



Holy Eucharist – Rite II Palm Sunday & the Sunday of the Passion April 2, 2023 10:00 am

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

The People are invited to read the words in **bold**. If you're joining us from home, please stand, kneel, sing, and pray with us as you're able. No matter where you are, joining in this worship service is a form of prayer that connects you to God and to each other. Whenever two or three are gathered, even virtually, Scripture reminds us that Jesus is present among us.

Children are most welcome and are encouraged to participate in worship.

To the parents of children: Relax! God put the wiggle in children. Sit toward the front so your little ones can see and hear. Go ahead and quietly answer their questions. If you don't know the answer, the priest would love to talk to your little one. When you sing the hymns and join in the prayers, you teach little hearts how to be faithful; you are their best model. If you need to leave the service, that's okay. Don't be shy about coming back. It was Jesus who said, "Let the little children come to me."

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you at St. Matt's.

+THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS+

Introit

Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

Hosanna filio David

Hosanna filio David:	Hosanna to the son of David:
	Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in excelsis.	Hosanna in the highest.

CelebrantBlessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.PeoplePeace in heaven and glory in the highest.

Celebrant Let us pray. Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gospel of the Palms

Gospeller A Reading from Matthew.

When Jesus and his disciples had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, `The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

"Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Gospeller	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

Blessing of the Palms

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet us give thanks to the Lord our God.PeopleIt is right to give God thanks and praise.CelebrantIt is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the context of the context of

Celebrant It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Palms are distributed to the People.

Celebrant	Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
People	Hosanna in the highest.
Celebrant	Let us go forth in peace.
People	In the name of Christ. Amen.

The Choir and Altar Party process around the sanctuary singing the following hymn. Children are invited to follow after the Choir. The children in Pre-K – 7th Grade take their palms and proceed to their classrooms after the procession.

Processional Hymn 154VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN"All glory, laud, and honor"

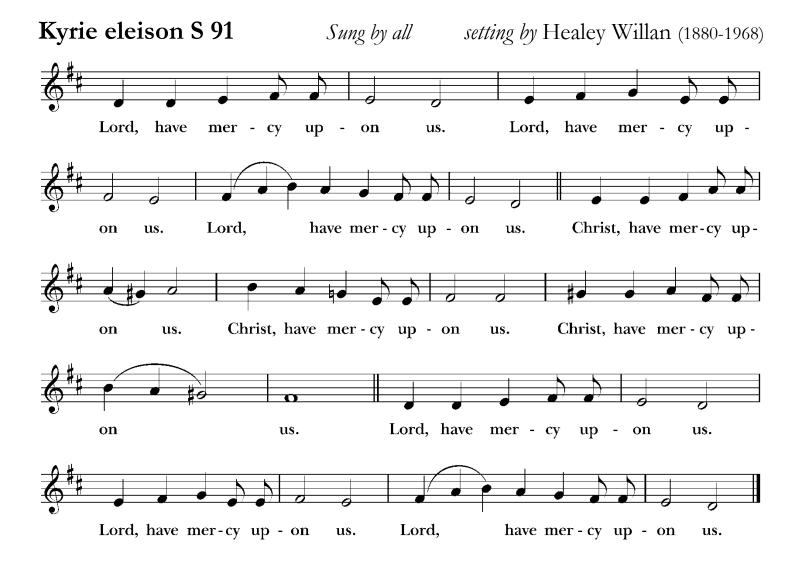


The Celebrant continues

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

+ THE WORD OF GOD +

CelebrantBless the Lord who forgives all our sins.PeopleGod's mercy endures forever.



The Collect

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher,

that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens-wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9-16

sung by the choir

Antiphon: Incline your ear to me, O Lord; make haste to deliver me.

⁹ Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; * my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

- ¹⁰ For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; * my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.
- ¹¹ I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors, a dismay to those of my acquaintance; * when they see me in the street they avoid me.
- ¹² I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *I am as useless as a broken pot.

¹³ For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; * they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴ But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. * I have said, "You are my God.

¹⁵ My times are in your hand; * rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ Make your face to shine upon your servant, * and in your loving-kindness save me."

Antiphon: Incline your ear to me, O Lord; make haste to deliver me.

Second Reading

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 458

LOVE UNKNOWN

"My song is love unknown"

Philippians 2:5-11

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (see booklet)

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. Linda Spiers

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.

The Prayers of the People

adapted from *Praying the Scriptures* by Jeremiah D. Williamson The People respond with the words in bold.

Intercessor	The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. So, let us cry out to our Lord, saying, "Crucified King, have mercy on us."
Intercessor	Have mercy on your Church, O Lord, for the times we have denied you. We have not been humble as you are humble. We have been unwilling to share the gospel with our friends and families. Crucified King,
People	have mercy on us.
Intercessor	Have mercy on those who hold authority in the nations of the world, O Lord – especially those who are threatened by your message of love and justice. Have mercy on us for our silence and complicity. Crucified King,
People	have mercy on us.
Intercessor	Have mercy on those of us who are called to be stewards of your creation, O Lord. We have exploited and mistreated your masterpiece. Have mercy on us and teach us to love what you have called good. Crucified King,
People	have mercy on us.
Intercessor	Have mercy on us, O Lord. Teach us to value what you value. Increase in us love for our neighbors. Crucified King,
People	have mercy on us.
Intercessor	Have mercy on all who are sick and suffering, O Lord. Strengthen those whose strength fails them. Comfort and care for those wasted with grief. Make your face to shine you're your servants. We pray especially for, Mike, Susan, Jack, John,

	Chuck, Joan, Joy, Peter, Liz, Ann, Jack, Pat, Kathy, Dick,				
	Brooks, Scott, Martin, Ann, Melinda, Aaron, Dann, and for all				
	those we now name []. Crucified King,				
People	have mercy on us.				
Intercessor	Merciful Lord, you know the pain of death – even death or				
	cross. Have mercy on the dying and the dead. We especially				
	remember Joanne Bennett, sister of John Pearson, the victims				
	of the Nashville school tragedy and Red Ukachukwu killed last				
	week in Wilton. Bring them to the joy of everlasting life in you				
	Crucified King,				
People	have mercy on us.				

Silence may be kept Celebrant

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God.

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

Celebrant and People say together

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.**

Please stand as you are able.

The Peace

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

+ THE HOLY COMMUNION +

The Offertory

After the Celebrant says an Offertory sentence, the congregation may be seated.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem

Sung by the Choir

David von Kampen

A lamb goes uncomplaining forth

A lamb goes uncomplaining forth, The guilt of sinners bearing And, laden with the sins of earth, None else the burden sharing; Laden with the sins of earth, Goes patient on, grows weak and faint, To slaughter led without complaint, That spotless life to offer, He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mockery, and yet replies, "All this I gladly suffer."

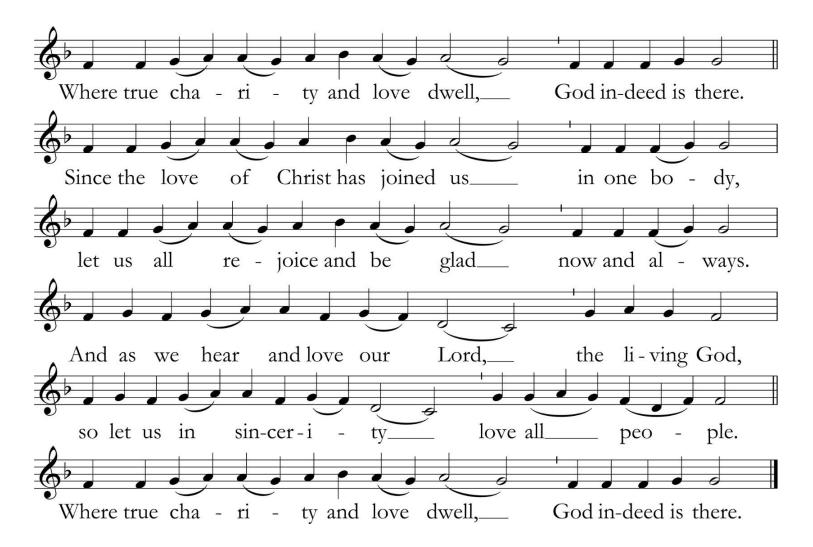
— text by Paul Gerhardt (1607–76)

Whether you've joined us today from near or far, in person or online, please consider making a gift of thanksgiving to support the work of God at St. Matthew's. Be part of God's mission with us as we make our way out of the COVID season and into the new life God promises. Visit <u>www.stmatthewswilton.org/offering</u>. Designate it as a gift or as part of your pledge. No gift is too small. All gifts honor the God who honors us with life, breath, love, and salvation.



Sung by all as the offerings are presented Hymn at the Presentation

UBI CARITAS



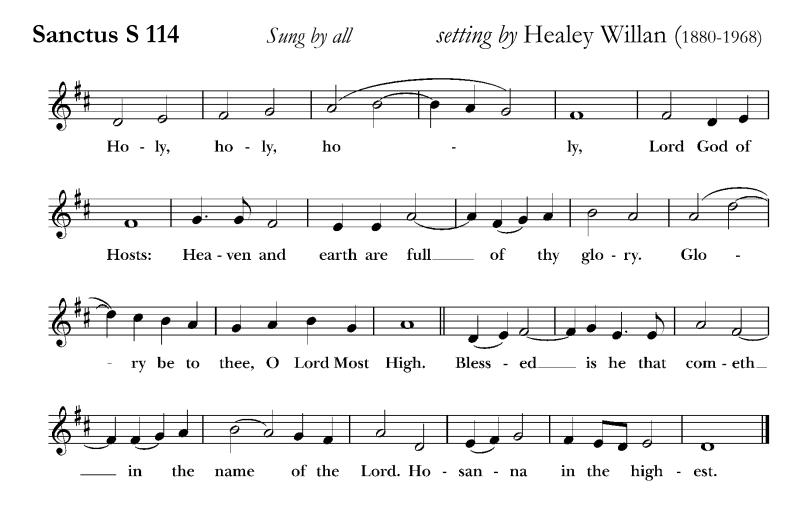
The Great Thanksgiving

- 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 our 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. 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:



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 [______and] 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.CelebrantChrist our Passover is sacrificed for us;PeopleTherefore let us keep the feast.



Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to come forward, as directed by ushers, to receive communion or a blessing. The Ushers will help you move toward the center in single file, socially distanced, lines. When you reach the center of the space, please open your hands and lay them flat to receive the bread or cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. Let the Priest know if you need a gluten free wafer by first extending your palms down. If you have received the bread, please return to your pew with the bread in your hand; then you may slip the bread into your mouth under your mask. If you would like to have communion brought to your pew, please let an usher know.

Communion Anthem

sung by the Choir Morning glory, starlit sky BINGHAM

Morning glory, starlit sky, soaring music, scholar's truth, flight of swallows, autumn leaves, memory's treasure, grace of youth:

Open are the gifts of God, gifts of love to mind and sense; hidden is love's agony, love's endeavor, love's expense.

Love that gives, gives ever more, gives with zeal, with eager hands, spares not, keeps not, all outpours, ventures all its all expends.

Drained is love in making full, bound in setting others free, poor in making many rich, weak in giving power to be.

Therefore he who shows us God helpless hangs upon the tree; and the nails and crown of thorns tell of what God's love must be.

Here is God: no monarch he, throned in easy state to reign; here is God, whose arms of love aching, spent, the world sustain.

Communion Hymn 167

"There is a green hill far away"

HORSLEY

If you are joining from home or have not received communion, you may offer this prayer to the Lord.

The Act of Reception

Saint Augustine's Prayer Book (2nd ed)

The Celebrant and the People say together

In union, Blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.

Come Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart in the fullness of your strength; be my wisdom and guide me in right pathways; conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; and, in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

The Postcommunion Prayer

The People stand or kneel. Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty and everliving God, People 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.

Parish Announcements

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.**

Recessional Hymn 164

"Alone thou goest forth, O Lord"

Dismissal

Celebrant	Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People	Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Processional

Warren Martin (1916–82)

Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Dr. Linda Spiers
Crucifer	Pam Ely
Eucharistic Ministers	Sharon Pearson, Bill Brautigam
Acolytes	Lily Cristini, John Mannix
Lectors	Sharon Pearson, Janet Nobles, Stacey Savas
Intercessor	Amy Gubner
Music Director	Andrew Leslie Cooper
Choir	St. Matthew's Church Choir
Altar Guild	Char Griffin, Joy Ruterman, Lorena Morales Aparicio
Counters	Brian Angerame, Bill Brautigam

Passion Readers

Narrator:	Caroline DeAngelis	Servant Girl 1:	Anna-Kate Reis
Judas:	Matt Hall	Servant Girl 2:	Lorena Morales Aparicio
Disciples:	Sharon Pearson	Bystander/s:	Amy Gubner
Jesus:	Brian Angerame	Pilate:	Jean Campbell
Peter:	John Pearson	Pilate's wife:	Lorena Morales Aparicio
Accusers:	Anna-Kate Reis	Centurion:	Stacey Savas
High Priest:	Kim Hall	Soldiers:	Stacey Savas
Chief Priests:	Paul Reis		-

BANGOR

<u>**Prayer Requests**</u> Specific prayer requests will be kept on the prayer list for <u>six weeks</u>. 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 through the week, we remember all those who have been commended to our prayers. For those who are sick or in need: *Mike, Susan, Jack, John, Chuck, Joan, Joy, Peter, Liz, Ann, Jack, Pat, Kathy, Dick, Brooks, Scott, Martin, Ann, Melinda, Aaron, Dann. For those serving in the military, Matthew Comeau.*

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. George's, Middlebury; Holy Trinity, Middletown; St. Andrew's, Milford; ECCT Regions, Region Leadership Teams, and Region Missionaries.





+ Holy Week 2023 Schedule +

Tuesday, April 4: Lenten Musical Meditation on Zoom 9pm

Thursday, April 6: Maundy Thursday: Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar 7pm

Friday, April 7: Good Friday: Noon Liturgy 12 noon

Friday, April 7: Good Friday: Night Prayer & The Way of the Cross with Communion 7pm

Saturday, April 8: Holy Saturday Preparation Liturgy 9am

Sunday, April 9: Easter Sunday: Festival Holy Eucharist 10am followed by an Easter Egg Hunt

~ All services to be livestreamed ~ (except for Friday 7pm & Saturday 9am)

Night Prayer & The Way of the Cross with Communion Good Friday, April 7, 2023, 7:00 pm



The offering of prayer on Good Friday in the evening, often called Compline, has sometimes been described as the 'goodnight prayer of the Church'. It rounds off the day and prepares us for a quiet night. Prayer like this is especially fitting on this night when we remember Jesus' death on the cross, when we probe the depths of the darkness without him. The

Way of the Cross is a processional route in the Old City of Jerusalem and on this night we will re-enact it by walking to fourteen stations, marking each point with scripture, reflections, prayer, and song as we follow the Cross together.

St. Matthew's Spirited Sisters

This month we have a very special trip planned for our April meeting. On Saturday, April 22, 2023, we will be driving to NYC for a group tour of The Cathedral of **Saint John the Divine.** The tour will be followed by a fun lunch at nearby V&T Italian restaurant before we head back to Wilton. We will take the Cathedral's



"Highlights" tour and "explore the many highlights of the Cathedral's history, architecture, and artwork, from the Great Bronze Doors to the seven Chapels of the Tongues." Estimated cost for the day per person is \$40. (Tour costs are: \$12 per person, \$10 per college student/senior (ages 62 and up) and lunch will be about \$30.) Stacey and Pam will be driving but we may need an additional driver depending on the number of people attending. We will need a firm head count by April 15th. Please let us know if you can join us! Questions: Contact Stacey Savas or Pam Carlson.

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. There you'll find information and opportunities to connect for friends and members of all ages.



<u>Staff</u>

The Rev. Marissa S. Rohrbach, marissa@stmatthewswilton.org Rector Music Ministries & Organist Andrew Leslie Cooper, andrew@stmatthewswilton.org Parish Administrator Nancy Johnson, office@stmatthewswilton.org Samantha Trolice, samantha@stmatthewswilton.org Children, Youth & Family Interim Director of WEPCO Ed Rowley, wepco@optonline.net Louann Miska, louann.miska@gmail.com Bookkeeper Media Technician Matthew Henshaw Nursery Staff Lucia Sato

Wardens and Officers

WardenPam ElyWardenAnne NewtonTreasurerRob Kyle

Clerk Asst. Treasurer Jennifer DeAngelis Brian Angerame

The Vestry

Eleanor Arnold Beth Baker Pam Carlson Amy Gubner Vytas Kisielius Endy Perry Paul Reis

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