



**Saint Matthew's**

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**Night Prayer**  
**Monday In Holy Week**  
**March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**8:00 pm**

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you at St. Matt's.

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## Night Prayer

*The offering of prayer late in the evening, by laity, religious orders, or clergy, often called Compline, has sometimes been described as the 'goodnight prayer of the Church'. It rounds off the day and prepares us for a quiet night. As the psalmist wrote:*

*I lie down in peace and take my rest  
for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.*

*Night Prayer derives its content from the wisdom of the centuries in Scripture and above all in the Psalms, but also from the contemporary Christian experience of God. It celebrates the awareness that each of us who tries to pray is part of the human whole. So we are taken over the threshold from daytime, not in a mood of self-centered spirituality, but as representatives of humanity, acknowledging our creaturehood before God.*

*Prayer like this and the Stations of the Cross are especially fitting on this night when we remember Jesus' death on the cross, when we probe the depths of the darkness without him. When the appointed time comes, the Officiant begins the service with the following sentences. The People read the words in **bold**.*

*Officiant*    The angels of God guard us through the night,  
*People*        **And quiet the powers of darkness.**

*Officiant*    The Spirit of God be our guide  
*People*        **to lead us to peace and glory.**

*Officiant*    It is but lost labor that we haste to rise up early, and so late take  
rest, and eat the bread of anxiety. For those beloved of God are  
given gifts even while they sleep. My sisters and brothers,  
our help is in the name of the eternal God,  
*People*        **who is making the heavens and the earth.**

*Officiant and People*

**Dear God, thank you for all that is good,  
for our creation and for our humanity,  
for the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth,  
for the gifts of life and of one another,  
for your love which is unbounded and eternal.  
O God, most holy and beloved,  
my Companion, my Guide upon the way, my bright evening star.**

**We repent the wrongs we have done:**

*Officiant* We have wounded your love.

*People* **O God, heal us.**

*Officiant* We stumble in the darkness.

*People* **Light of the world transfigure us.**

*Officiant* We forget that we are your home.

*People* **Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

*Officiant and People*

**Eternal Spirit, loving God,  
in whom we live and move and have our being,  
all that we are, have been, and will be is known to you,  
to the very secrets of our hearts  
and all that rises to trouble us.  
Living flame burn in us, cleansing wind, blow through us,  
fountain of water, well up within us,  
that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.**

## **Invocation**

*Officiant* Eternal Spirit, flow through our being and open our lips,

*People* **that our mouths may proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant* Let us worship the God of love.

*People* **Amen.**

## Psalm 121

*A Lector begins. The People respond with the words in bold.*

I will lift up my eyes to the / mountains,  
but where shall / I find help?

**From you alone, O God, does my / help come,  
creator of the ever / changing hills.**

You will not let me stumble on the rough / pathways,  
you care for me and watch over me / without ceasing.

**I am sure that the Guardian of my people  
neither slumbers nor / sleeps.**

The God of all nations keeps watch, like  
a shadow / spread over me.

**So the sun will not strike me by / day,  
nor the / moon by night.**

You will defend me in the presence of / evil, you  
will / guard my life.

**You will defend my going out and my coming / in,  
this / night and always.**

**Glory be God, sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying, as  
in the be- / ginning, so now, and for ever. / Amen.**

### A Reading for Monday in Holy Week

John 12:1-11

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray

him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Prayers**

*Officiant*    Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit

*People*      **for you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.**

*Officiant*    Keep me, O God, as the apple of your eye;

*People*      **hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

*Officiant*    The Lamb was slain.

*People*      **All who follow the Way will share in the victory.**

*Officiant*

Preserve us, O God, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep may rest in your peace.

*Officiant*    Lord, have mercy.

*People*      **Christ, have mercy.**

*Officiant*    Lord, have mercy.

*Officiant and People*

**Eternal Spirit, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.  
With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*Officiant* I will lie down in peace and take my rest,  
*People* **for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Earth-maker, the Pain-bearer, the Life-giver,  
*People* **let us praise and exalt God above all for ever.**

*Officiant* May God's name be praised beyond the furthest star,  
*People* **glorified and exalted above all for ever.**

*Officiant*

O living God, in Jesus Christ you were laid in the tomb at this evening hour, and so sanctified the grave to be a bed of hope to your people. Give us courage and faith to die daily to our sin and pride, that even as this flesh and blood decays, our lives still may grow in you, that at our last day our dying may be done so well that we live in you for ever. **Amen.**

*Officiant*

Lord, it is night. The night is for stillness. Let us be still in the presence of God. It is night after a long day. What has been done has been done; what has not been done has not been done; let it be. The night is dark. Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you. The night is quiet. Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us, and all who have no peace. The night heralds the dawn. Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

*The People may add their own intercessions silently or aloud.*

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant*

The blessing of God, the eternal goodwill of God, the shalom of God, the wildness and warmth of God, be among us and between us, now and always. **Amen.**

*Officiant*    The divine Spirit dwells in us.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

### **Worship Leaders**

Officiant    The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

Lectors     Jean Campbell, Paul Reis, Sharon Pearson

# *Holy Week 2021*

3/28 - 4/4

## *Worship Online*

Palm Sunday: Worship at 10am

Monday: Night Prayer at 8pm

Tuesday: Compline at 9pm

Wednesday: Evening Prayer at 8pm

Thursday: Maundy Thursday Liturgy at 7pm

Friday: Liturgy for Good Friday at Noon

Saturday: The Liturgy of Preparation at 9am

Communion at Home at 9pm

Easter Sunday: Worship at 10am



## Holy Week Calendar – March 29 – April 4

Monday, **March 29**

8:00pm Night Prayer (Zoom)

Tuesday, **March 30**

11:00am Staff Meeting (Zoom)

9:00pm Compline (Zoom)

Wednesday, **March 31**

8:00pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)

Thursday, **April 1**

7:00pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy (Livestream)

7:30pm Online Adult & Youth Choir rehearsal

Friday, **April 2**

12:00pm Good Friday Liturgy (Livestream)

Saturday, **April 3**

9:00am The Liturgy of Preparation (Zoom)

9:00pm Communion at Home (Zoom)

Sunday, **April 4**

9:00am **Easter Sunday**  
Coffee Hour (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](http://www.stmatthewswilton.org/newsletter).

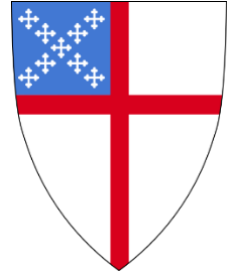
Need to join the Parishioner Facebook Group? Go here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/StMatthewsOnline/>

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>
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>
WEPCO Facilities Coordinator	Andrew Arevalo, <a href="mailto:wepco@optonline.net">wepco@optonline.net</a>
Bookkeeper	Louann Miska, <a href="mailto:louann.miska@gmail.com">louann.miska@gmail.com</a>
Nursery Staff	Lucia Sato, Kate DeAngelis
Sexton	Max Gil

### **Wardens and Officers**

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

### **The Vestry**

Vytas Kisielius	Pam Carlson	Joe Magnano
Dodo Roberts	Tim Jarvis	Paul Reis
Jessica Christ		

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