

Holy Eucharist - Rite II The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 10, 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

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

Processional Hymn 376

HYMN TO JOY

"Joyful, joyful, we adore thee"

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

The Collect for Purity

The Celebrant and People say together

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



The Collect of the Day

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

The First Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-11

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

Psalm 119:33-40

Sung by the Choir

- ³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, * and I shall keep it to the end.
- ³⁴ Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; * I shall keep it with all my heart.
- ³⁵ Make me go in the path of your commandments, * for that is my desire.
- ³⁶ Incline my heart to your decrees * and not to unjust gain.
- ³⁷ Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; * give me life in your ways.
- ³⁸ Fulfill your promise to your servant, * which you make to those who fear you.
- ³⁹ Turn away the reproach which I dread, * because your judgments are good.
- ⁴⁰ Behold, I long for your commandments; * in your righteousness preserve my life.

The Second Reading

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became

believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Sequence Hymn 546

"Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve"

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

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

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

CelebrantThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

Siroë

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* Our Lord Jesus has promised that, when we gather in his name, he is here among us. Let us pray saying, "We are gathered in your name; *accept our prayers.*"
- Intercessor O Lord, you take pleasure in your people: May your Church be a community of honesty and humility. Help us to love each other especially when love is a challenge. 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. We also pray for our Presbyterian partners, for Mark, Jessica, and Chris, their clergy, and for all the people of Wilton Presbyterian Church. We are gathered in your name;
- People Accept our prayers.
- *Intercessor* O Lord, you adorn the poor with victory: be with the hungry and the oppressed. Comfort the grieving. Give peace to all whose lives have been upset by natural disaster and war. We are gathered in your name;
- *People* Accept our prayers.
- *Intercessor* O Lord, you have caused grapes to grow on the vine and wheat to grow in the fields so that we might celebrate this festive day. Bless the land to grow enough that all people may celebrate its bounty. Help us to better share and nurture that bounty. We are gathered in your name;
- People Accept our prayers.
- *Intercessor* O Lord, your Law is summarized, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Help us to love our neighbors so that we might do no wrong by anyone. We are gathered in your name;
- People Accept our prayers.

Intercessor O Lord, may all those who now lament see the day when they shall sing to you a new song—a song of joy and praise. May those who weep, dance for joy. May the anxious rest in peace. And may all know that it was you, the Lord, who did this. We pray especially for Judy, James, Diana, 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. We are gathered in your name;

People Accept our prayers.

Intercessor O Lord, care for the dead as they await the great day of resurrection. We pray especially for Donna Puskar. May all who have died rest in peace. We are gathered in your name;

People Accept our prayers.

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

Ever present God, you called us to be in relationship with one another and promised to dwell wherever two or three are gathered. In our community, we are many different people; we come from many different places, have many different cultures. Open our hearts that we may be bold in finding the riches of inclusion and the treasures of diversity among us. We pray in faith. **Amen.** —*The Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Then the Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Confession

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

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

Celebrant and People say together

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

The Celebrant says

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

Please stand as you are able.

The Peace

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

+ THE HOLY COMMUNION +

Celebrant says an Offertory sentence, the congregation may be seated. Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

Offertory Anthem

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

If thou but trust in God to guide thee

If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through all thy ways, he'll give thee strength whate'er betide thee, and bear thee through the evil days. Who trusts in God's unchanging love builds on a rock that nought can move.

Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving; so do thine own part faithfully, and trust his word, though undeserving; thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God never yet forsook in need the soul that trusted him indeed.

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 <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.



Please stand as you are able.

Doxology at the PresentationSung by allTHE OLD HUNDREDTHPraise 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.

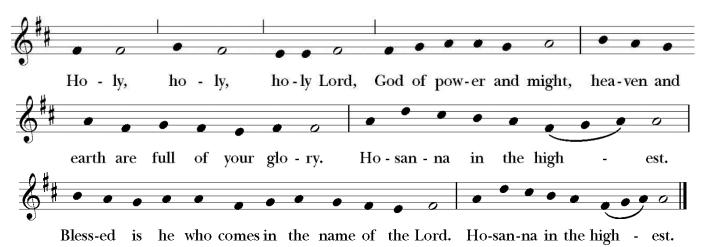
The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

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

Sanctus – S 124 Sung by all setting by David Hurd (b. 1950)



Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature,

to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: *Celebrant and People say together* **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

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

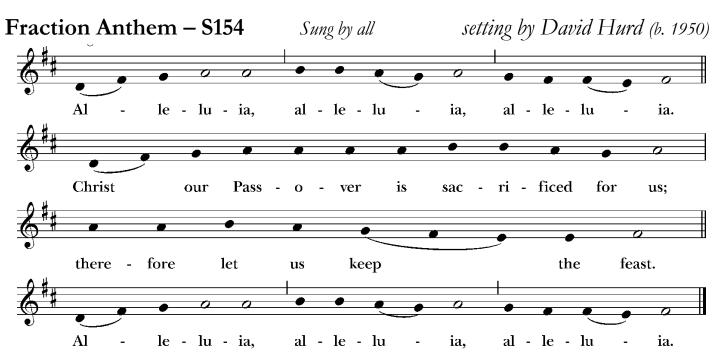
Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your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

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

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our 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 forever 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

Sung by the Choir

As we gather at your table

As we gather at your Table, as we listen to your Word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that Feast where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

Please kneel or sit to sing.

Communion Hymn 321

"My God, thy table now is spread"

ROCKINGHAM

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

People

Let us pray.

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 of the Backpacks, Bags and Briefcases

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God give you strength to be Christ's hands and heart in this world. And the blessing of God Almighty, who creates, redeems, and sanctifies be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 460

Hyfrydol

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!"

The Celebrant offers the dismissal to which the people respond, **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach
Eucharistic Ministers	Vytas Kisielius, Pam Ely
Lectors	Stacey Savas, Caroline DeAngelis
Intercessor	Vytas Kisielius
Music Director	Andrew Leslie Cooper
Choir	St. Matthew's Summer Choir
Altar Guild	Nancy Brautigam, Sharon McKenna, Kim Olson
Counters	David Gortz, Brian Angerame

<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: Judy, James, Diana, 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 L'Eglise de L'Epiphanie, Stamford; St. Andrew's, Stamford; St. Francis', Stamford; The Province of New England: the Dioceses of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Western Massachusetts; their bishops, clergy, parish and diocesan staff, and congregations; Provincial Synod; all Provincial Networks.

Weekly Calendar – September 10 – September 17

Sunday, September 10 10:00am	The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Eucharist – Rite II
Tuesday, September 12 11:00am	Staff meeting
Thursday, September 14 7:30-9:00pm	St. Matthew's Church Choir rehearsal
Saturday, September 16 7:30-9:30pm	The Arts at St. Matthew's concert
Sunday, September 17 10:00am 11:30am	The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Eucharist – Rite II St. Matthew's Day Celebration

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UPCOMING CONCERTS

Here is what you have to look forward to this 2023–24 season: **nine concerts** from September to June, featuring visiting and local artists and a wide variety of music. The year kicks off on **Saturday, September 16 at 7:30 PM**. This season-opening concert is **free** and features Ryan Young, a fiddler who is leading the "New Wave" of Scottish Fiddlers. Mark your calendars or scan the QR code to go directly to tickets:

Saturday, Sep 16, 2023, 7:30 PM:	Ryan Young, fiddle (free)	
Friday, Oct 13, 2023, 7:30 PM:	Andrew Leslie Cooper, organ	
Friday, Nov 03, 2023, 7:30 PM:	Fauré's Requiem	
Friday, Jan 19, 2024, 7:30 PM:	Michelle Pauker American Songbook	
Friday, Feb 02, 2024, 7:30 PM:	Westminster Choir	
Friday, Mar 22, 2024, 7:30 PM:	Hildegard, Bach, and Pärt (free)	
Friday, Apr 05, 2024, 7:30 PM:	Chhandayan Holi Festival of Colors	
Saturday, May 18, 2024, 7:30 PM:	La Fiocco	
Saturday, Jun 08, 2024, 7:30 PM:	Grand Finale — The Bach Family	

Tickets and subscriptions available at www.stmatthewswilton.org/aasm-tickets



SAVE THE DATE

Next Sunday, September 17th

"Fall Kickoff"



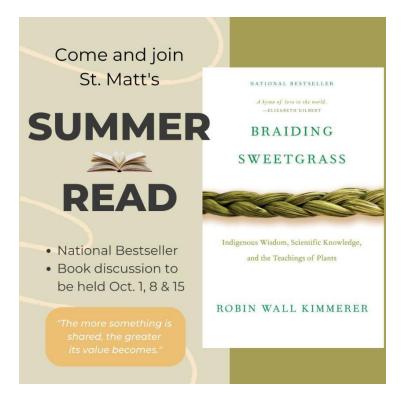
Please plan to join us for our "Fall Kickoff" on Sunday, September 17th as we worship and celebrate St. Matthew's Day followed by a fun and festive joint kickoff with WPC.

Come join us and bring some folks along with you. All are welcome.

We will have a bouncy house for the kids after worship. There will be a really fun food truck with options for everyone. And a few more surprises along the way!

More details to follow soon.

St. Matt's Summer Read Book Discussions After Worship Sundays October 1, 8 and 15



QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Which of Jesus' parables come to mind as you read?

What stories of Creation do you know?

What does reciprocity mean to you?

How is the Kingdom of God like sweetgrass?

"Ceremony focuses attention so that attention becomes intention. If you stand together and profess a thing before your community, it holds you accountable" p.249

Share God's Word in Worship

BECOME A LECTOR



St. Matt's is looking for some good readers to participate in worship as **lectors** (read the Old or New Testament lessons) and **intercessors** (lead the Prayers of the People) at 10:00 am and feast day services. Commitment is once every 4-6 weeks. Youth (12+) and adults are welcome!

Contact Sharon Pearson <u>sharonepearson@gmail.com</u> / 203-984-1228) if interested in more info.

St. Matt's Spirited Sisters Fall Events

We are kicking off the fall season on Saturday, September 23 with a field trip to the Bellamy-Farraday House in Bethlehem Connecticut. The house was built in 1754 by the Rev. Joseph Bellam. It is the former home of Caroline Ferriday, who was an actress, conservationist and philanthropist supporting the Free



France Movement during WWII, a leader in securing help for Ravensbruck Concentration Camp survivors and involved in the Civil Rights Movement. She was also one of the main characters in the historical fiction novel Lilac Girls. We will drive from St. Matthew's to lunch in Bethlehem and then take a tour of the house, returning in the afternoon. Please email Stacey Savas <u>staceysavas70@gmail.com</u> if you would like to join us.

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.

Our Fall meetings are October 11, November 8, and December 13 at 7:30. We welcome all of 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 or Stacey Savas with any questions.

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.



RectorThe Rev. Marissa S. Rohrbach, marissa@stmatthewswilton.orgMusic Ministries & OrganistAndrew Leslie Cooper, andrew@stmatthewswilton.orgParish AdministratorNancy Johnson, office@stmatthewswilton.orgInterim Director of WEPCODonna Savage, wepco@optonline.netBookkeeperLouann Miska, louann.miska@gmail.comMedia TechnicianMatthew HenshawNursery StaffLucia SatoSextonAlix Williams, Jairo Medina

Wardens and Officers

Warden	Pam Ely	Clerk
Warden	Anne Newton	Asst. Treasurer
Treasurer	Rob Kyle	

Jennifer DeAngelis Brian Angerame

The Vestry

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

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