



Saint Matthew's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Holy Eucharist - Rite II
The First Sunday in Lent
February 18, 2024
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

Peter C. Lutkin (1958–1931)

Prelude on "Forty Days and Forty Nights"

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

Processional Hymn 150

AUS DER TIEFE RUFEN ICH

"Forty days and forty nights"

A Penitential Order: Rite Two

Celebrant

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People

God's mercy endures forever.

The Decalogue

The Celebrant and people kneel as they are able, the Celebrant begins

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

Silence may be kept.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve on your will. Amen.**

The Celebrant says

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

Kyrie eleison setting from *The Wilton Service* by Andrew Leslie Cooper

sung by all

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son 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

Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-9

sung by the choir

Plainsong

¹ To 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.

⁹ All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

The Second Reading

1 Peter 3:18-22

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 proceed to their classrooms at the beginning of the hymn.

Sequence Hymn 455

DUNEDIN

“O Love of God, how strong and true”

The Gospel

Mark 1:9-15

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

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

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

The Nicene Creed

The Celebrant and People say together

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The People respond with the words in bold.

Intercessor Beloved of God, Christ suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring us to God. Let us pray to the God of our salvation, saying, “Show us your ways, O God, **and teach us your paths.**”

Intercessor You, O God, have saved us through the cleansing waters of baptism. And you have called us to minister in the name of your Son. Send us out today to proclaim the good news of the Kingdom of God. Show us your ways, O God,

People **And teach us your paths.**

Intercessor Let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes, Righteous God. Deliver the vulnerable from those who would seek to exploit them. Work through us to bring about a just and peaceful world. Show us your ways, O God,

People **And teach us your paths.**

Intercessor Almighty God, you have made a covenant of peace with every living creature that is on the earth. Make us mindful of those creatures with whom we share this planet. May we live in this world with greater respect for everything around us. Show us your ways, O God,

People **And teach us your paths.**

Intercessor O Lord, defend those who are assailed by any variety of temptation. Give them strength in their weakness. Let none who look to you be put to shame. Show us your ways, O God,

People **And teach us your paths.**

Intercessor Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love. In your mercy, send your healing grace to those in need. We pray especially for Sabrina, Karen, Kristen, Vinny, Antonio, Thomas, Diana, Aaron, Kathy, Arlene, Jack, Joan, Liz, Jack, Maddie, Scott, Melinda, and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. We also remember those we now name either silently or aloud (*the people are invited to offer their own intercessions*). Show us your ways, O God,

People **And teach us your paths.**

Intercessor Jesus Christ, all authorities and powers are subject to you, even the power of death. We pray for those who have died, even as we look in hope to the day of resurrection. Show us your ways, O God,

People **And teach us your paths.**

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

Celebrant Holy and righteous God, you created us in your image. Grant us grace to contend fearlessly against evil and to make no peace with oppression. Help us, like those of generations before us who resisted the evil of slavery and human bondage in any form and any manner of oppression. Help us to use our freedoms to bring justice among people and nations everywhere, to the glory of your Holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

—ELCA

Celebrant

Strong and faithful God, hear us as we cry to you. Stretch out your hand to save us, that we may praise you for your mercy. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **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

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–47)

He that shall endure

He that shall endure to the end shall be saved.

— Matthew 10:22

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.

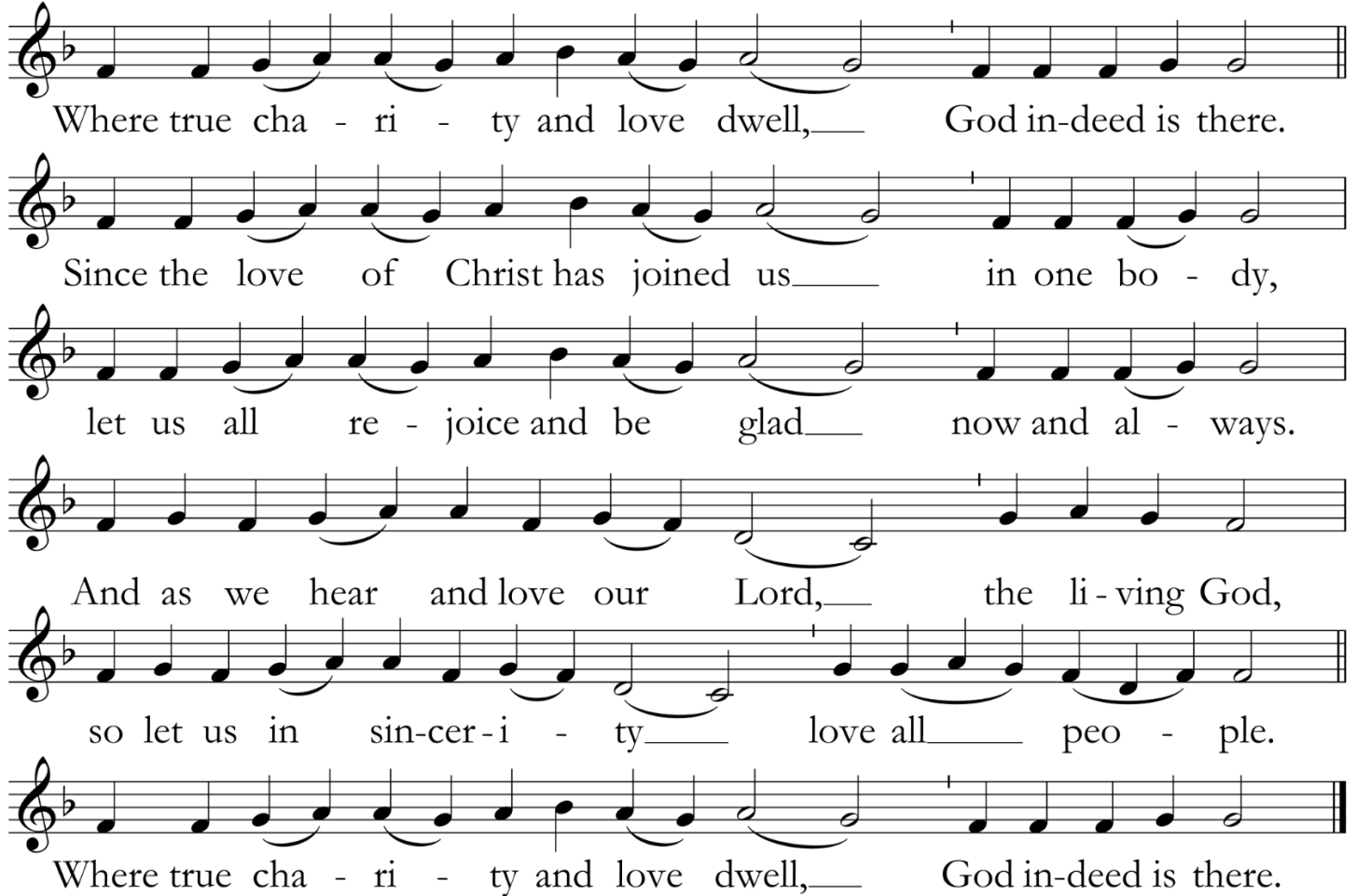
No gift is too small. All gifts honor the God who honors us with life, breath, love, and salvation.



Please stand and sing:

Hymn at the Presentation

UBI CARITAS



Where true cha - ri - ty and love dwell, God in-deed is there.

Since the love of Christ has joined us in one bo - dy,

let us all re - jice and be glad now and al - ways.

And as we hear and love our Lord, the li - ving God,

so let us in sin-cer-i - ty love all peo - ple.

Where true cha - ri - ty and love dwell, God in-deed is there.

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

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may

come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus setting from *The Wilton Service* by Andrew Leslie Cooper
sung by all

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly
Lord, God of power_ and might, power and might,
hea-ven and earth are full_ of your glo-ry, full of your glo-ry.
Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Choir alone:
Bless - ed is he,___ he___ who comes___ in___ the
name___ of the Lord.
All:
Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people remain standing or kneel. The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with [____and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Fraction Anthem setting from *The Wilton Service* by Andrew Leslie Cooper
sung by all

Christ our Pass-o-ver is sac-ri-ficed for us;—
There-fore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to come forward, as directed by ushers, to receive communion or a blessing. 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

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
All along my pilgrim journey, Lord,
I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
When the shades of life are falling, Lord,
I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my sorrows, Lord, walk with me;
In my sorrows, Lord, walk with me;
When my heart within is aching, Lord,
I want Jesus to walk with me.

Please kneel or sit to sing.

Communion Hymn 142

ST. FLAVIAN

“Lord, who throughout these forty days”

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Parish Announcements

Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people saying

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 448 vv. 1-5

DEUS TUORUM MILITUM

“O love, how deep, how broad, how high”

After the Celebrant offers the dismissal, the People respond

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Hubert Parry (1848–1918)

“Tranquilly”

Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher

The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

Eucharistic Ministers

Sharon Pearson, Vytas Kisielius

Lectors

Adair Garis, Janet Nobles

Intercessor

Andrew Leslie Cooper

Music Director

Andrew Leslie Cooper

Choir

St. Matthew’s Church Choir

Altar Guild

Debbie Fuller, Nancy Brautigam, Jenn DeAngelis

Counters

Bill Brautigam, 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: Sabrina, Karen, Kristen, Vinny, Antonio, Thomas, Diana, Aaron, Kathy, Arlene, Jack, Joan, Liz, Jack, Maddie, Scott, Melinda, and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. For those serving in the military, Matthew Comeau.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. David’s, Gales Ferry; St. James’, Glastonbury; St. Luke’s, Glastonbury; Christ Church, Greenwich; The Union of Black Episcopalians CT and the Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation Ministry Network.



UPCOMING CONCERTS

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



Sundays in Lent: Gospel Series

Stay after worship and join the conversation. Come discuss the Gospel of the day, the sermon, and what it means to you. After church, beginning at 11:30am ~ Sundays, February 18, 25, March 3, 10 and 17.



Philadelphia Eleven Documentary



We have a wonderful opportunity at St. Matthew's coming up on April 28th. We will have a special screening of a documentary that was made about the Philadelphia Eleven, the first women to be ordained in the Episcopal Church. And we will be joined that day by one of the eleven, the Rev. Dr. Carter Heyward. You can read more about the film and watch the trailer in this week's Enews.

We continue to work out some of the details - but I'll have all of them to you soon. Plan on coming to church that morning and staying afterward for the screening and a conversation with Carter Heyward. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss it! Share this invitation with friends who might be interested. All are welcome.

Weekly Calendar – February 18 – February 25

Sunday, **February 18**

10:00am

10:15am

11:15am

11:30am

The First Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person & Livestream)

Church School

Coffee Hour

Lenten Gospel Series

Monday, **February 19**

7:00-9:30pm

Education for Ministry (Zoom)

Tuesday, **February 20**

11:00am

Staff Meeting

Thursday, **February 22**

7:30-9:00pm

St. Matthew's Church Choir rehearsal

Sunday, **February 25**

10:00am

10:15am

11:15am

11:30am

The Second Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person & Livestream)

Church School

Coffee Hour

Lenten Gospel Series

**Connection details available on our website, in the e-news,
and in our Parishioner Facebook group.**

Need to sign up for the e-news? It's easy – just go to www.stmatthewswilton.org/newsletter.

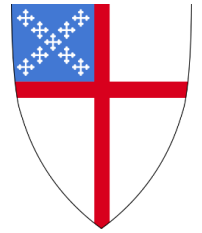
Need to join the Parishioner Facebook Group? Go here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/StMatthewsOnline/>

Need something else? Send Marissa a note or be in touch with another member of the staff.

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

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	John Pearson

36 New Canaan Road, Wilton, CT 06897

Phone: (203) 762-7400

www.stmatthewswilton.org

Like us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/stmattswilton

Follow us on Twitter & Instagram [@stmattswilton](#)