

## To Know and Share God's Love

*St. Matthew's Episcopal Church*

**Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Sunday, November 5, 2023 • 8:00 am**

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

#### **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AUDITION SUNDAY, NOV. 19 AT 10:30AM**

Children ages three - middle school are invited to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant. All those interested in participating should **Register at [stmmts.org/pageant](https://stmmts.org/pageant)**. This link will also provide all the details on rehearsal times. Auditions for speaking parts will be held on November 19 at 10:30am.

Questions? Contact Kara at  
[Kara.Laughlin@stmmts.org](mailto:Kara.Laughlin@stmmts.org)

### THANKSGIVING FOOD BAGS

DROP OFF BY NOV. 7TH

#### **THANKSGIVING FOOD BAGS GOAL 220 BAGS! DUE NOV. 7 [STMMTS.ORG/THANKSGIVINGBAGS](https://stmmts.org/thanksgivingbags)**

Fill a reusable grocery bag (or two) for a family in need this holiday season. Bags and suggested shopping items are available at the front of the church or online.

Use the link above to share the shopping list with a friend, purchase food to ship directly to church, and sign up to help pack bags on Saturday, November 11. Want to learn more? Contact Kristin at [Kristin.Drummond@stmmts.org](mailto:Kristin.Drummond@stmmts.org).

## WELCOME

We know that going to church or to a new church for the first time can be nerve-racking. We want to help make your first experience at St. Matthew's a great one!

If this is your first visit to Saint Matthew's, we welcome you. Please join us between services for coffee, tea and refreshments in the Parish Hall. For more information about our community, visit our website [www.stmmts.org](http://www.stmmts.org). We are so glad you are here!



## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized Christians are welcome to participate in communion. If you would like to receive, simply place one hand on top of the other, palms up, and the priest will place bread in your hand. You may then consume the wafer. If for any reason you prefer to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Would you like to learn more about baptism? Please visit our website: [stmmts.org/Baptism](http://stmmts.org/Baptism) or contact our office via email at [Office@stmmts.org](mailto:Office@stmmts.org) or phone at 703-430-2121.

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST

The Saint Matthew's intercessory prayer list is for those in or related to our community who are in need of prayer. It is designed so that all members of our community can pray for each other on an ongoing basis. In order to pray for those on the list, simply ask God to be with them and help them in any way needed - God knows what is going on, so we don't need to.

### Please pray for the following:

Flood Victims, MaryLea, Alan, Nishah, Marty, Damar, Jeremy, Kyeron, Abigail, Verdun, Candace, Sieg, Chuck, Lea, Bonnie, Arthur, John G, Gina, Glo, James, Sean, Deb, Teresa, Mel, Eric, Debbie, Marshall, Sites Family, Frank, Tess, Brian, Mike, Zach, Paine, Arjun, Scotty, Brad, Myers Family, Phil, Terry, Kathy, Bobby, Elijah, Philip, Pat, Bob, Mary W., Tonia, Bronwyn, Sanjay, Susanna, Fabiano, Lawrence Family, McKeown Family, Viola, Harry R, Karter, Addie, Mercedes Family, Crystal, Benjamin, Shaumbey, Ruth, Remmie, Webster, Julia, Charlene, Dustin, Chris, Madison, Nora, Robert, Missy, Gerry, Tom, Lynne, Arianna, Amy, Jackie, Ann, Kay, Jane, Panita, Mary Ann, Sharp Family, Saint, Amelia, Kassadi, Kyle, Woll Family, Dawn, Ruby, and Kay.

If you or someone you care about are in need of Pastoral Care, please call 703-430-2121.

## 8 AM SERVICE

### The Word of God

Opening Prayer	
Acclamation and Collect for Purity	355
Holy God	356
Collect of the Day (contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • Joshua 3:7-17	
Psalm • 107:1-7, 33-37	
Second Reading • 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	
Gospel • Matthew 23:1-12	
Sermon	The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.
Nicene Creed	358
Prayers of the People, Form III	387
Confession of Sin and Absolution	359-360
Peace	360
Announcements & Welcome	

### The Holy Communion

#### Offertory

*(An offertory plate is not passed at this service. If you wish to make a donation, the collection plate can be found at the back of the church, or donations are accepted online at [www.stmmts.org/give](http://www.stmmts.org/give))*

*All things come of thee, O Lord,*

***And of thine own have we given thee.***

Great Thanksgiving • Eucharistic Prayer A	361
The Lord's Prayer	364
Breaking of the Bread	364
Invitation to Communion	364
Communion of the People	
Post-Communion Prayer	365
Blessing	
Procession into the World	366

## **The Word of God**

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Opening Songs (stand through the Gospel)

Song • Running Home

Song • Magnolia

Gospel • Matthew 23:1-12

Sermon

The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.

Prayers of the People

Peace

Announcements & Welcome

## **The Holy Communion**

Offertory

*(An offertory plate is not passed at this service. If you wish to make a donation, the collection plate can be found at the back of the church, or donations are accepted online at [www.stmtts.org/give](http://www.stmtts.org/give))*

Great Thanksgiving (stand through Communion)

Eucharistic Prayer

Sanctus • Bring the Rain

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Song • Never Far Away

Closing Prayer (stand through dismissal)

Blessing

Closing Song • Walking on Water

Dismissal

# 11 AM SERVICE

## The Word of God

Processional Hymn • #290 • Come, Ye Thankful People, Come (vs. 1, 2, & 4)	
Acclamation and Collect for Purity	355
Gloria • S280	
Collect of the Day (Contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • Joshua 3:7-17	
Psalm • 107:1-7, 33-37	
Second Reading • 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	
Gospel • Matthew 23:1-12	
Sermon	The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.
Nicene Creed	358
Prayers of the People	
Confession and Absolution	360
Peace	360
Announcements & Welcome	

## The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem • Hymn Medley	arr. Kevin Fletcher
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
Doxology • #380 vs. 3 • Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow	
Great Thanksgiving • Eucharistic Prayer A	361
Sanctus • S130	
The Lord's Prayer	364
Breaking of the Bread	364
Invitation to Communion	
Communion of the People	
Communion Hymn • #474 • When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (all verses)	
Post-Communion Prayer	365
Blessing	
Procession into the World • #287 • For All the Saints (vs. 1, 2, 3 & 8)	
Dismissal	366



## **BACKPACK BUDDIES STERLINGHELP.ORG**

School is in session and Backpack Buddies is busy providing weekend meals! We are packing 270 bags per week! Join us Tuesdays at noon in the Classroom on the Hill or today, November 5 at 10:30am in the Parish Hall.

We are always accepting donations of shelf-stable items like oatmeal, breakfast cereal, macaroni and cheese, canned proteins, granola bars, and more.

Contact Hilary for more info at [hilary.hultman-lee@hrtsterling.org](mailto:hilary.hultman-lee@hrtsterling.org)



## **GAME NIGHT FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 6PM-9PM**

Do you love tabletop games? Parks, Forbidden Desert, Sushi Go, Wing Span, Who Killed Dr. Lucky? There are so many great games! Which is your favorite? Bring your favorite game and a snack to share, as we hang out and try new games. We meet the last Friday of each month.



## **NOVEMBER COFFEE HOUR**

Join us on Sunday mornings at 10:30AM for fellowship, connection, and special treats!

**November 5** - International Hot Sauce Day! Bring your favorite hot sauce to share. We'll provide tortilla chips and sour cream to cool the flames.

**November 19** - National Camp Day. Nothing says camping like S'mores! Join us on November 19 and make S'mores with Hershey, Reese's, and other candy treats!

**November 26** - National Cake Day. Join us for a selection of different cakes as we celebrate Christ the King and National Cake Day.



## **WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY**

In the month of November, our Wednesday Bible study will be focusing on the book of Psalms. Join Fr. Rob from 7:00 PM-8:00 PM as we take a look a closer look at this book of the Bible and how it has deepened people's life of faith down through the ages. We'd love for you to join us! (Please note: We will NOT meet on November 22, the Wednesday before Thanksgiving).

## BREAD OF LIFE BOOK GROUP

### BREAD OF LIFE BOOK GROUP MONDAYS 7PM - 8PM

You're invited to join this co-ed book group as we begin our next book, "The Great Good Thing" by Andrew Klavan. It is about his journey from his youth as a secular Jew through a time as an Agnostic before he came to a faith in Christ. We meet at St. Matthew's in classroom four. Contact Darrell through the church office with any questions. [Office@stmtts.org](mailto:Office@stmtts.org)

ARE YOU IN YOUR 20's OR 30's & LOOKING  
TO ENRICH YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE? JOIN US!

Young  
Professionals  
A.K.A YoPro



[CAITLIN.DRONFIELD@STMTTS.ORG](mailto:CAITLIN.DRONFIELD@STMTTS.ORG)

### NEW BOOK STUDY

YoPros are starting a new 6-week study series on October 22. Join us on Sunday afternoons for discussion and fellowship. Our schedule for the rest of the year will be :  
Nov: 5 and 19 (1st/3rd Sundays)  
Dec: 3 and 17 (1st/3rd Sundays).

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@stmttssterling



@StMatthewsEpiscopalChurch

## JOIN US FOR FAITH FACTORY!

STARTING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3  
PRE-K - 5TH GRADE

### FAITH FACTORY [STMTTS.ORG/FAITHFACTORY](http://STMTTS.ORG/FAITHFACTORY)

Faith Factory is St. Matthew's Sunday morning programming for students ages four - fifth grade. It's a chance for kids to learn about God's love for them through Bible stories, relationship building, singing songs, art projects, and more! Students are invited to meet our Faith Factory teachers, Ms. Alex (pre-K - 2nd grade) in classroom three and Ms. Hilary (3rd - 5th grade) in classroom one. Questions? Contact Hilary at [FaihtFactory@stmtts.org](mailto:FaihtFactory@stmtts.org)

## MEN'S GROUP

SATURDAYS AT 8 AM  
IN THE TRAILER & ON ZOOM

Email [Linden@stmtts.org](mailto:Linden@stmtts.org)

### MEN'S GROUP SATURDAYS AT 8AM

All men are welcome to meet in the classrooms on the hill for fellowship, Bible study, and encouragement.

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

## FRIDAY FLASH

Weekly Newsletter

Email [office@stmtts.org](mailto:office@stmtts.org)  
to be added to the  
distribution list today!



## YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

### **YOUTH GROUP STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHEEVENTS DONUTS & DISCOVERY**

Middle and high school students are invited to join Ben on Sundays at 10:30am in classroom four for donuts and discussion about how to create helpful guardrails in our lives.

### **GREAT FALLS HIKE TUES., NOV. 7, 11AM - 2PM**

It's a day off of school! Meet at church and then we'll hike Great Falls. Bring water and lunch. RSVP: [STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHEEVENTS](https://stmtts.org/youth-events)

### **YOUTH SERVICE DAY WED. NOV. 22, 3:30PM - 6PM**

Meet at church, then carpool to Dulles Towne Center where we'll volunteer at the Anna Sudha Volunteer Kitchen. RSVP: [STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHEEVENTS](https://stmtts.org/youth-events)

### **YOUTH BOWLING FRIDAY, NOV 24 | TIME TBA**

Join Ben and some of your St. Matt's friends for an afternoon of Bowling at Bowl America in Sterling (just off of Dranesville Rd.) Time and cost coming soon.

### **YOUTH TRAMPOLINE PARK**

Save the date: Saturday, December 9. Trampolines, go-karts, games, and more. Time and cost coming soon.



— NEWCOMER'S —

**WELCOME**

*Saint Matthew's*

### **NEWCOMERS WELCOME TODAY SUN., NOV. 5 AT 3PM**

Are you new to Saint Matthew's or looking to learn more about our community and ministries? We'd love to get to know you better. Please join us on Sunday, November 5, 3pm in the parish hall. Children are welcome. Please RSVP to the office at [Office@stmtts.org](mailto:Office@stmtts.org).



## 2024 YOUTH GROUP SUMMER MISSION TRIP

### **SUMMER 2024 YOUTH MISSION STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHMISSION**

Register now for the youth mission trip, June 23-29, 2024. Rising sixth - twelfth graders (and chaperones) are invited. The goal this year is to help students navigate the many influences in their lives and encourage them to look toward Jesus, the greatest influencer of all time, so they use their influence to positively change their culture.

Find more details and register at [STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHMISSION](https://stmtts.org/youth-mission)

## THIS WEEK AT ST. MATT'S

### Sunday, November 5th

8:00 am - Rite I Worship Service  
9:30 am - Festival Worship Service  
10:30 am - Donuts & Discovery for  
Middle & High School Students  
10:30 am - Backpack Buddies Packing  
11:00 am - Classic Worship Service  
12:15 pm - Kara's Lay Committee  
12:30 pm - Young Professionals  
3:00 pm - Newcomers Welcome  
Reception  
6:30 pm - Girl Scout Troop 2274

### Monday, November 6th

12:00 pm - Social Time with Candace  
5:00 pm - Girl Scout Troop 2157  
7:00 pm - Bread of Life  
7:30 pm - Free to Live  
8:00 pm - Compline

### Tuesday, November 7th

9:30 am - All Ages Read Together  
11:00 am - Youth Great Falls Hike  
12:00 pm - Backpack Buddies Packing  
1:30 pm - Staff Meeting  
6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous  
7:00 pm - Education for Ministry  
7:00 pm - Band Rehearsal  
7:30 pm - Sandwich Generation  
8:00 pm - Compline

### Wednesday, November 8th

12:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous  
7:00 pm - Bible Study  
8:00 pm - Compline

### Thursday, November 9th

9:30 am - All Ages Read Together  
11:00 am - Anam Cara (Closed Group)  
12:00 pm - Hold for Thanksgiving Bags  
7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal  
8:00 pm - Compline

### Friday, November 10th

7:00 am - Hold for Thanksgiving Bags  
8:00 pm - Compline

### Saturday, November 11th

7:00 am - Hold for Thanksgiving Bags  
8:00 am - Men's Group  
6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous  
7:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous  
8:30 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

November 5th: Destiny Chambers,  
Summer Kane  
November 6th: Rick Sather  
November 7th: Elliott Beltrane  
November 8th: Rita Knisely, Jen  
Lofquist, Ian Wright  
November 10th: Dewayne Knisely

## ATTENDANCE

Sunday, October 29, 2023

Time or Place	Attendance Online	Attendance In-Person
8:00 AM	11	24
9:30 AM	32	78
11:00 AM	12	36
Faith Factory		10
Youth Group		8

## HELP SUPPORT ST. MATTHEW'S MINISTRIES

## GIVE ONLINE

[stmmts.org/give](https://stmmts.org/give)

## VENMO

@stmmtssterling



## CASH OR CHECK

Checks can be made payable to  
"St. Matthew's Church" and  
placed into the collection plate

For more ways to give and  
information on automatic giving:

[stmmts.org/give](https://stmmts.org/give)

## WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

In-Person & Online

**8:00AM** | This is a traditional communion service using Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer.

**9:30AM** | This is a vibrant communion service with our very own live band. If you are looking for a joyous family service with some of the best music around, this is the service for you.

**11:00AM** | A classic communion service with our fabulous choir. We use Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer.

**Compline (evening prayer)** Mon.–Fri. at 8pm on Facebook

**Online Worship**  
**stmmts.org/live**

Sunday services are broadcast on Facebook and YouTube.

## St. Matthew's Staff & Vestry

Rector, Rev. C. Robert Merola, Jr.  
Rob@stmmts.org

General Manager, Miriam Turner  
Office@stmmts.org

Audio, Livestream Coordinator,  
Mason Turner II, Mason2.Turner@stmmts.org

Bookkeeper, Jean DeFuria  
Bookkeeper@stmmts.org

Director Choir, Kevin Fletcher  
Kevin@stmmts.org

Dir. of Communications, Kathleen Bellamy  
Kathleen@stmmts.org

Director, Faith Factory,  
Hilary Hultman-Lee  
FaithFactory@stmmts.org

Office Assistant, Sue Reier  
Sue@stmmts.org

Seminarian, Kara Laughlin  
Kara.Laughlin@stmmts.org

Youth Ministry and Marketing Coordinator  
Ben Merola  
Ben.Merola@stmmts.org

### VESTRY

Sara Warnick, Senior Warden  
Andrew Wright, Junior Warden  
Caitlin Dronfield  
Kristin Drummond  
Bob Henry  
Sharon Muniz  
Robby Stevens

### Service Volunteers

**Ushers** | Justin Warnick, Dee Carter, Sharon Ferguson, Lorenzo Martini

**Lectors** | Linden Sanders, Sue Reier

**Eucharistic Ministers LEMs** | Debbie Majewski, Tom Leary,  
Heather Tomaszek,

**Tellers** | Dan Robertson

**Altar Guild** | Ann Lowden, Tom Leary, Sue Reier