

Holy Eucharist - Rite II
The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 30, 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

Cantilena

Jennifer Bate (1944–2020)

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

Processional Hymn 379

ABBOT'S LEIGH

"God is Love, let heaven adore him"

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

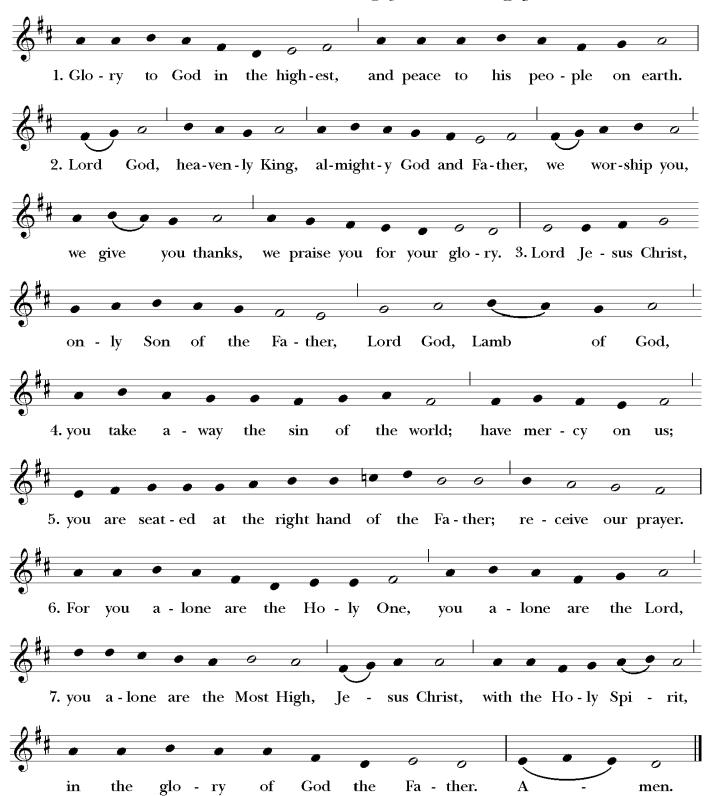
The Collect for Purity

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.

Gloria – S 277

Sung by all setting by David Hurd (b. 1950)



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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

1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

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

Psalm 119:129-136

Sung by the Choir

- ¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful; * therefore I obey them with all my heart.
- when your word goes forth it gives light; * it gives understanding to the simple.
- ¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant; *
 I long for your commandments.
- ¹³² Turn to me in mercy, * as you always do to those who love your Name.
- 133 Steady my footsteps in your word; * let no iniquity have dominion over me.
- ¹³⁴ Rescue me from those who oppress me, * and I will keep your commandments.
- ¹³⁵ Let your countenance shine upon your servant * and teach me your statutes.
- 136 My eyes shed streams of tears, * because people do not keep your law.

The Second Reading

Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Please stand as you are able.

Children in Pre-K-7th Grade may proceed to their classrooms for Summer Church School at the beginning of the first verse.

Sequence Hymn 447

ST. MAGNUS

"The Christ that died but rose again"

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

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

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Nicene Creed

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

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

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

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The People respond with the words in bold.

Intercessor Beloved of God, give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name! Let us pray to God, saying, "Spirit, help us in our weakness. Intercede for us."

Intercessor God of the Church, may your people be as persistent as the mustard shrub. May we spread your love and grace to all people and in all places. May we do our kingdom work with the confidence that nothing can separate us from your love. Spirit, help us in our weakness.

People Intercede for us.

Intercessor God of the world, make known your deeds among the peoples. Bring peace in places of conflict and violence. Spirit, help us in our weakness.

People Intercede for us.

Intercessor God of creation, all of your works are marvelous. Everything in creation with which you have surrounded us speaks to your goodness. Give us eyes to see your fingerprints in our world. Spirit, help us in our weakness.

People Intercede for us.

Intercessor Present God, you did not withhold your own Son, but gave him up for all of us. May we all come to know and experience the depths of your love. By your love, transform hearts and change lives. Spirit, help us in our weakness.

People Intercede for us.

Intercessor God of wholeness, neither hardship, nor distress can separate anyone from your love. Assure the suffering and sick, the hurt and sorrowful, that you care for them. May they remember that you are a God who does marvelous things. 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 before those we name now either silently or aloud. Spirit, help us in our weakness.

People Intercede for us.

Intercessor God of our ancestors, you have always been mindful of your

promises. You promise that not even death can separate us from your love. May all those who have died rest in your eternal love.

Spirit, help us in our weakness.

People Intercede for 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

God, we hold in prayer our struggles to untangle the mess created by our individual and communal brokenness: the stereotypes, biases, and systemic forms of injustice that enmesh, confine, and block us from being in right relations with each other. We invite your forgiving, reconciling, and transforming grace to be with us as we attempt to unravel the systems of injustice, violence, and hatred that we have created with our misguided prejudices and fears. **Amen.**—Alydia Smith, The United Church of Canada

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And 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

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Christe eleison (Christ, have mercy) from Mass in B Minor

Emilie Hannon, soprano Andrew Leslie Cooper, countertenor

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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And also with you.Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

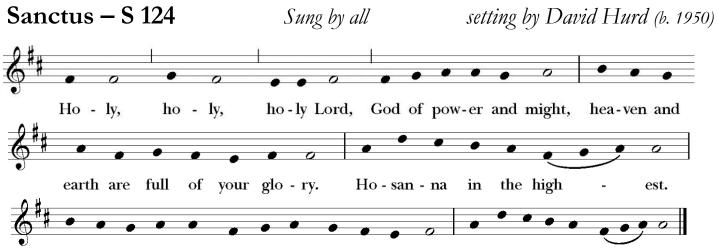
People We lift them to the Lord.

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:



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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.

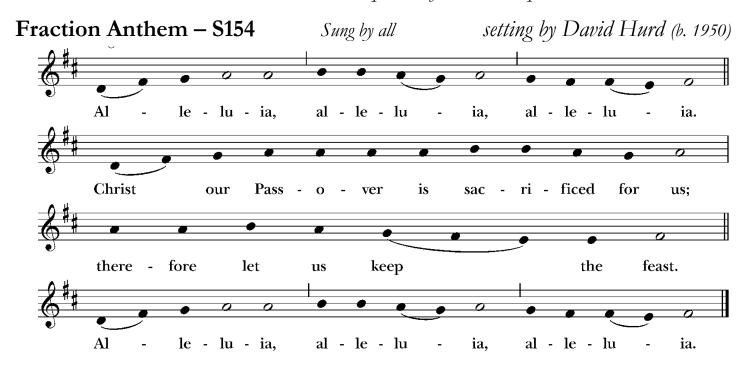
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

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

ST. FLAVIAN

"Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee

"Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee the passing ages pray; and faithful souls have yearned to see on earth that kingdom's day.

But the slow watches of the night not less to God belong; and for the everlasting right the silent stars are strong.

And lo, already on the hills the flags of dawn appear; gird up your loins, ye prophet souls, proclaim the day is near:

the day to whose clear-shining light all wrong shall stand revealed, when justice shall be throned in might, and every hurt be healed;

when knowledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth abroad; the day of perfect righteousness, the promised day of God.

Communion Hymn 711

SEEK YE FIRST

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God"

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.

Postcommunion Prayer

The People stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Parish Announcements

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People

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 345

ELLERS

"Savior, again to thy dear Name we raise"

The Celebrant offers the dismissal to which the people respond,

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Postlude on Ellers

Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

Eucharistic Ministers Sharon Pearson, Anne Newton

Lectors John Pearson, Caroline DeAngelis

Intercessor Amy Gubner

Music Director Andrew Leslie Cooper

Choir St. Matthew's Summer Choir

Altar Guild Kim Olson, Lorena Morales Aparicio

<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 Good Shepherd, Shelton; St. Paul's, Shelton; Christ Church Cathedral's ministry in Hartford; the Cathedral Chapter; honorary canons of our Cathedral.

Weekly Calendar – July 30 – August 6

Sunday, July 30 The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am Holy Eucharist – Rite II

Tuesday, August 1

11:00am Staff meeting

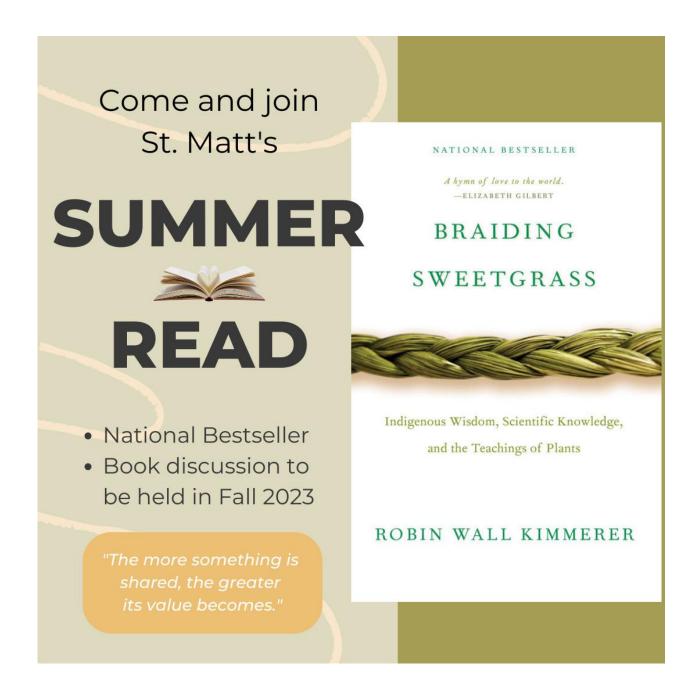
Sunday, August 6 The Transfiguration

10:00am Holy Eucharist – Rite II

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August Worship Schedule

Sundays August 6th and 13th – joint worship with WPC at St. Matt's Sundays August 20th and 27th – joint worship at WPC's sanctuary



Flat Matt is back!

Save this digital image of Matt (or be creative and make your own!) and take him with you on your summer adventures! Email us a photo of you and Flat Matt and be sure to tell us where you are and we will share with the Parish via Facebook and Instagram. What a fun way to stay connected this summer! Please send to social@stmatthewswilton.org



Next Sunday is Interfaith Service Day – August 6th

Interfaith Service Day, serving the community of New Haven

Sunday, August 6th, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm with a Grand Feast from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm.

"Amidst our differences, we find creative inspiration and common ground to love and serve one another."

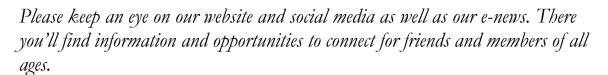
- 12+ projects to engage in that day, mostly on the green, and some off-site.
- Appreciate the diversity of the faith communities around us while feeling strengthened in our own faith tradition and community.
- · Put your faith into action and worship with your mind, body, and spirit.
- Great family-friendly outing!!

Visit www.iwagepeace.org to learn about projects, discussions, and demonstrations offered that day. Please RSVP to Samantha if you and your family and friends will join us this day.



Worship Schedule at St. Matthew's

Holy Eucharist on Sundays at 10am





Staff

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

Wardens and Officers

Warden Pam Ely Clerk Jennifer De Angelis 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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