanent, loving families. During our service this day, we will ring bells of hope once for every child currently featured in the Connecticut Heart Gallery and lift all children waiting for loving homes in prayer.

We will also be welcoming the Venerable Donald Burr, II, Archdeacon in the Diocese of Connecticut, to speak with us at coffee hour about the need for permanent and foster families in our state. Please join us!



Please leave donations in the narthex by November 30th.

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.

Staff

Rector	The Rev. Kerith Harding, kerith.harding@stmatthewswilton.org
Director of Music Ministries	Irina Georgieva, irina@stmatthewswilton.org
Parish Administrator	Nancy Johnson, office@stmatthewswilton.org
Director of WEPCO	Donna Savage, wepco@optonline.net
Bookkeeper	Louann Miska, louann.miska@gmail.com
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	

36 New Canaan Road, Wilton, CT 06897
Phone: (203) 762-7400
www.stmatthewswilton.org
Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/stmattswilton
Follow us on Instagram @stmattswilton