



Saint Matthew's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Holy Eucharist - Rite II
The First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2020
10:00 am

The People are invited to read the words in **bold**. While we're online, these words will be led by someone on screen so that you can read and pray with them. No matter where you are, joining in this worship service is a form of prayer that connects you to God and to each other. Find a comfortable place to sit. Kneel or stand for the prayers if you'd like. Whenever two or three are gathered, even virtually, Jesus is present among us.


+ THE WORD OF GOD +

Prelude **Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659** **J.S. Bach**


Opening Hymn 56

Veni, veni, Emmanuel


The Cantor sings verses 1, 2, & 3. The People are invited to sing at home.



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th. cent.; adpt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright ©1975, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Celebrant

Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People

You come to your people and set them free.

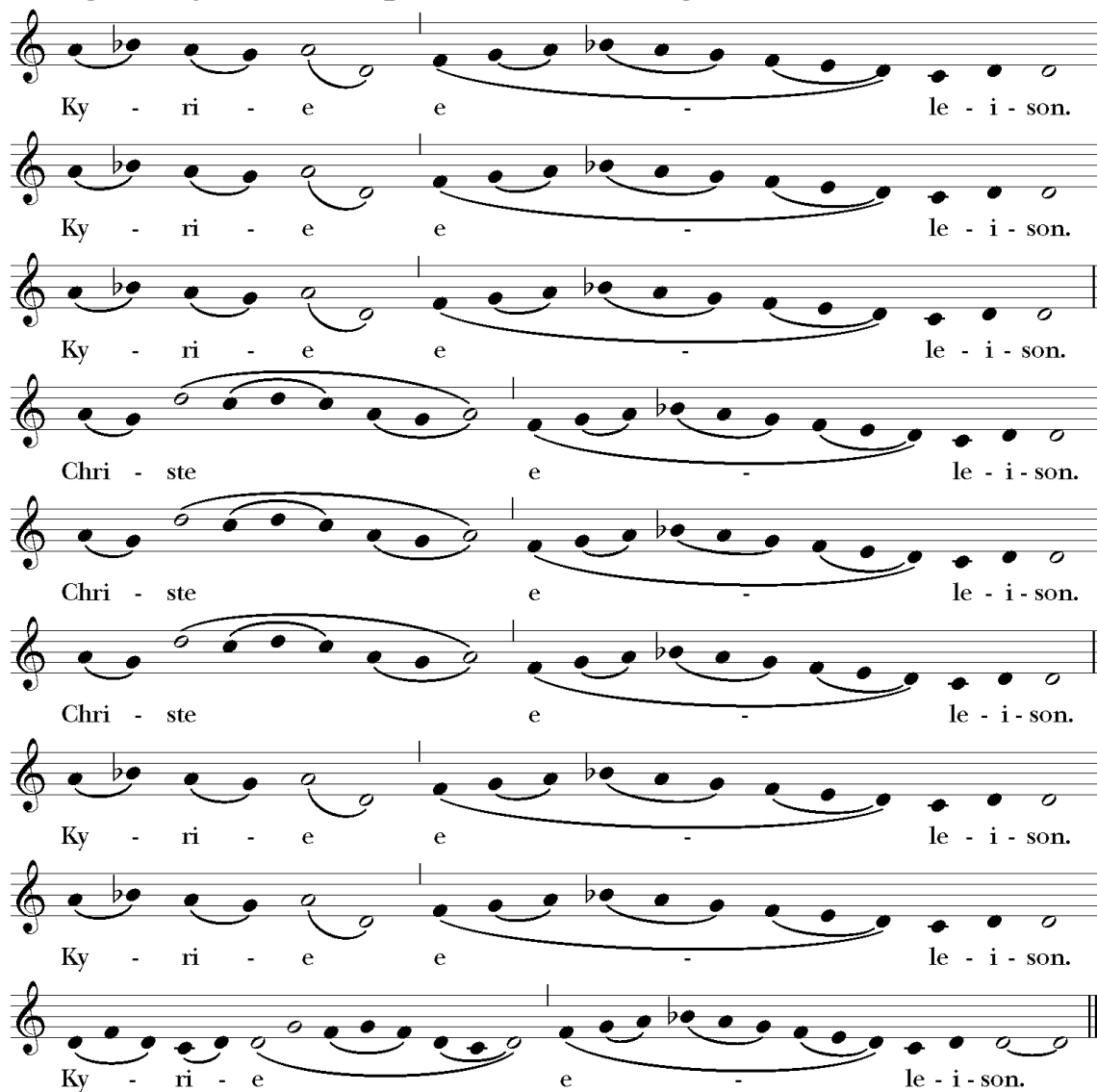
The Collect for Purity

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.

Kyrie Eleison

David Hurd

The Cantor sings the Kyrie. The People are invited to sing at home.



The musical score consists of ten staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first three staves are for the Cantor, and the remaining seven are for the People. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

The Lighting of the First Candle

The People are invited to light their wreath at home.

Celebrant The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light; those who live in a land of deep shadow, on them a light has shined. [Isaiah 9:2]

Almighty God, grant that the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, may so light our whole lives that we need never again walk in darkness. **Amen.**

Song of Praise

Beredan väg för Herran

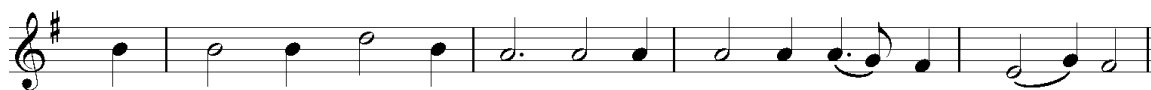
The Cantor sings verse 1. The People are invited to sing at home.



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920) Copyright ©1982, Charles P. Price. Music: *Beredan väg för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt. Copyright ©1930 by permission of Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The First Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil--
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

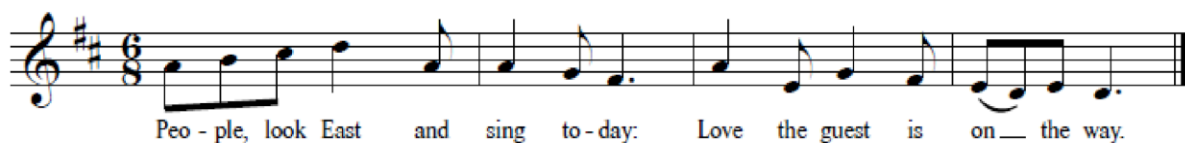
We all fade like a leaf,
 and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
 There is no one who calls on your name,
 or attempts to take hold of you;
 for you have hidden your face from us,
 and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
 we are the clay, and you are our potter;
 we are all the work of your hand.
 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
 and do not remember iniquity forever.
 Now consider, we are all your people.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

The Cantor sings the antiphon. The People are invited to sing at home.



- ¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a / flock; *
 shine forth, you that are enthroned u-/pon the cherubim.
- ² In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and / Manasseh, *
 stir up your strength and / come to help us.
- ³ Restore us, O God of / hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we / shall be saved.
- ⁴ O LORD God of / hosts, *
 how long will you be angered
 despite the prayers / of your people?

- ⁵You have fed them with the bread of / tears; *
you have given them bowls of / tears to drink.
- ⁶You have made us the derision of our / neighbors, *
and our enemies / laugh us to scorn.
- ⁷Restore us, O God of / hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we / shall be saved.
- ¹⁶Let your hand be upon the man of your / right hand, *
the son of man you have made so / strong for yourself.
- ¹⁷And so will we never turn away from / you; *
give us life, that we may call / upon your Name.
- ¹⁸Restore us, O LORD God of / hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we / shall be saved.

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Mark 13:24-37

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

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

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Gospeller 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.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

Intercessor For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for our Bishops, Ian and Laura, for Marissa our Rector, and for Don our Deacon, and for all the clergy and people of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the leaders of the nations, and for all those in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially for Christian, Rich, Nancy, Ken, Dawn, Barrie, Donnie, James, Jeff, Aaron, Michael, Katie, Petra, Doris, Laine, Darunee, Patricia, Frank, Richard, Mary Lou, Charles, Gene, Kathy, Bob, and those we now name (*the people are invited to offer their own intercessions either silently or aloud*); let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the members of our military, for first-responders, and for all who risk their lives on behalf of others; especially for Jake and Matthew, and those we now name, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor We pray for all those we love and see no longer, [especially _____]. We commend to your mercy all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially Rick Roberts, in whose memory the altar flowers are given, and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor We thank you, Lord for all the blessings of this life, especially for [_____ and] those we now name (*the people are invited to offer their own thanksgivings*).

Intercessor That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant Hasten, O God, 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

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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.**

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.

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all.

Hymn at the Presentation

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

The Cantor sings the verse. The People are invited to sing at home.

**O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law,
in cloud, and majesty and awe.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

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 our 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. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

Sanctus

Richard Proulx

The Cantor sings the Sanctus. The People are invited to sing at home.

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
hosts. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all thing in subjection under your Christ, and bring us that heavenly country where, with [_____and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

The Great Amen

Richard Proulx

The Cantor sings the Great Amen. The People are invited to sing at home.



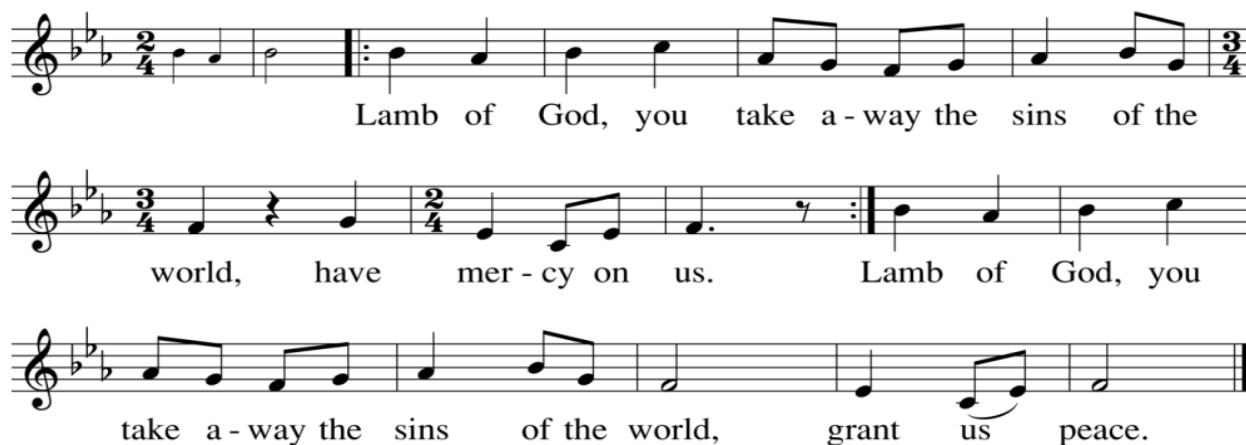
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead 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

Agnus dei - O Lamb of God

Richard Proulx

The Cantor sings the Angus dei. The People are invited to sing at home.



The musical score is written on three staves in G minor (three flats) and 2/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three flats, and a 2/4 time signature. It contains the notes G4, A4, Bb4, C5, followed by a repeat sign. The second staff continues with G4, A4, Bb4, C5, then a quarter rest, followed by G4, A4, Bb4, C5, a quarter rest, and a repeat sign. The third staff continues with G4, A4, Bb4, C5, then a quarter rest, followed by G4, A4, Bb4, C5, a quarter rest, and a final double bar line. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, grant us peace."

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

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.

Silence is kept.

Anthem

G.F. Handel

The people that walked in darkness (Messiah)

Sung by Brett McDermid

The Postcommunion Prayer

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 witness 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 Priest blesses the People saying,

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of our God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be with you this day and evermore. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 57

Helmsley

The Cantor sings the verses. The People are invited to sing at home.

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on
our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the
saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine
train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Helmsley*, melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

Dismissal

Celebrant

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

People

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Celebrant

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

People

Amen.

Postlude

F. Mendelssohn

Praeludium & Fuga III

Worship Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher

The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

Lectors

Jean Campbell, Jen Kepner, Rory Kepner, Sharon Pearson,
Samantha Trolice

Artist in Residence

Scott Ellaway

Cantor

Brett McDermid

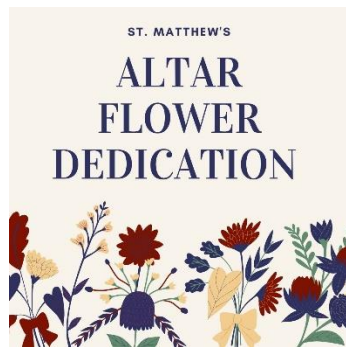
Parish Choir

Coffee Hour Hosts

Dodo Robert, Anne Newton

Facebook Greeter

Pam Ely



Flowers

The flowers are given in loving memory of Rick Roberts
by Dodo Roberts.

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: *Christian, Rich, Nancy, Ken, Barrie, Dawn, Donnie, James, Jeff, Aaron, Michael, Katie, Petra, Doris, Laine, Darunee, Patricia, Frank, Gene, Richard Douthitt, Mary Lou Mannix, Charles Kennedy. For those serving in the military, Jake Walker and Matthew Comeau.*

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Christ Church, Ansonia; St. Paul's, Bantam, Christ Church, Bethany; Postulants and candidates for Holy Orders; the Commission on Ministry and its members.

Meet the RenewalWorks Team:

Pam Ely, Facilitator

Joe Magnano, Administrator

Vytas Kisielius

Pam Carlson

Jen DeAngelis

Beth Cristini

Bill Brautigam

Anne Newton

Marissa Rohrbach, Rector

Jen Kepner, Senior Warden

Brian Angerame, Junior Warden

Amy Gubner

Beth Baker

Eleanor Arnold

Samantha Trolice, Director of

Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

If you have questions about this process or thoughts to contribute after taking the Spiritual Life Inventory, please be in touch with Pam or Marissa. You can also check in with these team members who are giving their time and their gifts to this process as we chart a course forward.

Join Us For Coffee Hour – Sundays at 9am

This fall, coffee hour returns in a slightly different form! Join us on Sunday mornings at 9am. Gather with other parishioners for an hour before virtual worship at 10am. Bring your coffee or tea and spend some time connecting with all those faces you miss! To begin, Coffee Hour will be hosted each week by our Vestry members and Officers. As we move further into the year, there will be opportunities for others to host as well. As always, Zoom information will be shared in our e-News and will be posted in our Parishioner Facebook Group. We can't wait to see you!



Advent Wreaths: Share the light at home!



This Advent, pick up a kit at St. Matt's and build your own Advent wreath at home! You can light it each Sunday morning during worship so that as we prepare for the coming of the Lord, our lights can shine together. Like the altars we built for Holy Week and Easter, we hope you'll take this Advent journey with us, marking each week with the lighting of candles. Visit the St. Matt's website www.stmatthewswilton.org to sign up for a kit and read about this custom and how to build your own wreath with our kit OR how to use the one you already have at home! Make the season special at home by joining us in this Advent tradition.



Evening Prayer at St. Matthew's – All Are Invited

Set aside your Wednesday evenings as a family (or after the kids go to bed) to join St. Matthew's for online Evening Prayer to end the day. Offered via Zoom, this short (15-20 minute) service will help you settle down after a long day, giving thanks for what has been done and what has been left undone. Starting at 8:00pm led by members of St. Matt's, we will begin by greeting one another then move into prayer with the opportunity for anyone to contribute or ask for prayers during the service. A link will be provided each week in our eNews and our Parishioner Facebook Group.

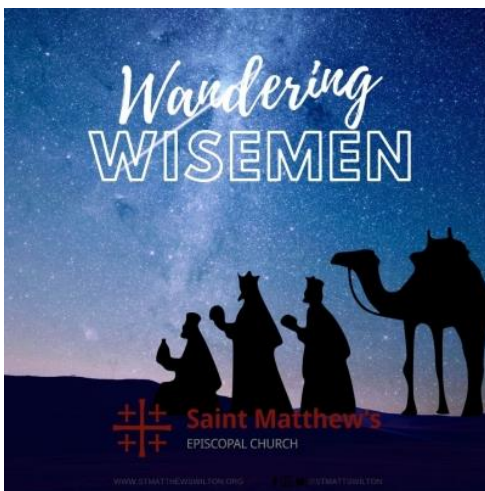
Join us in a Zoom room for Sung Compline – Tuesday nights at 9pm

One of the pieces we miss most about worshipping together is actually **being together**. Join us in a Zoom room for Compline. This will allow us to see each other as we worship and it will allow us to connect for a few minutes afterwards, to talk to each other, to engage together on a deeper level - and we hope you'll try it with us!



In a Zoom Room
Link shared in e-news and our Parishioner Facebook Group

Wandering Wisemen will be traveling in our town!



We all know the story of the three kings who followed a star to find a newborn King. They traveled from afar bringing gifts. We thought it would be fun to celebrate their travels with our very own Wandering Wisemen! With your help, our kings will travel Wilton and our neighboring towns. The Kings will stay at each location for a few days before they move to their next! Will they arrive at your house? If you spot them, be sure to take a photo and sent it to our social media team so we can share their travels! **Go to the St. Matt's website to fill out the form if you would like to send them on their ADVENTures!**

Save The Date, Drive By Live Nativity! Sunday December 13, 3-5pm

I Believe: The Road to Bethlehem

All are welcome as Wilton Presbyterian Church and St. Matt's present, "I Believe: The Road to Bethlehem," an outdoor Christmas event. Join us for an afternoon of spirituality and magic as we drive through time and visit the road to Bethlehem while celebrating the wonders of Christmas **featuring a live nativity scene, complete with animals**—all from the safety of your car. Please visit and believe with us.

(Note: rain date: Saturday December 12, 3-5pm)

All participants are invited to drop off non-perishables which will be given to local food pantries. There will also be a tie-in with our Mission team and a chance to pick up a present from St. Matt's! More soon!



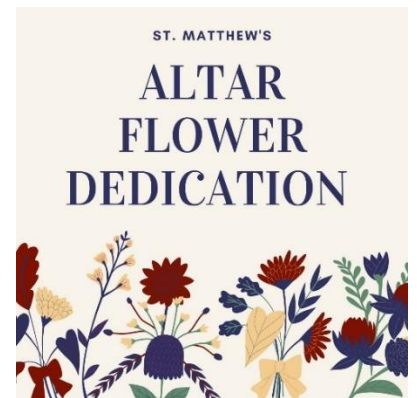
A Virtual Christmas Pageant!



It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year....almost. We're gearing up for the **Annual St. Matthew's Christmas Pageant** and we're calling all actors and actresses of all ages! The pageant will be virtual this year, but no less magical! Please reach out to Sam at samantha@stmatthewswilton.org if you're interested in playing one of the parts. This year, each actor will be asked to drop by church to pick up their costume and record (in their own time) their lines to submit to be pieced together and ultimately editing into a Sunday morning worship service. **Join us in the fun of continuing a special St. Matt's tradition.**

Altar Flower Dedications Are Back

You can now celebrate or memorialize your loved ones with flower dedications. Let us know the date you would like and any colors or flowers you want (we will do our best) and the Flower Guild will make a beautiful vase arrangement and delivery to your home (local addresses only please). We will announce the dedication in church and on our social media. A \$75 donation is suggested. Please email Jennifer Angerame at theangerames@gmail.com with your questions and requests.



Weekly Calendar – November 29 – December 6

Sunday, **November 29**

9:00am

10:00am

The First Sunday of Advent

Coffee Hour (Zoom)

Holy Eucharist -Rite 2 (Livestream)

Monday, **November 30**

7:00pm

Education for Ministry (Zoom)

Tuesday, **December 1**

11:00am

9:00pm

Staff Meeting (Zoom)

Compline (Zoom & Livestream)

Wednesday **December 2**

8:00pm

Evening Prayer (Zoom)

Thursday, **December 3**

3:20-4:50pm

7:30pm

Music Appreciation Online Class with Scott

Online Adult & Youth Choir Rehearsal (Zoom)

Sunday, **December 6**

9:00am

10:00am

The Sunday of Advent

Coffee Hour (Zoom)

Morning Prayer: Rite 2 (Livestream)

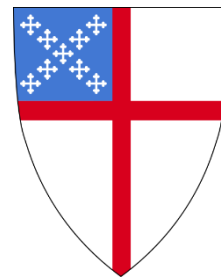
Connection details available on our website, in the e-news, and in our Parishioner Facebook group. Need to sign up for the e-news? It's easy – just go to www.stmatthewswilton.org/newsletter.

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.

Next Week: Worship online again with St. Matthew's

There are many ways to connect with St. Matt's in the coming weeks. 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
Deacon	The Rev. Deacon Don Burr, don@stmatthewswilton.org
Artist in Residence	Scott Ellaway, scott@stmatthewswilton.org
Parish Administrator	Nancy Johnson, office@stmatthewswilton.org
Children, Youth & Family	Samantha Trolice, samantha@stmatthewswilton.org
Bookkeeper	Louann Miska, louann.miska@gmail.com
WEPCO	Sandy Muschler, wepco@optonline.net
Nursery Staff	Lucia Sato, Kate DeAngelis
Sexton	Max Gil

Wardens and Officers

Sr. Warden	Jen Kepner	Asst. Treasurers	Bruce Beebe, Andrea Sato
Jr. Warden	Brian Angerame	Clerk	Anne Newton
Treasurer	Keith DeAngelis		

The Vestry

Michael Kaelin	Kim Hall	Joe Magnano
Dodo Roberts	Tim Jarvis	Paul Reis
Jessica Christ	Pam Ely	

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www.stmatthewswilton.org

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