

**Saint Matthew's**

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**Morning Prayer: Rite Two  
The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Christmas Pageant  
December 20<sup>th</sup>, 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, Scripture reminds us that Jesus is present among us.

## + THE WORD OF GOD +

Prelude

Sheep May Safely Graze

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.

# The Lighting of the Fourth Candle

*The People are invited to light their wreath at home.*

*Lector* “Lord, my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all people – a light to bring light to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.” [Luke 2:30-32]

*Celebrant* Dear God, let the glorious light of Jesus’ love shine in our lives and proclaim the Good News to everyone we meet. **Amen.**

## Song of Praise

*Beredan väg för Herran*

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



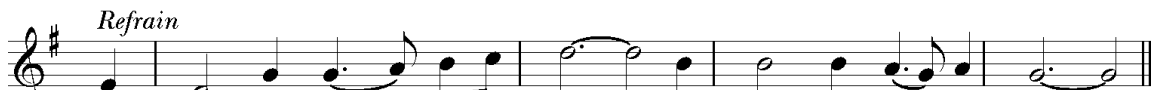
1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



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.



*Refrain*  
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 Officiant continues*

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

*Isaiah 40:3*

## Confession of Sin

*The Officiant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

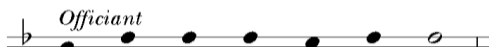
*The Officiant and People say together*


**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*  
  
O Lord, o - pen thou our lips.

*People*  
  
And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

*Officiant and People*  
  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:

  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.

*Officiant*

*People*

Our King and Savior now draws near: **Come let us adore him.**

*Officiant and People say together*

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

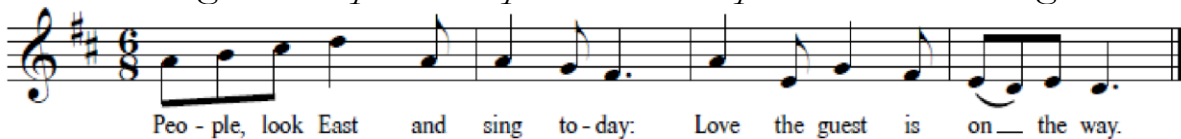
*Officiant*

*People*

Our King and Savior now draws near: **Come let us adore him.**

## **Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26**

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



<sup>1</sup> Your love, O LORD, for ever will I / sing; \*  
from age to age my mouth will pro-/claim your faithfulness.

<sup>2</sup> For I am persuaded that your love is established for / ever; \*  
you have set your faithfulness firmly / in the heavens.

<sup>3</sup> "I have made a covenant with my / chosen one; \*  
I have sworn an oath to Da-/vid my servant:  
<sup>4</sup> "I will establish your line for / ever, \*  
and preserve your throne for all / generations."

<sup>19</sup> You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful / people: \*  
"I have set the crown upon a warrior  
and have exalted one chosen / out of the people.

<sup>20</sup> I have found David my / servant; \*  
with my holy oil have I / anointed him.

<sup>21</sup> My hand will hold him / fast \*  
and my arm will / make him strong.

<sup>22</sup> No enemy shall deceive /him, \*  
nor any wicked man / bring him down.

<sup>23</sup> I will crush his foes be-/fore him \*  
and strike down those who / hate him.

<sup>24</sup> My faithfulness and love shall be with / him, \*  
and he shall be victorious / through my Name.

<sup>25</sup> I shall make his dominion / extend \*  
from the Great Sea / to the River.

<sup>26</sup> He will say to me, 'You are my / Father, \*  
my God, and the rock of / my salvation.'

## **The First Lesson**

## **2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16**

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

*Lector*     The Word of the Lord.

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Second Lesson**

**Romans 16:25-27**

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

*Lector*     The Word of the Lord.

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

# The Christmas Pageant

*Please join in singing the congregational carols during the Pageant.*

## Hymn 80 (vs. 1)

## *Vom Himmel hoch*

### “From heaven above to earth I come”



1 From heaven a - bove to earth I come to bring good  
2 to you this night is born a child of Ma - ry,  
3 This is the Christ, God's Son most high, who hears your  
4 The bless - ing which the Fa - ther planned the Son holds



news to ev - ery - one! Glad tid - ings of great  
chos - en vir - gin mild; this new - born child of  
sad and bit - ter cry; he will him - self your  
in his in - fant hand, that in his king - dom



joy I bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:  
low - ly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.  
Sa - vior be and from all sin will set you free.  
bright and fair, you may with us his glo - ry share.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546); tr. *Luthern Book of Worship*, 1978 Copyright ©1978, Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission.  
Music: *Vom Himmel hoch*, melody from *Geistliche lieder aufs new gebessert und gemehrt*, 1539; harm. Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)



# Hymn 269 (vs. 1)

# *Den des Vaters Sinn geboren*

## “Ye who claim the faith of Jesus”

*Introduction/Interlude*

*Descant*

4 “Mag - ni - fi - cat

1 Ye who claim the faith of Je - sus, sing the  
 2 Bless - ed were the cho - sen peo - ple out of  
 3 There - fore let all faith - ful peo - ple sing the  
 4 “Mag - ni - fy, my soul, God’s great - ness; in my

an - i - ma me - a

won - ders that were done when the love of God the  
 whom the Lord did come; bless - ed was the land of  
 hon - or of her name; let the Church, in her fore -  
 Sa - viour I re - joice; all the a - ges call me

Do - mi - num. Mag -

Fa - ther o - ver sin the vic - tory won, when he  
 prom - ise fa - shioned for his earth - ly home; but more  
 shad - owed, part in her thanks - giv - ing claim; what Christ’s  
 bless - ed, in his praise I lift my voice; he has

ni - fi - cat, mag - ni - fi - cat.”

made the Vir - gin Ma - ry mo - ther of his on - ly Son.  
 bless - ed far the mo - ther, she who bore him in her womb.  
 mo - ther sang in glad - ness let Christ’s peo - ple sing the same:  
 cast down all the might - y, and the low - ly are his choice.”

*Conclusion*

Words: Sts. 1-3, Vincent Stuckey Stratton Coles (1845-1929), alt; st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), metrical *Magnificat*  
 Music: *Julian*, David Hurd (b. 1950) Copyright ©1983, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

“O little town of Bethlehem”

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
 \*4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,  
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;  
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,  
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

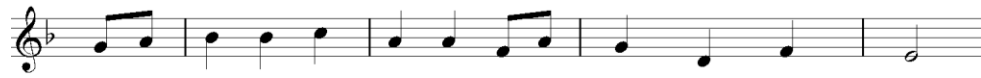
1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.  
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893) Music: *St. Louis*, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)

“Away in a manger”



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,  
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,  
 \* 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.  
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.  
 close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.



The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,  
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.  
 and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

Words: Traditional carol Music: *Cradle Song*, melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

“The first Nowell”

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say  
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star  
 3 And by the light of that same star  
 4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;  
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,  
 3 three wise men came from coun - try far;  
 4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,  
 5 full re - verent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,  
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,  
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,  
 4 and there it did both stop and stay  
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.  
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
 3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.  
 4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.  
 5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

*Refrain*

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord  
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

*Refrain*

Words: English carol, 18th cent. Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1840-1901)

## “Silent night, holy night”

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,  
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake  
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.  
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,  
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly  
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.  
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!  
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)  
 Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)

## Anthem

## People, look East

## Besançon Carol Arr. Craig Phillips (1961)

People, look east. The time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
One more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
That in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,  
Guard the nest that must be filled.  
Even the hour when wings are frozen  
God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
One more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather,  
Bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.



To make a pledge for 2021, or to fulfill your pledge for 2020, please visit [www.stmatthewswilton.org/give](http://www.stmatthewswilton.org/give).

Thank you for your faithfulness.

## **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.

*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.*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



We pray for all who are sick and in need of our prayers, especially Rich, Nancy, Ken, Dawn, Barrie, Donnie, James, Jeff, Aaron, Michael, Katie, Petra, Doris, Darunee, Patricia, Frank, Richard, Mary Lou, Charles, Gene, Kathy, Bo, Geoff, 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 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 for Emily Walke Woodside, in whose memory the altar flowers are given and Frederick Joseph Muschler. 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 our selves 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*

**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 66

Stuttgart

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

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,  
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: Stuttgart, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

## Dismissal

Deacon

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

People

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Deacon

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

People

**Amen.**

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert



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# ST. MATTHEW'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT CAST 2020

Patch Angerame  
Colin Gilmor  
Douglas Gubner  
Mikey Gubner  
Lydia Hall  
Rory Kepner  
John Mannix  
Charlotte Mannix  
Lizzie McCarthy  
Tommy McCarthy  
Lake Meyer  
Holland Meyer  
Anna-Kate Reis  
Ella Wyman

Magi & Shepherd  
Joseph  
Shepherd  
Magi & Shepherd  
Narrator  
Mary  
Isaiah  
Angel  
Angel  
Angel  
Innkeeper  
Magi  
Elizabeth  
Angel

## **Worship Leaders**

*Officiant & Preacher*

*Deacon*

*Lectors*

*Artist in Residence*

*Cantor*

*Parish Choir*

*Coffee Hour Hosts*

*Facebook Greeter*

The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

The Rev. Deacon Don Burr

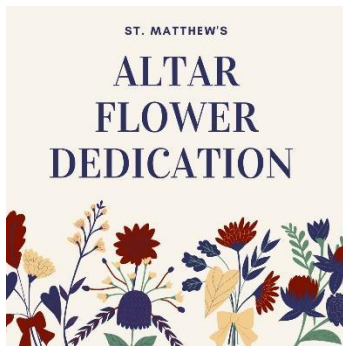
Vytas Kisielius, Kacky Theoharides, Kate Jarvis,  
Sharon Pearson, Samantha Trolice

Scott Ellaway

Dermot Kiernan

Dodo Roberts, Paul Reis

Pam Ely



### *Flowers*

The flowers are given in loving memory of Emily Walke Woodside by her children Bill, Sam and Anne.

**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: *Rich, Nancy, Ken, Barrie, Dawn, Donnie, James, Jeff, Aaron, Michael, Katie, Petra, Doris, Darunee, Patricia, Frank, Gene, Bo, Kathy, Geoff, 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 Calvary St. George's, Bridgeport; St. Luke/St. Paul, Bridgeport; St. John's, Bridgeport. For the children of the world, the Bishops' Fund for Children, and all ECCT ministries for children at risk.

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### **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.

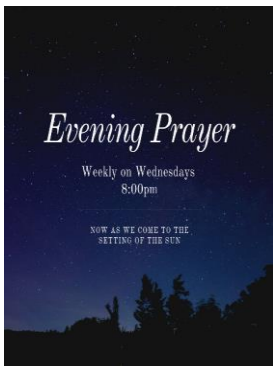
## Join Us For Coffee Hour – Sundays at 9am

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!



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



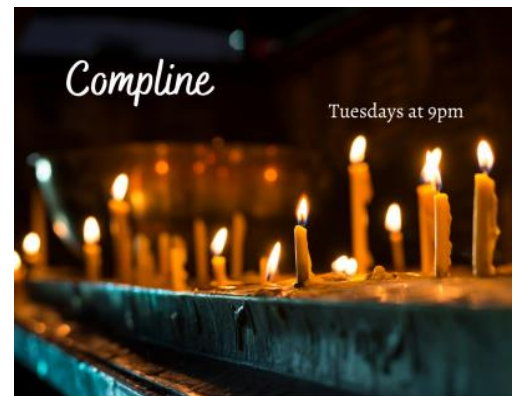
Set aside your Wednesday evenings as a family (or after the kids go to bed) to join St. Matthew's for online Evening Prayer to end the day. Offered via Zoom, this short (15-20 minute) service will help you settle down after a long day, giving thanks for what has been done and what has been left undone. 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.

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## 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

## Music for Christmas at St. Matt's



**Bringing you the very best in quality music performance with a touch of holiday magic.**

This Christmas **St. Matt's** has embarked on an ambitious musical offering that will be presented in a digital format. The Choir will sing festive repertoire utilizing click track technology underpinned by the splendid three manual Reuter Organ. In addition, the choir we will be joined by a Schola Cantorum made up of members drawn from the LA Master Chorale (choir-in-residence at Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles). Joined by local harpist (Wendy Kerner), trumpeter (Matthew Suckling), and Artist in Residence (Scott Ellaway), then what better way to embrace the holiday spirit. Featuring holiday favorites like O come, all ye faithful, On Christmas Night, Interlude from A Ceremony of Carols, Hark! The herald angels sing, O Magnum Mysterium, and much much more. Even though so much will be different this year, our worship on Christmas Eve will be blessed with spectacular music from our beloved Choir and others. Sing along with us at home as we welcome our Savior. **Join us on Christmas Eve for a Musical Prelude at 4:30pm and our service beginning at 5:00pm on our website or Facebook page.**

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### Lessons & Carols

**The First Sunday after Christmas**

**December 27, 2020 at 10:00 am**



**On Facebook and our Website**

**[www.stmatthewswilton.org/live](http://www.stmatthewswilton.org/live)**



## Weekly Calendar – December 20 – December 27

Sunday, **December 20**

9:00am

10:00am

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Coffee Hour (Zoom)

Morning Prayer: Rite 2 (Livestream)

Monday, **December 21**

7:00pm

Education for Ministry (Zoom)

Tuesday, **December 22**

11:00am

9:00pm

Staff Meeting (Zoom)

Compline (Zoom & Livestream)

Wednesday **December 23**

8:00pm

Evening Prayer (Zoom)

Thursday, **December 24**

4:30pm

5:00pm

10:00pm

**Christmas Eve**

Choral and Instrumental Prelude (Livestream)

Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (Livestream)

Evening Prayer & Communion (Zoom)

Sunday, **December 27**

9:00am

10:00am

**The First Sunday of Christmas**

Coffee Hour (Zoom)

Lesson & Carols with

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](http://www.stmatthewswilton.org/newsletter).

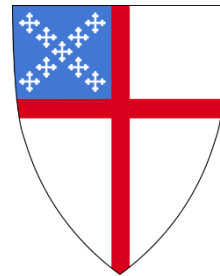
Need to join the Parishioner Facebook Group? Go here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/StMatthewsOnline/>

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.*

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### **Staff**

Rector	The Rev. Marissa S. Rohrbach, <a href="mailto:marissa@stmatthewswilton.org">marissa@stmatthewswilton.org</a>
Deacon	The Rev. Deacon Don Burr, <a href="mailto:don@stmatthewswilton.org">don@stmatthewswilton.org</a>
Artist in Residence	Scott Ellaway, <a href="mailto:scott@stmatthewswilton.org">scott@stmatthewswilton.org</a>
Parish Administrator	Nancy Johnson, <a href="mailto:office@stmatthewswilton.org">office@stmatthewswilton.org</a>
Children, Youth & Family	Samantha Trolice, <a href="mailto:samantha@stmatthewswilton.org">samantha@stmatthewswilton.org</a>
Bookkeeper	Louann Miska, <a href="mailto:louann.miska@gmail.com">louann.miska@gmail.com</a>
WEPCO	Sandy Muschler, <a href="mailto:wepco@optonline.net">wepco@optonline.net</a>
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	

**36 New Canaan Road, Wilton, CT 06897**

**Phone: (203) 762-7400**

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