



Holy Eucharist - Rite II
The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 1, 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

Myles Birket Foster (1851-1922)

March

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

Processional Hymn 412

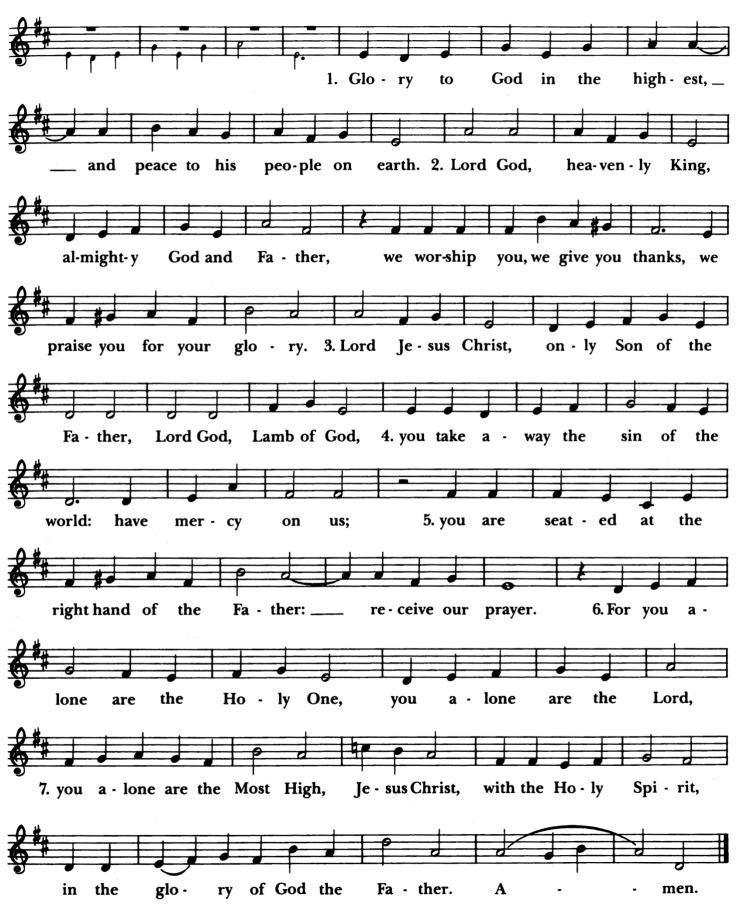
EARTH AND ALL STARS

Celebrant Blessed be the One who creates all things.

People The Holy One's love is new every morning.

Celebrant This is the day the Creator has made.

People Let us rejoice and be glad in it.



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Creator be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

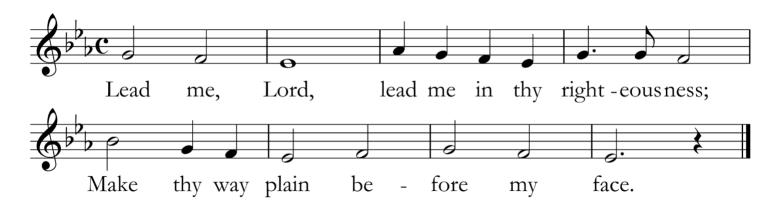
Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a

new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

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

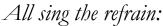
Responsorial Psalm 25:1-8

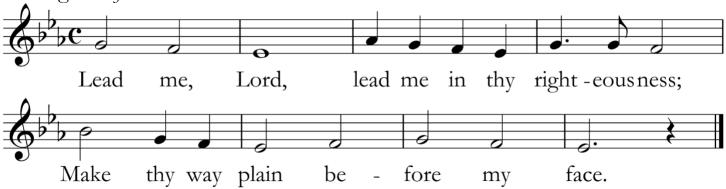
Refrain, sung first by the Choir, then again by all:



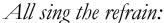
Choir alone:

- ¹To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; * let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- ² Let none who look to you be put to shame; * let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- ³ Show me your ways, O Lord, * and teach me your paths.
- ⁴ Lead me in your truth and teach me, * for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.





- ⁵ Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, * for they are from everlasting.
- ⁶ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; * remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- ⁷ Gracious and upright is the Lord; * therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- ⁸ He guides the humble in doing right * and teaches his way to the lowly.





The Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 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.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

Children in Pre-Kindergarten –5th Grade may proceed to the narthex for Godly Play at the beginning of the hymn.

Please stand as you are able.

Sequence Hymn 439

WONDROUS LOVE

"What wondrous love this is"

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Profession of Faith

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

Prayers of the People

The People respond with the words in bold.

Intercessor Beloved of God, in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Humbly then, let us approach our God, saying, "To will and work for your good pleasure, O Lord, enable us."

Intercessor Christ Jesus, strengthen our tongues to declare you as Lord of our lives. May we, your Church, glorify you in word and deed. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Jeffrey and Laura, our Bishops, for Marissa, our Rector, and for all the clergy and people of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. To will and work for your good pleasure,

People O Lord, enable us.

Intercessor Christ Jesus, you chose not to exploit your equality with God, but humbled yourself to be with us. Give us your heart for the marginalized and poor. And may all people, especially those in power, follow your example of humility. To will and work for your good pleasure,

People O Lord, enable us.

Intercessor Christ Jesus, by your birth in human likeness you blessed all of creation. Remind us that your feet have trod our soil and tasted our waters. Give us the will to care for this precious planet. To will and work for your good pleasure,

People O Lord, enable us.

Intercessor Christ Jesus, you rule the world with love and compassion. Give to our local leaders compassion and vision that the people of our region might live as neighbors, looking out for each other's interests. We give you thanks for all the blessings of this life, for our families, friends, and for all those with whom we share the journey. Today we give special thanks for the wedding anniversary of Lex and Nora Gaillard. To will and work for your good pleasure,

People O Lord, enable us.

Intercessor Christ Jesus, you became obedient to the point of death that we might have abundant life. Work marvels in the lives of the sick and sorrowful. May they recount to generations the wonderful deeds you have done in their lives. We pray especially for Thomas, James, Judy, Diana, James, Carol, Susan, Lee, Arlene, Barbara, Mike, Jack, Chuck, Joan, David, Peter, Liz, Ann, Jack, Pat, Kathy, Dick, Scott, Martin, Ann, Melinda, Aaron, Dann and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. We also remember those we name now either silently or aloud. To will and work for your good pleasure,

People O Lord, enable us.

Intercessor Christ Jesus, through death and resurrection you were highly exalted by God. Continue your good work in those who now rest from their labors. We remember especially today, Tom Campbell,

in whose loving memory the altar flowers are given. May all the dead find new and lasting life in you. To will and work for your good pleasure,

People O Lord, enable us.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. The People may add their own intercessions either silently or aloud.

Silence may be kept.

The Celebrant says the following prayer

Generous and loving God, we come to you in thanksgiving, knowing that all we are and all that we have is a gift from you. In faith and love, help us to do your will. We are listening. Speak your words into the depth of our souls, that we may hear you clearly. We seek to be patient, to be merciful, to be generous, to be holy. Give us the wisdom and insight to understand your will for us and the fervor to carry out our good intentions. Help us to reach out to others as you have reached out to us. **Amen**. —Episcopal Diocese of Washington

Then the Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

The Confession

Then the Celebrant says Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

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

Celebrant and People say together

Merciful and sustaining God, we have sinned against you.

We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation: teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.

We confess that we have misused your earth: grant us amendment of life.

We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: strengthen us in self-control.

We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent now for its protection.

Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. 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 God of heaven has made a home on earth.People Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

+THE HOLY COMMUNION+

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

O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

Revelation 4:11

Offertory Anthem

Myles Birket Foster (1851-1922)

Be glad and rejoice

Be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God,
That hath dealt wondrously with you.
He maketh peace in all thy borders,
and filleth thee with the flour of wheat.
Lift up your eyes on high, and behold
Who hath created these things by the greatness of His might.
Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
O let my mouth be filled with Thy praise,
That I may sing of Thy glory and honour all the day long.
The valleys are covered with corn, they shout for joy.
Be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God. Amen.

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 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 THE OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures here below,

Praise God above ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

CelebrantPeopleCelebrantCelebrantThe Lord be with you.And also with you.Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

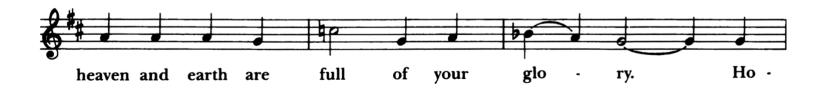
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders. Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity, your elegance into our meanness, and your simplicity into our corruption. Though we poison and destroy your good Creation, you continue to offer us your abundance. In your mercy, you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus, transforming death into life.

Through the Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you—for the restoration of Creation and the reconciliation of all people.

And so we give you thanks, rejoicing with all of Creation, as we join the saints and angels in their unending hymn:









On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me."

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People say together

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries reconcile us to our world and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will. Send your lifegiving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine. Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive.

Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your life anew.

Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith and sanctified by love, and you are all in all. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God, now and forever. **AMEN**.

As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray.

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.

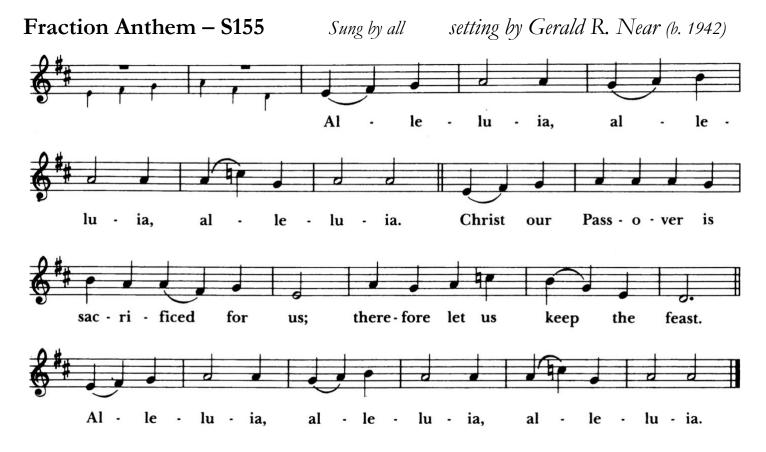
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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



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. Please wait for the Ushers and follow their instructions. 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. You may then choose to drink from the silver chalice to your left or intinct (dip the wafer in the wine) in the clay chalice to your right. If you do not wish to receive wine, simply pass the cup, and make your way back to your seat. We believe Jesus is fully present in both the bread and the wine, so if you receive the bread, you have participated fully in communion. 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

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–76)

Lead me, Lord

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Please kneel or sit to sing.

Communion Hymn 339

SCHMÜCKE DICH

"Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness"

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 People stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.People Faithful God

in the wonder of your wisdom and love

you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of

angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life.

We thank you for feeding us with this bread.

May it strengthen us

that by the power of the Holy Spirit

we may embody your desire

and be renewed for your service

through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Parish Announcements

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People

May God light in us a holy fire: Light a fire that is worthy of our ancestors. Light a fire that is worthy of our fathers. Light a fire that is worthy of our mothers. Light a fire that is worthy of God. Now let us go in peace, lighting a holy fire wherever we go. And the blessing of God who creates, redeems, and sanctifies be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 711

SEEK YE FIRST

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God"

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve God's Creation.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Myles Birket Foster (1851-1922)

Triumph March

Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher

Eucharistic Ministers

Lectors

The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

Pam Ely, Bill Brautigam

Paul Reis, Chris Perry

Intercessor Anna-Kate Reis

Music Director Andrew Leslie Cooper

Choir St. Matthew's Church Choir

Altar Guild Char Griffin, Jen DeAngelis, Lorena Morales Aparicio

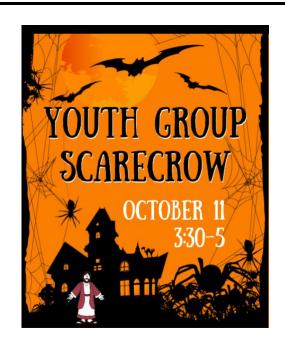
Counters Adair Garis, Chris Perry

<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: Thomas, James, Judy, Diana, James, Carol, Susan, Lee, Arlene, Barbara, Mike, Jack, Chuck, David, Joan, Peter, Liz, Ann, Jack, Pat, Kathy, Dick, Scott, Martin, Ann, Melinda, Aaron, Dann and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. For those serving in the military, Matthew Comeau.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Trinity, Torrington; Christ Church, Trumbull, Trinity, Trumbull; For all companions and service animals, all livestock and wild animals, great and small.





Weekly Calendar – October 1 – October 8

Sunday, October 1 The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am Holy Eucharist – Rite II

11:30am Summer Book Read discussion

11:30am Confirmation Class information session

Monday, October 2

7:30pm EFM (Virtual)

Tuesday, October 3

11:00am Staff meeting

Wednesday, October 4

7:30pm Social Justice & Racial Healing Group (virtual)

Thursday, October 5

7:30-9:00pm St. Matthew's Church Choir rehearsal

Sunday, October 8 The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am Holy Eucharist – Rite II

11:30am Summer Book Read discussion

Next up in The Arts at St. Matthew's:

St. Matthew's organist and music director, Andrew Leslie Cooper, will present a recital of music by Bach, Howells, Price, Lefébure-Wély, Andrée, and more. Mark your calendars for **Friday, October 13th at 7:30pm**. Don't miss it!

And, most importantly, spread the word!

The pipe organ at St. Matthew's was built in

2009 by the Reuter Organ Company of Lawrence, KS and contains 3,140 pipes. This recital will show off the versatile range of this instrument and its many sound colors.



Wi-ACT's Rise Against Hunger Meal-Packaging Event: Saturday, October 21st

Wi-ACT's Rise Against Hunger meal-packaging event will be held on **Saturday, October 21**st in our Parish Hall and Lounge, as usual. Wi-ACT's on-line **registration site** for this Event is https://signup.com/go/qVWVyrE The meal-packaging work is in 2-hour shifts; so just go on the site and choose your shift: beginning at **9 am, 11 am, 1 pm, and 3 pm**. Children as young as 7 can participate, and intergenerational family groups are welcome and very much encouraged! We all know how joyous and uplifting the experience is as we package meals to serve hundreds of children in some of the most food-deprived circumstances in the world. This year, we hope to package another 135,000 meals as we did last year, and if we do, we can feed more than 350 children for an entire year.

Hope to see you there. -- The Wi-ACT Steering Committee

St. Matthew's Auction 2023



Saturday, October 28th, we will travel around the world together, tasting and sharing food and drink from many different regions of the world. There is no need to bring your own passport as we will provide your very own for this special evening. Please buy your tickets online, invite a friend(s), and check back with us frequently for new listings of auction items. This evening will support all of St. Matthew's ministries, and is a joyous evening during which we celebrate our church life together and give generously to fund that

life. Click here for more details and information or scan the QR Code below.

Of course, this evening would not be complete without the donations of wonderful auction items! Here is a list for some inspiration:

- vacation home
- restaurant gift cards
- themed gift baskets
- dinner parties
- tickets to sporting events
- newest tech gadget



Questions or donations - Talk to Pam or Anne or email stmatthewsauction@gmail.com

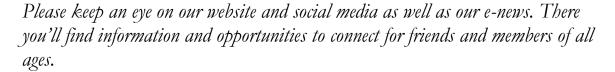
St. Matt's Spirited Sisters Fall Events

Please join us for our next meeting on October 11 at 7:30. St. Matt's Spirited Sisters is a community of faith for the women of St Matthew's that explores and strengthens our Christian ideals and knowledge, fostering friendship, offering prayer and support for each other, and building a deeper relationship with Christ. We generally meet the second Wednesday of every month to discuss topics of faith by listening to podcasts, reading articles, taking field trips, doing hands-on activities, and learning from each other. We welcome all the women of St. Matthew's and their friends. Discussion materials will be available prior to meeting but advanced prep work is not required.

Please Contact Pam Carlson <u>pamelacarlson@gmail.com</u> or Stacey Savas <u>staceysavas70@gmail.com</u> with any questions.

Worship Schedule at St. Matthew's

Holy Eucharist on Sundays at 10am





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
Interim Director of WEPCO Donna Savage, wepco@optonline.net
Bookkeeper Louann Miska, louann.miska@gmail.com
Media Technician Matthew Henshaw
Nursery Staff Lucia Sato
Sexton Alix Williams, Jairo Medina

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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