

Morning Prayer: Rite Two
The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
Annual Meeting Sunday
February 7th, 2021
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, Scripture reminds us that Jesus is present among us.

+ THE WORD OF GOD +

Prelude Pastorale, BWV 590

J.S. Bach (1685 - 1750)

Opening Hymn 529

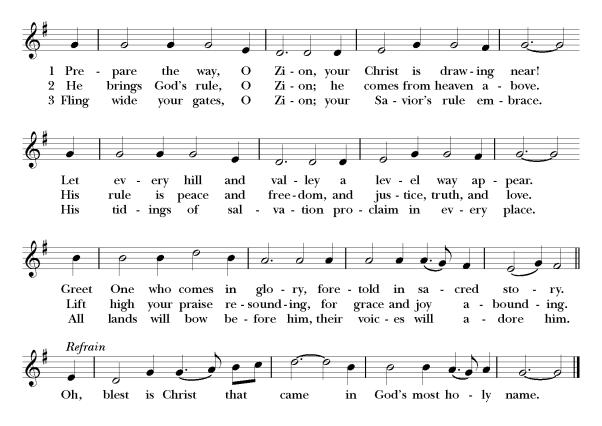
McKee

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



Song of Praise

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



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The Officiant continues

God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.

John 4:24

Confession of Sin

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

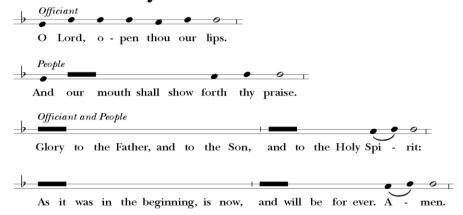
The Officiant and People say together

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 Priest 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 Invitatory and Psalter



Officiant

People

Christ has shown forth his glory:

O come let us worship.

Officiant and People say together

O God, be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of your countenance and come to us.
Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

Officiant People

Christ has shown forth his glory: O come let us worship.

Psalm 147:1-12, 21c

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

¹ Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our / God! * how pleasant it is to honor / him with praise!

- ² The LORD rebuilds Je-/rusalem; * he gathers the /exiles of Israel.
 - ³ He heals the broken-/hearted * and binds / up their wounds.
- ⁴ He counts the number of the / stars * and calls them / all by their names.
- ⁵ Great is our LORD and mighty in / power; * there is no limit / to his wisdom.
 - ⁶ The LORD lifts up the / lowly, * but casts the wicked / to the ground.

- ⁷ Sing to the LORD with thanks-/giving; * make music to our God u-/pon the harp.
 - 8 He covers the heavens with / clouds * and prepares rain / for the earth;
- ⁹ He makes grass to grow upon the / mountains * and green plants to / serve mankind.
 - ¹⁰ He provides food for flocks and / herds * and for the young ravens / when they cry.
- ¹¹ He is not impressed by the might of a / horse; * he has no pleasure in the strength / of a man;
- ¹²But the LORD has pleasure in those who / fear him, * in those who await his gracious favor.

²¹ / Hallelujah!

The First Lesson

Isaiah 40:21-31

Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.
Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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

Ave Verum Corpus

Edward Elgar (1889-1934)

Sung by the Parish Choir

Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine, vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine cuius latus perforatum fluxit aqua et sanguine: esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

O Iesu dulcis, O Iesu pie, O Iesu, fili Mariae. Miserere mei. Amen. Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, having truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross for mankind, from whose pierced side water and blood flowed:

Be for us a foretaste in the trial of death!

O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus, O Jesus, son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free

from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 16

The Song of Zechariah

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

Blessed be the Lord, the God of / Israel; *
he has come to his people and / set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty / savior, *
born of the house of his ser-/vant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our / enemies, *
from the hands of / all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our / fathers *
and to remember his / holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father / Abraham, *
to set us free from the / hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without / fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days / of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most / High, *
for you will go before the Lord to pre-/pare his way,
To give his people knowledge of sal-/vation *
by the forgiveness / of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our / God *
the dawn from on high shall / break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in

darkness and the shadow of / death, * and to guide our feet into the / way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy / Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. / Amen.

The Third Lesson

Mark 1:29-39

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

O for a closer walk with God

O for a closer walk with God, A calm and heavenly frame; A light to shine upon the road That leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy dove, return,

Sweet messenger of rest;

I hate the sins that made thee mourn,

And drove thee from my breast.

So shall my walk be close with God, Calm and serene my frame; So purer light shall mark the road That leads me to the Lamb.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People say together

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting Amen.

The Prayers

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Deacon Let us pray.

The Deacon and People say together

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.

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
- R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.
- V. Day by day we bless you;
- R. We praise your name for ever.
- V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
- R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
- V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
- R. For we put our trust in you.
- V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
- R. And we shall never hope in vain.

The Deacon offers a series of prayers, the People respond with the words in **bold**. Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

We pray for all who are sick and in need of our prayers, especially Mary Ann, Roy, Christine, Rich, Nancy, Ken, Dawn, Barrie, Donnie, James, Jeff, Aaron, Michael, Katie, Petra, Doris, Patricia, Frank, Richard, Mary Lou, Charles, Gene, Kathy, Bo, Geoff, Dann, Abbie, and for all those we now name _______.

Gracious and loving God, our only help in time of need: We humbly ask you to behold your people, to relieve and comfort those around the world who are suffering from coronavirus. Look upon them with the eyes of your mercy, comfort them with a sense of your goodness, preserve them from the temptations of the enemy, and give them peace in their affliction. In your good time, restore them to health, and enable them to lead the rest of their lives in your favor and to your glory; and grant that they may dwell with you in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God who is the Source of Life, be with all those who care for the needs of the sick and the dying. Be present with first responders who risk their own lives to save ours. Support our doctors, nurses, and all those who work within our healthcare systems. Protect all those in our community who facilitate our life and meet our needs. Make us, we pray, more than grateful for their service, teach us to be mindful of the needs of others and draw us more fully into your work in the world. **Amen.**

We pray for all those we love and see no longer, especially Peg O'Sullivan, mother of Sean O'Sullivan. We commend to your mercy all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

The People are invited to offer prayers of Thanksgiving or Intercession either silently or aloud. Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People say together

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Parish Announcements

The Blessing

The Priest blesses the People saying

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

Closing Hymn 580

Holy Manna

The Cantor sings the verses 1, 3 & 4. The People are invited to sing at home.



The Deacon offers the dismissal to which the people respond, Thanks be to God.

Postlude Trumpet Tune in D Henry Purcell

Worship Leaders

Officiant & Preacher

Deacon

The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach
The Rev. Deacon Don Burr

Lectors Janet Nobles, Paul Reis, Kate Jarvis, Sharon Pearson,

Samantha Trolice

Artist in Residence Scott Ellaway

Cantor Emily Risley

Parish Choir

Coffee Hour Hosts Pam Ely, Kim Hall

Facebook Greeters Pam Ely

<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: Mary Ann, Roy, Christine, Rich, Nancy, Ken, Barrie, Dawn, Donnie, James, Jeff, Aaron, Michael, Katie, Petra, Doris, Patricia, Frank, Gene, Bo, Kathy, Geoff, Abbie, Richard Douthitt, Mary Lou Mannix, Charles Kennedy and Dann Pompa. For those serving in the military, Jake Walker and Matthew Comeau.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for All Saint's, East Harford; Christ & the Epiphany, East Haven; St. John's, East Windsor. Haitian ministry in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

Sacred Ground Dialogue Series

Over the last several months, a group of parishioners have been reading, learning, and working together to come to a greater understanding of racial justice and reconciliation - and our part as Christians in that work. In our reading and conversation, a desire to continue



to grow and learn has emerged along with the hope that doing so might allow us to live out our faith, to build justice, and to be part of reconciliation.

As a next step in our journey at St. Matt's, this group has decided to move forward by participating in a special program put forward by the Episcopal Church called Sacred Ground. Our hope is this will continue to spur us forward to live out our baptismal covenant in word and deed, learning how to better seek and serve Christ in all people as we respect the dignity of every human being. Sacred Ground is a dialogue series that incorporates readings as well as a number of films. It is built on the idea that when we share stories, when we listen to each other, and seek God's will, we then find ourselves on Sacred Ground. You can read more about the series and hear from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry at www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground. It is a ten-session series and represents a commitment both of time and attention. All are welcome to participate, and we hope that if you do, you will make a commitment to the work and to the journey.

If you are interested in participating in this series, please be in touch with Marissa. In order to participate, you'll need to sign up in advance to have access to the readings and films. Even if you haven't participated in our conversations before, you are very welcome. This would be a great time to begin and to participate with this group.

Our first session was held on Saturday, January 30th at 1pm. After that, we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from 6-7:30pm.

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!



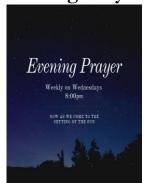
Join us in a Zoom room for Sung Compline – Tuesday nights at 9pm

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!



Link shared in e-news and our Parishioner Facebook Group

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.

Pub Theology, Saturday, 2/13

Join us for a special Valentine's Day Pub Theology on Saturday 2/13 at 4pm. Together we'll explore the legend of St. Valentine as well as the love Jesus calls us to in scripture. And maybe share a few of our own stories of love (of many kinds) along the way. All are welcome, whether you love the holiday or can't stand it,



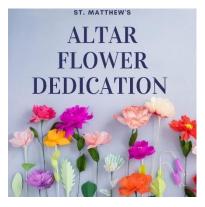
you've been married for ages or never even considered the institution. Love takes many forms, and all of us have stories to share. Come spend an hour with us telling stories and exploring your faith. A Zoom link will be shared in our Parishioner Facebook Group as well as in our e-news. A little bit of homework to prompt the conversation, along with questions will come out a day or so in advance.



Ash Wednesday is February 17th. Together, we will enter into a holy Lent with ashes and repentance, with faith and our connection to God and to each other. There will be two services on Ash Wednesday both with the imposition of ashes. **7:00am:** A short, 10-15 minute service on Zoom. Start your day with prayer and ashes before going back to helping the kids, off to work, or on to a busy day. **7:00pm:** Worship online as we've become accustomed with sermon, choir, and song.

Available on Facebook and our website. You don't need to pick up ashes to participate in either service, you can always just come to worship! You are always welcome. And if you'd like to sign up, use the link below posted in our eNews and St. Matt's website. Tell me your name and how many people in your household will receive ashes. **Sign-ups close on 2/13. Kits can be picked up beginning 2/14.** Kits will also include some other things to help us mark the season together as God's people. *Kits will be in the bins in the circle outside St. Matt's*.

Altar Flower Dedications



You can 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 questions.

Pass the syrup — it's Shrove Tuesday!

Celebrated the day before Ash Wednesday, Shrove Tuesday (also called "Fat Tuesday" in reference to Mardi Gras) is the day before our 40-day period of Lent begins. Its name comes from the Germanic-Old English word "shrive," meaning absolve. And in this season of fasting and penitence, this was the day that Christians would go to be "shriven" by their confessor.



Historically, Shrove Tuesday also became a day for pre-fasting indulgence. In particular, the need to use up rich ingredients such as butter, milk, sugar and eggs before Lent gave rise to the tradition of eating pancakes on this day.

Please join us for a zoom pancake dinner at 6 PM on February 16th. You can order your pancake supper "kits" by emailing Jennifer Angerame at *theangerames@gmail.com*. Kits will include pancake mix, syrup, Mardi Gras beads and maybe some other surprises! Zoom link will be posted on the FaceBook parishioner page.

All kits will be available Tuesday Feb. 16th in the circle at church.

Weekly Calendar – February 7 – February 14

Sunday, February 7 The Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany

9:00am Coffee Hour (Zoom)

9:00am Church School Grades K-5 (Zoom)

10:00am Morning Prayer (Livestream) 11:30am Annual Meeting (Zoom)

Monday, February 8

7:00pm Education for Ministry (Zoom)

Tuesday, February 9

11:00am Staff Meeting (Zoom) 9:00pm Compline (Zoom)

Wednesday, February 10

8:00pm Evening Prayer

Thursday, February 11

3:20-4:50pm Music Appreciation Online Class with Scott

7:30pm Online Adult & Youth Choir rehearsal

Saturday, February 13

4:00pm Pub Theology

Sunday, February 14 The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

9:00am Coffee Hour (Zoom)

9:00am Church School Grades K-5 (Zoom) 10:00am Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (Livestream)

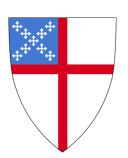
Connection details available on our website, in the e-news, and in our Parishioner Facebook group. Need to sign up for the e-news? It's easy – just go to www.stmatthewswilton.org/newsletter.

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 The Rev. Deacon Don Burr, don@stmatthewswilton.org Deacon Scott Ellaway, scott@stmatthewswilton.org Artist in Residence Nancy Johnson, office@stmatthewswilton.org Parish Administrator Children, Youth & Family Samantha Trolice, samantha@stmatthewswilton.org Louann Miska, louann.miska@gmail.com Bookkeeper Nursery Staff Lucia Sato, Kate DeAngelis Sexton Max Gil

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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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