

Holy Eucharist - Rite II The Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 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

Clara Schumann (1819–96)

Prelude & Fugue in D minor, Op. 16, No. 3

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

Processional Hymn 149

OLD 124TH

"Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church"

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."

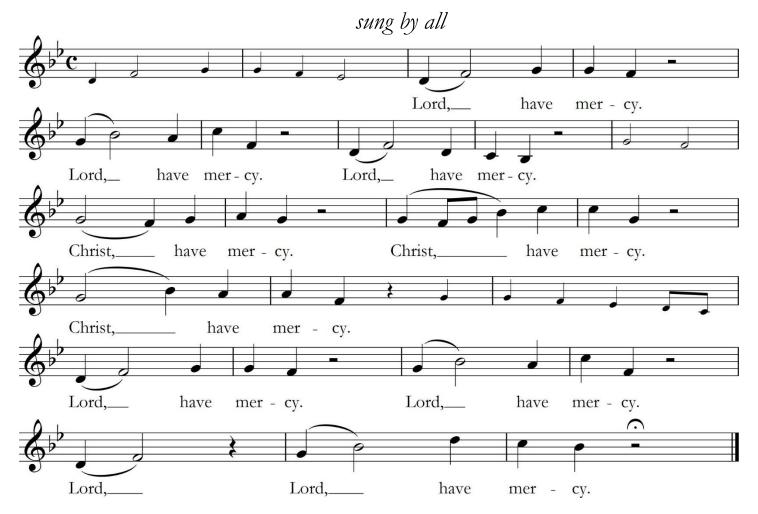
Silence may be kept.

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



The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

The First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7,15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:22-30

sung by the choir

Plainsong

- ²² Praise the LORD, you that fear him; * stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- ²³ For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; * but when they cry to him he hears them.
- ²⁴ My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
 I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

- The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
 "May your heart live for ever!"
- ²⁶ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- ²⁷ For kingship belongs to the LORD; * he rules over the nations.
- ²⁸ To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- ²⁹ My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.
- ³⁰ They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.

The Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken

in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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 401

LEONI

"The God of Abraham praise"

The Gospel Mark 8:31-38

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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 Give praise all you who fear the Lord: proclaim God's

greatness! With thankful hearts, let us pray, "O Righteous

God, increase our faith."

Intercessor Lord Jesus, you invite us to follow you: Give your Church

the courage and will to risk any and everything for the sake of the gospel. May we be bold in witness and resolute in

discipleship. O Righteous God,

People Increase our faith.

Intercessor God the King, you rule over the nations: hear the cries of

those living in poverty. Give the leaders of nations a heart

for the poor. O Righteous God,

People Increase our faith.

Intercessor God of Sarah, you make the seemingly impossible quite

possible: renew the creation. Forgive us for our misuse and neglect of your gifts. Help us to live as good stewards. O

Righteous God,

People Increase our faith.

Intercessor O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: be gracious

to the Church in this community. Strengthen your parishes as we make our Lenten journey. May we faithfully make

known your saving deeds. O Righteous God,

People Increase our faith.

Intercessor Gracious Lord, you hide not your face from those in need:

we trust in your faithfulness. Hear our prayers for those in pain and distress. 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). O Righteous God,

People Increase our faith.

Intercessor Everliving God, you give life to the dead and call into

existence the things that do not exist: hoping against hope, we trust in your eternal promises and look for the day of

resurrection. O Righteous God,

People Increase our faith.

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 Let me not look away, O God, from any truth I should see. Even if it is difficult, let me face the reality in which I live. I do not want to live inside a cosseted dream, imagining I am the one who is always right, or believing only what I want to hear. Help me to see the world through other eyes, to listen to voices distant and different, to educate myself to the feelings of those with whom I think I have nothing in common. Break the shell of my indifference. Draw me out of my prejudices and show me your wide variety. Let me not look away. **Amen.**—Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston, Choctow

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

Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

Jesu, the very thought of thee

Jesu, the very thought of thee With sweetness fills my breast; But sweeter far thy face to see, And in thy presence rest.

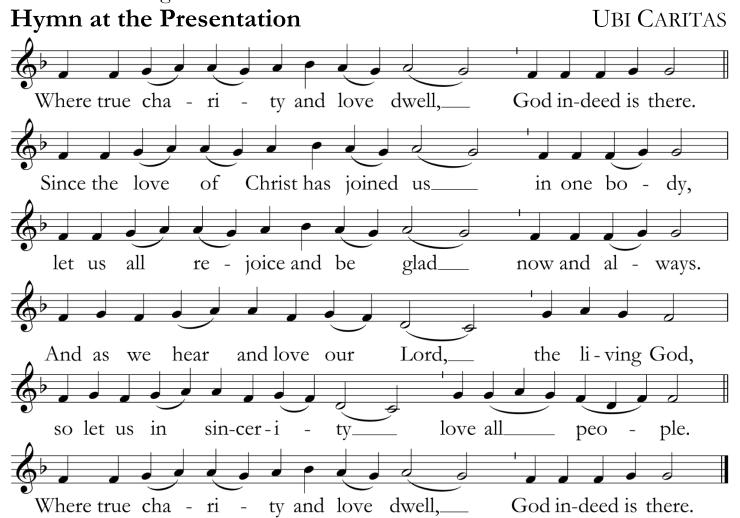
Whether you've joined us today from near or far, in person or online, please consider making a gift of thanksgiving to support the work of God at St. Matthew's. Be part of God's mission with us as we make our way into the new life God promises.

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 and sing:



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*



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**.

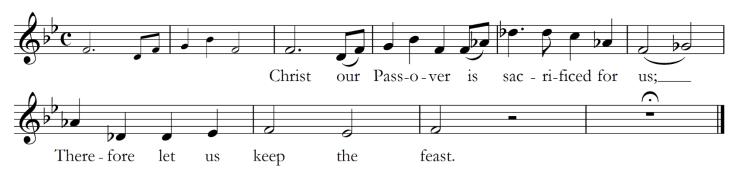
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, *Celebrant and People*

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



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

Where He Leads Me

I can hear my Savior calling, "Take thy cross and follow, follow me."

Where He leads me I will follow, I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

I'll go with Him through the garden, I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

Refrain

I'll go with Him through the judgement, I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

Refrain

He will give me grace and glory, And go with me, with me all the way.

Refrain

Please kneel or sit to sing.

Communion Hymn 654

SUMNER

"Day by day"

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.**

BOURBON

"Take up your cross, the Savior said"

After the Celebrant offers the dismissal, the People respond

Thanks be to God.

Postlude Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Fugue in C minor, BWV 546/II

Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach
Eucharistic Ministers Bill Brautigam, Sharon Pearson

Lectors Adair Garis, Lorena Morales Aparacio

IntercessorCaroline DeAngelisMusic DirectorAndrew Leslie Cooper

Choir St. Matthew's Church Choir

Altar Guild Debbie Fuller, Nancy Brautigam, Jenn DeAngelis

Counters Brian Angerame, Adair Garis

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. Barnabas', Greenwich; Christ Church, Guilford; St. John's, Guilford; Grace & St. John's, Hamden; All parish-based mission partnerships; ECCT-wide mission partnership networks; the Companions in Mission Network.

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.



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

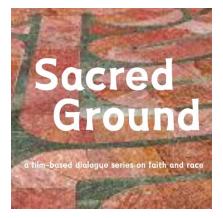
Tickets and subscriptions available at www.stmatthewswilton.org/aasm-tickets





Sacred Ground

Sacred Ground is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. The 11-part series is built around a powerful curriculum that focuses on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.



Sacred Ground is part of Becoming Beloved Community, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope, and love.

In the Spring of 2020, over a dozen St. Matthew's parishioners participated in this life-changing course. If there is enough interest, we will begin another cohort under the facilitation of Sharon Pearson. Contact her 203-984-1228 or sharonepearson@gmail.com if you are interested in learning more.

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 25 – March 3

Sunday, February 25 The Second Sunday in Lent

10:00am Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person & Livestream)

10:15am Church School 11:15am Coffee Hour

11:30am Lenten Gospel Series

Monday, February 26

7:00-9:30pm Education for Ministry (Zoom)

Tuesday, February 27

11:00am Staff Meeting

9:00pm Compline in Lent (Zoom)

Thursday, February 29

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

Saturday, March 2

9:30am-12:00pm Lenten Quiet Day in the sanctuary

Sunday, March 3 The Third Sunday in Lent

10:00am Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person & Livestream)

10:15am Godly Play 11:15am Coffee Hour

11:30am Lenten Gospel Series

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

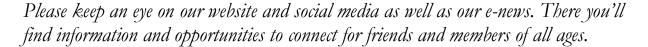
Need to sign up for the e-news? It's easy – just go to www.stmatthewswilton.org/newsletter.

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





Staff

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

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
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