



Saint Matthew's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Holy Eucharist - Rite II
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 30, 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 WORD OF GOD +

Prelude

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

Prelude on *St. Columba*

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

Processional Hymn 645

ST. COLUMBA

"The King of love my shepherd is"

Celebrant

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Collect for Purity (*said by all*)

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.

Gloria – S278

Sung by all

setting by William Mathias (1934-92)

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

The First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

sung by the Choir

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

³ He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

⁶ Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

The Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Lector **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

*Children in Pre-K – 7th Grade may proceed to their classrooms for
Church School at the beginning of the first verse.*

Sequence Hymn 492

FINNIAN

“Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness”

The Holy Gospel

John 10:1-10

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

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

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

The People respond with the words in bold.

Intercessor Brothers and Sisters, Jesus bore our sins on the cross so that we, free from sins, might live in righteousness. Let us pray to our Lord, saying, “Revive our souls, *and guide us along right pathways.*”

Intercessor Guardian of our souls, call your Church to greater righteousness. Help us to live by your example and follow in your steps. Revive our souls,

People **And guide us along right pathways.**

Intercessor Guardian of our souls, spread out your table in the presence of those who are troubled. Feed their souls and bodies with your good and generous gifts. Revive our souls,

People **And guide us along right pathways.**

Intercessor Guardian of our souls, you have blessed us with a beautiful planet full of places where we can find rest and peace. May we care for it, as you care deeply for all you have made. *(The people are invited to add their own thanksgivings).* Revive our souls,

People **And guide us along right pathways.**

Intercessor Guardian of our souls, you desire the goodwill of all the people. Give us generous hearts and open hands. Revive our souls,

People **And guide us along right pathways.**

Intercessor Guardian of our souls, it is your presence that comforts us. Make your presence known to the sick and the sorrowful, to the fearful and the weak. We pray especially for Becky, Mike, Susan, Jack, Chuck, Joan, Joy, Peter, Liz, Ann, Jack, Pat, Kathy, Dick, Brooks, Scott, Martin, Ann, Melinda, Aaron, Dann, and for all those we now name [_____]. Revive our souls,

People **And guide us along right pathways.**

Intercessor Guardian of our souls, you came that we may have life, and have it abundantly. Bring the dying and the dead into your eternal home. Revive our souls,
People **And guide us along right pathways.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions and thanksgivings either silently or aloud.

Silence may be kept.

The Celebrant says the following prayer

God of heaven and earth, you created the one human family and endowed each person with great dignity. Aid us, we pray, in overcoming the sin of racism. Grant us your grace in eliminating this blight from our hearts, our communities, our social and civil institutions. Fill our hearts with love for you and our neighbor so that we may work with you in healing our land from racial injustice. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

—United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Then the Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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 +

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

John Rutter (b. 1945)

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love, which from our birth
over and around us lies.
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour,
of the day and of the night,
vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.

For the joy of love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild.
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine
to our race do freely given,
graces human and divine,
flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n.
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.

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 www.stmatthewswilton.org/offering. 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.



Please stand as you are able.

Doxology at the Presentation *sung by all* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

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

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus – S128

Sung by all

setting by William Mathias (1934-92)

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The people remain standing or kneel. The Celebrant continues

And so, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

The Celebrant continues

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of our Mothers; Sarah, Rebecca, and Leah: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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.

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast, alleluia.**

Fraction Anthem – S165

Sung by all

setting by William Mathias (1934-92)



Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy
on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy
on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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 would like to have communion brought to your pew, please let an usher know.*

Communion Anthem

sung by the Choir

VRUECHTEN

This joyful Eastertide

This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified,
hath sprung to life this morrow.

*Had Christ, that once was slain,
ne'er burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain;
but now is Christ arisen.*

Death's flood hath lost its chill,
since Jesus crossed the river:
Lord of all life, from ill
my passing life deliver.

Refrain

My flesh in hope shall rest,
and for a season slumber,
till trump from east to west
shall wake the dead in number.

Refrain

Please kneel or sit to sing.

Communion Hymn 334

ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN

“Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing”

If you are joining us 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.

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.

Parish Announcements

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People

Beloved, life is short. And we do not have enough time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of our God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier be with you to strengthen and guard you this day and always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 478

MONK'S GATE

“Jesus, our mighty Lord”

The Celebrant offers the dismissal to which the people respond,

Celebrant Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

Théodore Salomé (1834–96)

Grand Chœur in G major

Worship Leaders

<i>Celebrant & Preacher</i>	The Rev. Dr. Linda Spiers
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Beth Baker, Vytas Kisielius
<i>Lectors</i>	Kim Hall, Adair Garis
<i>Intercessor</i>	Matt Hall
<i>Music Director</i>	Andrew Leslie Cooper
<i>Choir</i>	St. Matthew's Church Choir
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Char Griffin, Joy Ruterma, Lorena Morales Aparicio
<i>Counters</i>	David Gortz, Chris Perry

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.***

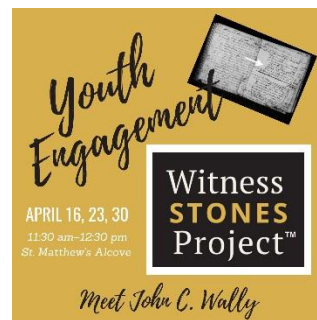
Today and through the week, we remember all those who have been commended to our prayers. For those who are sick or in need: *Becky, Mike, Susan, Jack, Chuck, Joan, Joy, Peter, Liz, Ann, Jack, Pat, Kathy, Dick, Brooks, Scott, Martin, Ann, Melinda, Aaron, Dann. For those serving in the military, Matthew Comeau.* In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. John's, New Haven; St. Luke's, New Haven; St. Paul and St. James, New Haven; Retirement communities, especially Armsmead, chaplains at retirement communities, and Retired Clergy Chaplains.

Weekly Calendar – April 30– May 7

Sunday, April 30	The Fourth Sunday of Easter
10:00am	Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person & Livestream)
10:15am	Church School
11:15am	Coffee Hour
Monday, May 1 - 7:00pm	Education for Ministry
Tuesday, May 2 - 11:00am	Staff Meeting
Wednesday, May 3 - 7:30pm	Social Justice & Racial Healing group meeting
Thursday, May 4 - 7:00pm	St. Matthew's Church Choir rehearsal
Sunday, May 7	The Fifth Sunday of Easter
10:00am	Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person & Livestream)
10:15am	Church School
11:15am	Coffee Hour

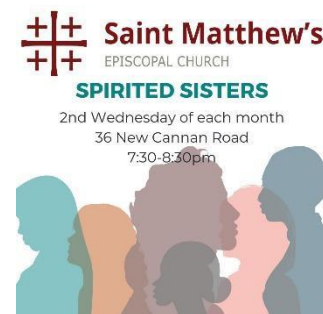
Witness Stones Project – Youth Engagement

Our time with the Witness Stones Project staff has concluded and we received many primary documents of an enslaved person who had a connection to St. Matthew's: John C. Wally (aka Lazarus). Over the course of 3 Sundays (April 16, 23 and May 7 from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm), youth in Grades 6-9 will be meeting with Becky Hudspeth and Sharon Pearson to learn more about him, his role at St. Matthew's, and his accomplishments in the Wilton community. Among their tasks will be to determine what should be engraved on the memorial Witness Stone to be placed in Wilton in his honor. Speak to Becky or Sharon if you have any questions about this fascinating project.



St Matt's Spirited Sisters End of Year Potluck Wednesday, May 10th 6:00PM

Come celebrate the first year of St. Matt's Spirited Sisters! Throughout the year, we have learned from fellow Christians through their writing and speaking. We have explored new ways to worship in creating prayer beads. We collaborated on a craft project in support of our mission partner, Circle of Care. Next week we are embarking on our first field trip to St. John the Divine. Join us for our final get-together before we break for summer! Please email Stacey Savas at staceysavas70@gmail.com and she will forward the signup genius to you. As always, please feel free to bring friends.

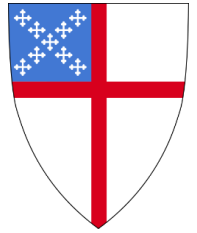


SAVE THE DATE

On **Sunday, June 11th**, plan to join us for worship with Bishop James Curry (retired, ECCT) as he shares his message around the ministry he is engaged in, Swords to Plowshares. This ministry utilizes firearms that have been acquired via buy-back programs and repurposed as gardening tools. Jim will bring the Swords to Plowshares forge and do some demonstrations of how the firearms are reshaped into garden tools. More details to come soon.

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.

Staff

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

Wardens and Officers

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

The Vestry

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

36 New Canaan Road, Wilton, CT 06897

Phone: (203) 762-7400

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