



Holy Eucharist - Rite II
The Feast of Saint Matthew
Sunday, September 17, 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

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637–1707)

Gigue Fugue in C major, BuxWV 174

Processional Hymn

THE OLD HUNDREDTH



Celebrant Blessed be the One who creates all things.

People The Holy One's love is new every morning.

Celebrant This is the day the Creator has made.

People Let us rejoice and be glad in it.



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Creator be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. We thank you, heavenly Father, for the witness of your apostle and evangelist Matthew to the Gospel of your Son our Savior; and we pray that, after his example, we may with ready wills and hearts obey the calling of our Lord to follow him; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

The First Reading

Proverbs 3:1-6

My child, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare they will give you.

Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them round your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

in the sight of God and of people.

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

Psalm 119:33-40 Sung by the Choir

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

The Second Reading

2 Timothy 3:14-17

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

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

Please stand as you are able.

Sequence Hymn 281

BRESLAU

"He sat to watch o'er customs paid"

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 9:9-13

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

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

Profession of Faith

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

Prayers of the People

The People respond with the words in bold.

Intercessor Each of us is finally accountable to God. So let us pray, saying, "Lord, we are in need of your mercy; have patience with us."

Intercessor Lord, we acknowledge that we all sin against our siblings in Christ. Forgive us even as we forgive each other. Help us to be merciful to each other in the Church. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Jeffrey and Laura, our Bishops, for Marissa, our Rector, and for all the clergy and people of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

People Have patience with us.

Intercessor Lord, we acknowledge that we desire to repay violence with violence. Open our hearts to forgive even those who commit evil acts towards us and those we love. Help us to live mercifully in our world. Lord we are in need of your mercy;

People Have patience with us.

Intercessor Lord, we acknowledge we do not always appreciate the diversity of your creation. Teach us to live in peace with each other and with your creation. Help us to live mercifully in our world. Lord we are in need of your mercy;

People Have patience with us.

Intercessor Lord, we acknowledge that we do not love our neighbors as you love us. Forgive us for placing ourselves as judge over others when judgment belongs to you alone. Help us to accept the great mercy you choose to show others. Lord we are in need of your mercy;

People Have patience with us.

Intercessor Lord, we pray for those whose lives are broken by evil. Because of your mercy we believe that whatever befalls them, they belong to you; you care for the brokenhearted. Help us to share your love with all those who are hurting. We pray especially for Judy, James, Diana, Carol, Susan, Lee, Arlene, Barbara, Mike, Jack, Chuck, Joan, David, Peter, Liz, Ann, Jack, Pat, Kathy, Dick, Scott, Martin, Ann, Melinda, Aaron, Dann and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. We also remember those we name now either silently or aloud. Lord we are in need of your mercy;

People Have patience with us.

Intercessor Lord, we remember those who died in violence. We remember those men and women of the armed services, innocent bystanders, first responders, and even those we have called enemies. The dead belong to you, O Lord. Even as we seek your mercy for ourselves, judge all those who have died with mercy. Lord we are in need of your mercy;

People Have patience with 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

Almighty God, source of our life, we acknowledge you as Creator of all people of every race, language, and way of life. Help us to see each other as you see us: your sons and daughters loved into being and sustained by your parental care. Keep watch over our hearts so that the evil of racism will find no home with us. Direct our spirits to work for justice and peace so that all barriers to your grace which oppress our brothers and sisters will be removed. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**—Augustinian Secretariate for Justice and Peace

Then the Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

The Confession

Then the Celebrant says Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

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

Celebrant and People say together

Merciful and sustaining God, we have sinned against you.

We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation: teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.

We confess that we have misused your earth: grant us amendment of life.

We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: strengthen us in self-control.

We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent now for its protection.

Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. 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 God of heaven has made a home on earth.

All Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

+THE HOLY COMMUNION+

Celebrant says an Offertory sentence, the congregation may be seated.

O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. Revelation 4:11

Offertory Anthem

Anton Bruckner (1824–96)

Locus iste

Locus iste a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est.

This place was made by God, a priceless mystery; it is beyond reproof.

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

CelebrantPeopleCelebrantCelebrantThe Lord be with you.And also with you.Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

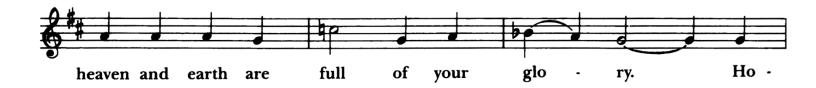
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders. Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity, your elegance into our meanness, and your simplicity into our corruption. Though we poison and destroy your good Creation, you continue to offer us your abundance. In your mercy, you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus, transforming death into life.

Through the Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you—for the restoration of Creation and the reconciliation of all people.

And so we give you thanks, rejoicing with all of Creation, as we join the saints and angels in their unending hymn:









On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me."

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People say together

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries reconcile us to our world and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will. Send your lifegiving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine. Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive.

Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your life anew.

Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith and sanctified by love, and you are all in all. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God, now and forever. **AMEN**.

As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray.

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.

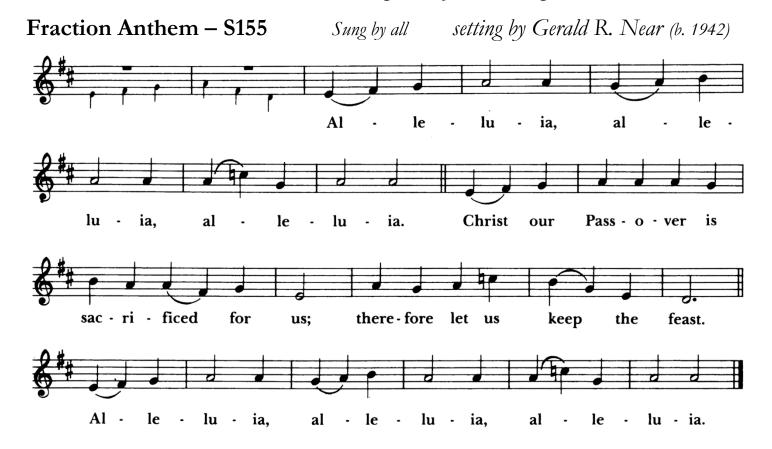
And lead us not into temptation,

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.



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

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–91)

Sung by the Choir

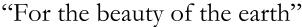
Ave verum corpus

Ave verum corpus,
Natum de Maria virgine;
Vere passum immolatum
In crucis pro homine.
Cuius latus perforatum
Unda fluxit et sanguine.
Esto nobis praegustatum
In mortis examine.

Hail, true body,
Born of the virgin Mary;
Who has truly suffered, slaughtered
On the Cross for humanity.
Whose side was pierced,
Pouring out water and blood.
Be a foretaste for us
During our ordeal of death.

Communion Hymn

DIX





The Act of Reception

Saint Augustine's Prayer Book (2nd ed)

The Celebrant and the People say together

In union, Blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.

Come Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart in the fullness of your strength; be my wisdom and guide me in right pathways; conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; and, in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

The People stand or kneel.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

People

Faithful God

in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. We thank you for feeding us with this bread. May it strengthen us that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may embody your desire and be renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Parish Announcements

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People

May God light in us a holy fire: Light a fire that is worthy of our ancestors. Light a fire that is worthy of our fathers. Light a fire that is worthy of our mothers. Light a fire that is worthy of God. Now let us go in peace, lighting a holy fire wherever we go. And the blessing of God who creates, redeems, and sanctifies be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 379

ABBOT'S LEIGH

"God is Love, let heaven adore him"

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve God's Creation.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Prelude & Fugue in C major, BWV 553

Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach
Eucharistic Ministers Anne Newton, Bill Brautigam

Lectors Jean Campbell, Lorena Morales Aparicio

Intercessor Pam Ely

Music Director Andrew Leslie Cooper

Choir St. Matthew's Church Choir

Altar Guild Nancy Brautigam, Sharon McKenna, Kim Olson

Counters Bill Brautigam, Keith DeAngelis

<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 St. John's, Stamford; Calvary, Stonington; St. Mark's, Storrs; Children and Children's ministries; and ministries for children with special needs.

Weekly Calendar – September 17 – September 24

Sunday, September 17 Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

10:00am Holy Eucharist – Rite II

11:30am St. Matthew's Day Celebration

Tuesday, September 19

11:00am Staff meeting

Thursday, **September 21**

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

Saturday, September 23

9:00-3:00pm St. Matt's Spirited Sisters field trip

Sunday, September 24 The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am Holy Eucharist – Rite II

11:30am Vestry Meeting

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UPCOMING CONCERTS

Friday, Oct 13, 2023, 7:30 PM: Andrew Leslie Cooper, organ

Friday, Nov 03, 2023, 7:30 PM: Fauré's Requiem

Friday, Jan 19, 2024, 7:30 PM: Michelle Pauker | American Songbook

Friday, Feb 02, 2024, 7:30 PM: Westminster Choir

Friday, Mar 22, 2024, 7:30 PM: Hildegard, Bach, and Pärt (free)

Friday, Apr 05, 2024, 7:30 PM: Chhandayan | Holi Festival of Colors

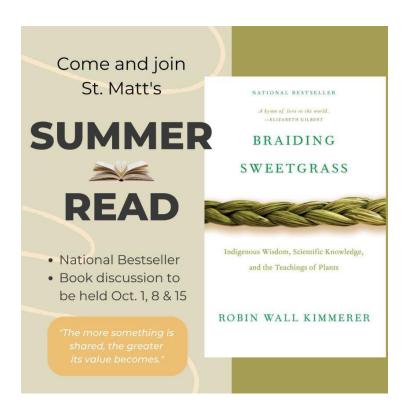
Saturday, May 18, 2024, 7:30 PM: La Fiocco

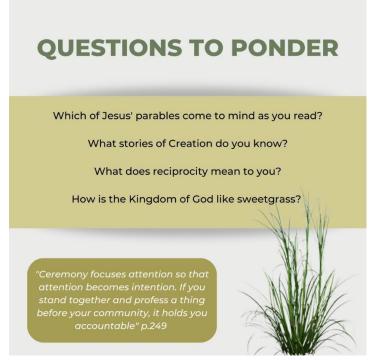
Saturday, Jun 08, 2024, 7:30 PM: Grand Finale — The Bach Family

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



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





Share God's Word in Worship

BECOME A LECTOR



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

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

St. Matt's Spirited Sisters Fall Events

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



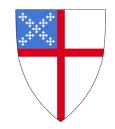
France Movement during WWII, a leader in securing help for Ravensbruck Concentration Camp survivors and involved in the Civil Rights Movement. She was also one of the main characters in the historical fiction novel Lilac Girls. We will drive from St. Matthew's to lunch in Bethlehem and then take a tour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

St. Matt's Spirited Sisters is a community of faith for the women of St Matthew's that explores and strengthens our Christian ideals and knowledge, fostering friendship, offering prayer and support for each other, and building a deeper relationship with Christ. We generally meet the second Wednesday of every month to discuss topics of faith by listening to podcasts, reading articles, taking field trips, doing hands-on activities, and learning from each other.

Our Fall meetings are October 11, November 8, and December 13 at 7:30. We welcome all of the women of St. Matthew's and their friends. Discussion materials will be available prior to meeting but advanced prep work is not required. Please Contact Pam Carlson or Stacey Savas with any questions.

Worship Schedule at St. Matthew's

Holy Eucharist on Sundays at 10am



Please keep an eye on our website and social media as well as our e-news. There you'll find information and opportunities to connect for friends and members of all ages.

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

Interim Director of WEPCO Donna Savage, wepco@optonline.net

Bookkeeper Louann Miska, louann.miska@gmail.com

Media Technician Matthew Henshaw

Nursery Staff Lucia Sato

Sexton Alix Williams, Jairo Medina

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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