



Saint Matthew's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Holy Eucharist - Rite II
The Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 14, 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

Amy Beach (1867-1944)

Prelude on an Old Folk Tune

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

Processional Hymn 405

ROYAL OAK

"All things bright and beautiful"

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, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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

Acts 17:22-31

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on

which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:7-18

sung by the Choir

⁷ Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

⁸ Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.

⁹ For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹⁰ You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

¹¹ You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹² I will enter your house with burnt-offerings
and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹³ I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.

¹⁴ Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.

¹⁵ I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.

¹⁶ If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁷ But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

¹⁸ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

The Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from

the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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 455

DUNEDIN

“O Love of God, how strong and true”

The Holy Gospel

John 14:15-21

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

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

Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.” “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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 Bless our God, you peoples; make the voice of God's praise to be heard, saying, "We call out to you with our mouths; *your praise is on our tongues.*"

Intercessor Lord Christ, you have not left us orphaned, but have given your Church an Advocate. May that same Holy Spirit teach us to keep your commandments and comfort us with divine love. We call out to you with our mouths;

People **Your praise is on our tongues.**

Intercessor Loving God, bless the suffering. May those who suffer for doing good find a friend in Christ Jesus. May those who suffer from disasters beyond their control find you attentive to the voice of their prayers. We call out to you with our mouths;

People **Your praise is on our tongues.**

Intercessor Lord of heaven and earth, you made the world and everything in it. You give to all mortals life and breath and all things. May we be faithful stewards of all you have created. (*The People are invited to add their own thanksgivings*). We call out to you with our mouths;

People **Your praise is on our tongues.**

Intercessor Merciful Lord, bless the people of this city with a spirit of gentleness and reverence. May we be set free from fear to live, instead, in hope. We call out to you with our mouths;

People **Your praise is on our tongues.**

Intercessor God, you are not far from each one of us. You love us as your children. Reveal your love, especially this day, to the sick and sorrowful. We pray especially for Arlene, Barbara, Beth, Becky, Susan, Jack, Chuck, Joan, David, Nancy, Joy, Peter, Liz, Ann, Jack, Pat, Kathy, Dick, Brooks, Scott, Martin, Ann, Melinda,

Aaron, Dann, and for those we now name [_____].

We call out to you with our mouths;

People **Your praise is on our tongues.**

Intercessor Heavenly Father, you hold our souls in life. You have saved us in baptism. Because your Son Jesus lives so do we rejoice in the hope of unending life in you. We call out to you with our mouths;

People **Your praise is on our tongues.**

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

O God of all nations and peoples: We live in a nation of immigrants, and one in which the diverse gifts of many peoples have contributed to our energy and strength. Yet it is one in which some immigrants are discriminated against because of the color of their skin, their language, or the country of their origin. Help us, by your grace, to offer hospitality to all strangers, as our Father Abraham did in the desert. Grant us the wisdom and skill to enact just and merciful immigration reforms so that the hospitality and access to this great land may be offered equally to people of all colors and races and nations.

Amen.

—*Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia*

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

Thomas Tallis (1505-85)

If ye love me

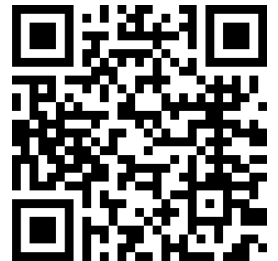
If ye love me, keep my commandments.
And I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another comforter,
that he may 'bide with you forever;
E'en the sp'rit of truth.

- John 14: 15-17

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, Rachel, 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

MENDON

Come, Gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove

Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove,
with light and comfort from above;
be thou our guardian, thou our guide;
o'er every thought and step preside.

The light of truth to us display,
and make us know and choose thy way;
plant holy fear in every heart,
that we from thee may ne'er depart.

Lead us to Christ, the living Way,
nor let us from his precepts stray;
lead us to holiness, the road
that we must take to dwell with God.

Lead us to heaven, that we may share
fullness of joy for ever there;
lead us to God, our final rest,
to be with him for ever blest.

Please kneel or sit to sing.

Communion Hymn 686

NETTLETON

“Come, thou fount of every blessing”

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 657

HYFRYDOL

“Love divine, all loves excelling”

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

Léon Boëllmann (1862–97)

Minuet Gothique



With joy today we welcome back Marissa from family leave.
Please join us for a festive coffee hour as we rejoice in her
return to our midst and give thanks for her ministry.
We missed her mightily!

Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher

Eucharistic Ministers

Acolyte

Lectors

Intercessor

Music Director

Choir

Altar Guild

Counters

The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

Sharon Pearson, Pam Ely

Douglas Gubner

Paul Reis, Sharon Pearson

Anna-Kate Reis

Andrew Leslie Cooper

St. Matthew's Church Choir

Nancy Brautigam, Jen DeAngelis, Lorena Morales Aparicio

Brian Angerame, Chris Perry



Today's altar flowers are given in loving memory of Emily Walke Woodside by her family, Bill, Sam and Anne Woodside.

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: *Arlene, Barbara, Beth, Becky, Mike, Susan, Jack, Chuck, David, Nancy, 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. Thomas', New Haven; Trinity, New Haven; St. James, New London; Clergy peer groups and the Clergy Family Assistance Program.

Weekly Calendar – May 14 – May 21

Sunday, May 14

10:00am

10:15am

11:15am

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person & Livestream)

Church School

Coffee Hour

Monday, May 15

7:00pm

Education for Ministry

Tuesday, May 16

11:00am

Staff Meeting

Thursday, May 18

7:00pm

St. Matthew's Church Choir rehearsal

Sunday, May 21

10:00am

10:15am

11:15am

5:00-8:00pm

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person & Livestream)

Church School

Coffee Hour

Wepco Community Movie Night

SAVE THE DATES

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.

Children, Youth and Family Ministries (Save The Dates)

- **Monday, May 15th 4- 5pm: Adopt-A-Shop with Wilton Pride**

Please join Sam and Julie as we decorate the **Bianco Rosso restaurant** front in honor of Pride Month in June. This is a tangible way to show our solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community and express that we, at St. Matthew's and WPC are committed to maintaining a safe, welcoming space for all. All ages and families are welcome to join in the fun! Bring your creative spirits and open hearts! **Email me to let me know you're coming.**

Looking Ahead:

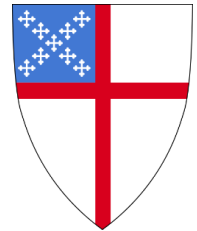
- **Sunday, May 21st, 5-8pm:** Film Screening of "The Swimmers", the story of two Syrian refugee sisters and their journey to freedom. WiAct discussion to follow. Potluck dinner and childcare.
- **Sunday, June 4th, 10am Worship:** Senior Sunday
- **Sunday, June 11th, 10am Worship:** Lily Cristini's Confirmation and Swords to Plowshares sermon and demonstration by retired Bishop Jim Curry.

For additional information, please email Samantha at samantha@stmatthewswilton.org.

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		

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