

Holy Eucharist - Rite II The Last Sunday after the Epiphany February 19, 2023 10:00am

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

Adoration

Florence Beatrice Price (1887–1953)

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

Processional Hymn 7

RATISBON

"Christ, whose glory fills the skies"

CelebrantBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd 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. O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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

Exodus 24:12-18

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

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

sung by the Choir

Psalm 99

- ¹The LORD is King; let the people tremble; * he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.
- ² The LORD is great in Zion; * he is high above all peoples.
- ³ Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; * he is the Holy One.
- ⁴ "O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; * you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- ⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and fall down before his footstool; * he is the Holy One.
- ⁶ Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, * they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.
- ⁷ He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; * they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
- ⁸ O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; * you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- ⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and worship him upon his holy hill; * for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

The Second Reading

2 Peter 1:16-21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

Please stand as you are able for the singing of the hymn.

Children in Pre K - 7th Grade proceed to their classrooms at the beginning of the first verse.

Sequence Hymn 383

ST. ELIZABETH

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

The Gospel

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

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Linda Spiers

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	Friends, Jesus commends us to, "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." Therefore, let us come before God, praying, "Incline our hearts, O Lord, to your decrees; <i>give us life in your</i> <i>ways.</i> "
Intercessor	Teach your Church, O Lord, to be holy as you are holy. Give us the courage to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. Incline our hearts, O Lord, to your decrees;
People	Give us life in your ways.
Intercessor	Teach the people of this and every nation, O Lord, to be about justice and mercy. Help us to treat all people, poor and rich alike, with dignity. Incline our hearts, O Lord, to your decrees;
People	Give us life in your ways.
Intercessor	Teach us, O Lord, to care for your creation. May our fields yield enough to fill the bellies of all who hunger. Incline our hearts, O Lord, to your decrees;
People	Give us life in your ways.
Intercessor	Teach the people of our local community, O Lord, to value each other. May be deal with our neighbors fairly – not holding grudges but loving our neighbors as ourselves. Incline our hearts, O Lord, to your decrees;
People	Give us life in your ways.
Intercessor	Teach the sick and the struggling, O Lord, that you are trustworthy. You have called our bodies holy temples in which your Spirit is pleased to dwell. We pray that where there is sickness, you might bring healing and wholeness. We pray especially for, Mike, Susan, Jack, John, Chuck, Joan, Joy, Peter,

	Liz, Ann, Jack, Pat, Kathy, Dick, Joanne, Brooks, Scott, Martin, Ann, Melinda, Donnie, Aaron, Dann, and for all those we now name []. Incline our hearts, O Lord, to your decrees;
People	Give us life in your ways.
Intercessor	O Lord, the dying and the dead belong to you. Fulfill your promise to your servants: new and unending life in Christ. We pray especially for []. <i>The people are invited to offer their own intercessions</i>). Incline our hearts, O Lord, to your decrees;
People	Give us life in your ways.

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.

Celebrant Almighty God, we confess that we have tried to run away and hide from you. We constantly deceive ourselves into thinking that we can live without you. We have made idols of our own achievements. We have treated other persons as though they did not bear your image. We have failed to enfold and include all persons within the outstretched and open arms of Jesus Christ, our Savior. And we have left undone those deeds of lovingkindness and godly justice that you want us to pursue in your name. Bring your Spirit upon us in a gracious, healing way. Make us agents of reconciliation as we live within your holy presence. **Amen**. *"Prayer of Confession" —10th Anniversary Celebration of Full Communion between the Episcopal Church and the Northern and Southern Provinces of the Moravian Church*

Celebrant 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.

The 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

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. Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Offertory Anthem

0 nata lux

Andrea Angelin (b. 1961)

O nata lux de lumine, Jesu redemptor saeculi, Dignare clemens supplicum Laudes precesque sumere.

Qui carne quondam contegi Dignatus es pro perditis, Nos membra confer effici Tui beati corporis. O Light born of Light, Jesus, redeemer of the world, with loving-kindness deign to receive suppliant praise and prayer.

Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost, grant us to be members of thy blessed body.



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 <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 Presentation

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

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.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus



Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Matthew, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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,

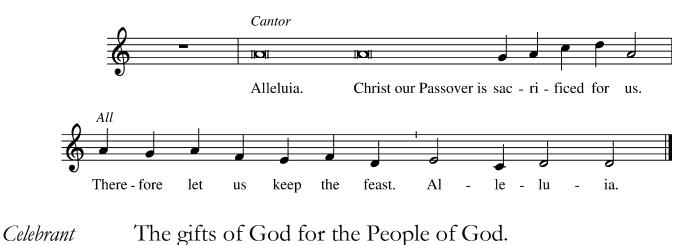
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

Fraction Anthem

setting by Peter Crisafulli (b. 1946)



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 have received the bread, please return to your pew with the bread in your hand; then you may slip the bread into your mouth under your mask. If you would like to have communion brought to your pew, please let an usher know.

Communion Anthem

sung by the Choir

O Light of Light, Love given birth

O Light of Light, Love given birth; Jesus, Redeemer of the earth: more bright than day your face did show, your raiment whiter than the snow.

Two prophets, who had faith to see, with your elect found company; the heavens above your glory named, your Father's voice his Son proclaimed.

May all who seek to praise aright through purer lives show forth your light. To you, the King of glory, now all faithful hearts adoring bow.

Please kneel or sit to sing.

Communion Hymn 137

WAREHAM

"O wondrous type! O vision fair"

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 People

Let us pray.

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Parish Announcements

The Blessing

Celebrant The Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, teach you to walk in his way more trustfully, to accept his truth more faithfully, and to share his life more lovingly; that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may come as one family to the kingdom of God. And the blessing of our God who Creates, Redeems, and Sanctifies be with you this day and evermore. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 427

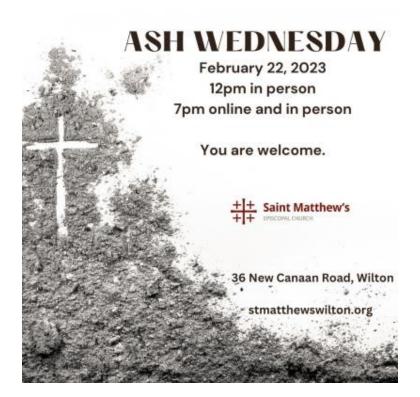
LAUDES DOMINI

"When morning gilds the skies"

After the Celebrant offers the dismissal, the People respond, **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875–1912) The Journey to the Great City



Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher Eucharistic Minister Lectors Intercessor Music Director Choir Counters



The Rev. Dr. Linda Spiers Beth Baker Lorena Morales Aparicio, Sharon Pearson Beth Baker Andrew Leslie Cooper St. Matthew's Church Choir Bill Brautigam, David Gortz

Today's altar flowers are given in thanksgiving for the birth of Luke Paul Rossano Rohrbach, given by Lyn, Laine, & Marissa.

Prayer Requests

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: *Mike, Susan, Jack, John, Chuck, Joan, Joy, Peter, Liz, Ann, Jack, Pat, Kathy, Dick, Joanne, Brooks, Scott, Martin, Ann, Melinda, Donnie, Aaron, Dann. For those serving in the military, Matthew Comeau.*

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Barnabas', Greenwich; Christ Church, Guilford; St. John's, Guilford; Grace & St. John's, Hamden. All parishbased mission partnerships; ECCT- wide mission partnership networks; the Companions in Mission Network.

Living Well Through Lent 2023

Lenten devotional booklets are available for all, and you'll find them close to the service bulletins in the narthex. *Living Well Through Lent 2023: Practicing Compassion with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind* offers day by day reflections by Episcopal bishops, priests, and lay folks around the Episcopal Church. A variety of voices share their perspective and inspire deeper diving into Holy Scripture, the words of poets, modern and ancient theologians, the words of hymns. Please pick up a copy and enjoy this practice of compassion as a Lenten discipline.

Adult Forum: Lenten Gospel Series 2023

On Sundays in Lent, plan to stay after church for an adult forum focused on the Gospel of the day. We'll look together at scripture, reflect on the sermon, and wonder what the Gospel is saying to us in our time. No homework, no prep necessary! Simply, come and join us on 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19 and 3/26 at 11:30am in the lounge.

Lenten Musical Meditations 2023

Each Tuesday during Lent at 9:00pm, you are invited to log in to Zoom to experience a musical meditation hosted by Andrew Leslie Cooper. The Zoom link will be shared weekly in the eNews as well as in our parishioner Facebook group.

These sessions, which will last approximately 20–30 minutes each, are a way to reflect on the Lent season and deepen your walk with Jesus toward the cross. Andrew will share with you organ music, as well as the Psalm of the day and Collect of the day, sung to plainsong. Jesus said: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." And so, these Zoom rooms offer you a chance to worship from the comfort and quietude of your home.

If you are unable to log in, you will find the recordings shared to St. Matthew's Facebook and Instagram pages later the same week.

So, please set yourself a reminder for each Tuesday in Lent (beginning 2/28, ending 4/4) for 9:00pm, and invite your friends and family.

Witness Stones Project Comes to Wilton

Registration is now open to all youth (grades 5 - 9 especially) to participated in the Witness Stones Project. If you've missed the buzz about the program over the past year, you can **learn all**

about it - and register at

https://www.witnessstoneswilton.com.



On this website you will learn about the program, the dates, and content of the sessions as well as the other churches who are partnering with St. Matthew's in offering this program. There is no cost for participation, but registration is necessary for program materials and refreshments. For more information contact Sharon Pearson <u>sharonepearson@gmail.com</u> 203-984-1228.

Direct links for registration: (Also posted on the St. Matthew's website)

- Youth full program: <u>https://forms.gle/RFdgZamdXzjsF5cTA</u>
- Adults Session 1: <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/witness-stones-wilton-tickets-509343278457</u>



Make an Impact for Adolescents & Young Adults with Cancer Be a mentor!

Our partner, Circle of Care, is putting together a network of resources for the Adolescent/Young Adults who are in treatment or recovering from treatment. These teens have had so much interruption in their education and professional experiences. From financial advice to applying for a first job to finding out about an industry...you can make an impact on a young person who has already faced the unimaginable. Any questions?

Email Lisa Williams at lisa.williams@thecircleofcare.org

Weekly Calendar — February 19 – February 26

Sunday, February 19

8:30am 10:00am 10:15am 11:15am

Monday, February 20

7:00pm

Wednesday, February 22 10:00am 12:00pm 7:00pm

Thursday, February 23 7:30-9:00pm

Sunday, February 26

10:00am 10:15am 11:15am 11:30am

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 Church School Coffee Hour

Education for Ministry

Ash Wednesday Staff meeting Holy Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes Holy Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes

St. Matthew's Church Choir rehearsal

The First Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 Church School Coffee Hour Forum: 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 <u>www.stmatthewswilton.org/newsletter</u>. Need to join the Parishioner Facebook Group? Go here: <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/StMatthewsOnline/</u>

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.



<u>Staff</u>

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

Wardens and Officers

WardenPam ElyWardenAnne NewtonTreasurerRob Kyle

Clerk Asst. Treasurer Jennifer DeAngelis Brian Angerame

The Vestry

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

36 New Canaan Road, Wilton, CT 06897 Phone: (203) 762-7400 <u>www.stmatthewswilton.org</u> Like us on Facebook! <u>www.facebook.com/stmattswilton</u> Follow us on Twitter & Instagram @stmattswilton