

Saint Matthew's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Holy Eucharist - Rite II
The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 29, 2021
10:00am

Welcome to St. Matthew's! We are glad you are here.

The People are invited to read the words in **bold**. If you're joining us from home, please stand, kneel, sing, and pray with us as you're able. No matter where you are, joining in this worship service is a form of prayer that connects you to God and to each other. Whenever two or three are gathered, even virtually, Scripture reminds us that Jesus is present among us.

Children are most welcome and are encouraged to participate in worship.

To the parents of children: Relax! God put the wiggle in children. Sit toward the front so your little ones can see and hear. Go ahead and quietly answer their questions. If you don't know the answer, the priest would love to talk to your little one. When you sing the hymns and join in the prayers, you teach little hearts how to be faithful; you are their best model. If you need to leave the service, that's okay. Don't be shy about coming back. It was Jesus who said, "Let the little children come to me."

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

+ THE WORD OF GOD +

Prelude

Moderato

Elizabeth Stirling (1819–95)

Please stand as you are able.

Entrance Hymn 477

ENGELBERG

"All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine"

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

The Celebrant says

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.**

Gloria *sung by the Choir*

setting by Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

The First Reading

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

The voice of my beloved!
Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.
My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.
Look, there he stands
behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.
My beloved speaks and says to me:
"Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;
for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.
The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away."

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

Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10 *Eructavit cor meum* *sung by the Choir*

- ¹ My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; *
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.
- ² You are the fairest of men; *
grace flows from your lips,
because God has blessed you for ever.
- ⁷ Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, *
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.
- ⁸ Therefore God, your God, has anointed you *
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.
- ⁹ All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, *
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.
- ¹⁰ Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; *
on your right hand is the queen, adorned with the gold of Ophir.

The Second Reading

James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth

of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

Sequence Hymn 610

BLAENHAFREN

“Lord, whose love through humble service”

The Holy Gospel

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

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

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the

market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Linda Spiers

The Nicene Creed

All standing, the Celebrant and People say together

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 God's People

Kenya

The Intercessor begins, the People respond with the words in bold.

May the Bishops and leaders of our churches have wisdom and speak with one voice.

Amen. Lord, hear our prayer.

May the leaders of our country rule with righteousness. Let us pray to the Lord.

Amen. Lord, hear our prayer.

May justice be our shield and defender. Let us pray to the Lord.

Amen. Lord, hear our prayer.

May the country have peace and the people be blessed. Let us pray to the Lord.

Amen. Lord, hear our prayer.

May the flocks and the herds prosper and the fish abound in our lakes. Let us pray to the Lord.

Amen. Lord, hear our prayer.

May the fields be fertile and the harvest be plentiful. Let us pray to the Lord.

Amen. Lord, hear our prayer.

May we and our enemies turn towards peace. Let us pray to the Lord.

Amen. Lord, hear our prayer.

May the love of God touch the lonely, the bereaved and the suffering, especially Pierre, Brian, Bobby, Martin, Marge, Vinny, Ann, Bruce, Melinda, Rob, Jane, Nancy, Ken, Dawn, Donnie, David, James, Aaron, Petra, Richard, Mary Lou, Charles, Kathy, Dann and for all those we now name [_____].

Let us pray to the Lord.

Amen. Lord, hear our prayer.

We also remember all the peoples of Haiti and Afghanistan in the crises they face, and we pray for all impacted by the storms of our time—for the safety and well-being of all, especially first responders and health care workers throughout our world. Let us pray to the Lord.

Amen. Lord, hear our prayer.

May we come to that heaven you have planned for us with all the people we love but see no longer. Let us pray to the Lord.

Amen. Lord, hear our prayer.

May the path of the world be swept of all dangers. We lift our prayers to you.

Alleluia. The Lord of Mercy is with us.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

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

Silence may be kept.

The Celebrant says the following prayer

God our Creator, you created humankind in your image, and blessed us with your love. Help us to show that love to one another as we work for equality for all races in education, housing, public services, and employment opportunity. Give us strength and courage to speak out against injustice, and to work for the transformation of unjust systems that keep some in bondage: that we may more fully live out your kingdom here on earth; through Jesus Christ your son, who came to set us free. **Amen.** —*Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia*

The Confession

Then the Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

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.**

Please stand as you are able.

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,

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn 656

FRANCONIA

“Blest are the pure in heart”



Whether you've joined us today from near or far, in person or online, please consider making a gift of thanksgiving to support the work of God at St. Matthew's. Be part of God's mission with us as we make our way out of the COVID season and into the new life God promises. Visit www.stmatthewswilton.org/offering. Designate it as a gift or as part of your pledge. No gift is too small. All gifts honor the God who honors us with life, breath, love, and salvation.

The Great Thanksgiving

The People stand.

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 God thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus *sung by the Choir*

setting by Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: “Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: “Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People say together

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with [blessed _____, and] all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator with voices of unending praise.

Celebrant and People say together

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to come forward, as directed by the ushers, to receive communion or a blessing. Please come forward socially distanced and in a single file line to the center where you will be given the bread with your hands open and extended or to receive a blessing (cross your arms across your chest). Let the priest know if you need a gluten free wafer by first extending your hands palms down. Once you have received the bread, please return to your pew with the bread in your hand; there you may slip the bread into your mouth under your mask. If you would like to have communion brought to you in your pew, please let an usher know.

Communion Hymn 306

SURSUM CORDA

“Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest”

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.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant

Let us pray.

People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Parish Announcements

The Blessing

Celebrant The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God give you strength to be Christ's hands and heart in this world. And the blessing of God Almighty, who creates, redeems, and sanctifies be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn 344

SICILIAN MARINERS

“Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing”

The Celebrant or the Deacon offers the dismissal to which the people respond,

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Maestoso

Elizabeth Stirling (1819–95)

A Special Thank You to Rev. Linda Spiers

We have been blessed with her calm presence, insightful sermons, and her light touch. Thank you for guiding us this summer and help St. Matthew’s return to consistent and meaningful worship. Linda has been a special gift and we are so very grateful for everything she has done.

Please join us after the service for a special coffee hour in Linda’s honor.

Worship Leaders

<i>Celebrant & Preacher</i>	The Rev. Linda Spiers
<i>Deacon</i>	The Rev. Deacon Don Burr
<i>Lector</i>	Amy Gubner
<i>Intercessor</i>	John Pearson
<i>Organist</i>	Andrew Leslie Cooper
<i>Coffee Hour Host</i>	Dodo Roberts
<i>Counters</i>	Rob Kyle, Dave Gortz

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: *Pierre, Brian, Bobby, Martin, Marge, Vinny, Ann, Bruce, Melinda, Rob, Jane, Nancy, Ken, Dawn, Donnie, David, James, Aaron, Petra, Kathy, 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 Kent School; South Kent School, Pomfret School, Salisbury School, Wooster School, Rectory School; St. Thomas Day School, New Haven, Trinity Academy, Hartford; the Episcopal Church at Yale; the Episcopal Church at UCONN, Storrs; Berkeley Divinity School, New Haven, Trinity College, Hartford.

Children, Youth & Family Ministries

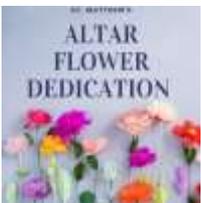


After being apart for too long, we are excited to announce that all regular Children and Youth Programming is ready to kick off this September in person. Church School, Youth Group and Confirmation schedules, as well as information about Middle School and High School “Day Retreats” in October, will be shared via email, eNews and social media in the coming weeks.

Please reach out to samantha@stmatthewswilton.org to update your contact information if need be.

Prayer for the Election of our XVI Diocesan Bishop

God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, without you nothing can be done. Send your Holy Spirit to guide the Episcopal Church of CT, especially the Bishop Transition Committee, during this time of transition. Bless and continue the good work begun in your name. Open the committee’s ears to the hurts and hopes expressed to them and broaden our vision to see where you lead. Enliven their hearts with honesty and compassion to do the work that lies ahead, within our church and beyond its walls. Grant us the gifts of wisdom, humility, and empathy. Guide the committee as they discern your will for a new shepherd, inspirational leader, and willing advocate as we further your work in the Episcopal Church of CT. Bless and be with our Bishop Ian as he transitions to a new life serving you. Bless our candidates. Bestow them with the abilities to lead and serve. Let us learn from them and they from us, so we may live your word serving all. All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever. *Amen.*



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.

Weekly Calendar – August 29 – September 5

Sunday, **August 29**

9:00am

10:00am

11:15am

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Coffee Hour (Zoom)

Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person & Livestream)

Special coffee hour honoring Rev. Linda Spiers

Tuesday, **August 30**

11:00am

Staff Meeting

Sunday, **September 5**

8:00am

9:00am

10:00am

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person)

Coffee Hour (Zoom)

Holy Eucharist – Rite 2 (In person & 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/>

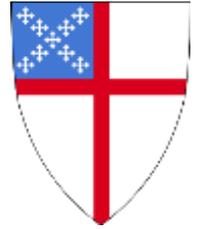
Need something else? Send Brian Angerame or Pam Ely a note or be in touch with another member of the staff.



Save The Date
Sunday, September 19th
St. Matthew's Day Festival
Join us for family fun, food,
games and more !!

Summer Worship Schedule at St. Matthew's

Holy Eucharist on Sundays 10am



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

Staff

Rector	The Rev. Marissa S. Rohrbach, marissa@stmatthewswilton.org
Deacon	The Rev. Deacon Don Burr, don@stmatthewswilton.org
Music Ministries & Organist	Andrew Leslie Cooper, andrew@stmatthewswilton.org
Parish Administrator	Nancy Johnson, office@stmatthewswilton.org
Children, Youth & Family	Samantha Trolice, samantha@stmatthewswilton.org
WEPCO Facilities Coordinator	Andrew Arevalo, wepco@optonline.net
Bookkeeper	Louann Miska, louann.miska@gmail.com
Media Technician	Matthew Henshaw
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		

36 New Canaan Road, Wilton, CT 06897

Phone: (203) 762-7400

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