

HE IS RISEN



EASTER SUNDAY
6 AM

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. We'd love to have the opportunity to connect with you, and invite you to complete the enclosed connection card. For more information about our community, visit our website 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 contact our office via email at 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:

Pete, Skip, Desmond, Jeannie, Michael, Tim, Emma, Susan, James, Sean, Joe, Deb, Beltrane family, Teresa, victims of violence, Amber, Yimam family, Fredericks family, E, Laura, Will, William, Frank, Florence, Jerry, Warren, Eddie, Janice, Charlie, Dillon family, Zach, Amy, Julia, Langenkamp family, Nicholas, Crystal, Paulo, Mary W., Jon, Joyce, John S., Panita, McKeown family, Deepak, Flood victims, Vicki, Greg, Mary Ann, Sharp family, Anthony, Josh, Reatha, Athena, Kathleen, Heriberto, Rosaura, Matthew, Denise, Bellamy family, Jose, Pete, Annie, MaryLea, Alan, Nishah, Marty, John G, Damar, Jeremy, Kyeron, Abigail, Verdun, John, Candace, Lea, Bonnie, Arthur, Mel, Eric, Ginny, Andrew, Bob, Robby, Ron, Corinne, AJ, earthquake victims, train crash victims, Kassidi, Jordan, Amelia, Michael, Steve, Raven, Kenya, Josiah, Joy, Elizabeth, Karen, and Hank.

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

The Lighting of the Flame

In the darkness, fire is kindled.

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Procession of the Paschal Candle

Leader The Light of Christ

People **Thanks be to God**

(Chant 3 times)

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light.

Leader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Leader Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord.

How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God.

Therefore, O Holy Father, accept the evening sacrifice, of this lighted candle, which your Holy Church makes before you, and offers to you by the hands of your servants, the work of the bees your creatures. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness as we celebrate the solemnity of our redemption.

May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

Canticle 8 • Song of Moses

Exodus 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gathering of God's People

Zephaniah 3:12-20

Psalm • 126

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were

cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

You may extinguish your candles.

The Eucharist

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Gloria

Collect for the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Epistle • Romans 6:3-11

Gospel • Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows 292-294

Prayers of the People, Form III 387

The Peace 360

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem • #178 Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Doxology • Hymn #380 (verse 3 only)

Great Thanksgiving • Eucharistic Prayer A 361

Sanctus •

The Lord's Prayer 364

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion 364

Communion of the People

Communion Hymn • #304 I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord

Post-Communion Prayer 365

Blessing

Procession into the World • Hymn #207 Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Dismissal

HE IS RISEN



EASTER SUNDAY
9:30 AM

The Word of God

Opening Song • Ain't No Grave

Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Opening Prayer (stand through the Gospel)

Song • Rise Up

Song • Still Rolling Stones

Lessons

Reading • Acts 10:34-43

Gospel • Matthew 28:1-10

Easter Homily

The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.

Prayers of the People

Peace

Announcements & Welcome

The Holy Communion

Offertory • It Was Finished

Great Thanksgiving (stand through Communion)

Eucharistic Prayer

Sanctus • Revelation Song

The Lord's Prayer

Communion of the People

Song • Praise to the Lord

Song • Springtime

Closing Prayer

Blessing

Closing Song • Year of Victory

Dismissal

*Please join us after the service on the front lawn for an Easter
egg hunt for the children.*

HE IS RISEN



EASTER SUNDAY
11 AM

The Word of God

Introit • Halle, Hallelujah

Processional • Hymn 182 (verses 1, 2, & 3)

Acclamation

355

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Glory to God • S278

Collect of the Day

Insert

Lessons

Reading • Acts 10:34-43

Psalm • 118 1-2, 14-24

Sequence Hymn • Joyous Alleluias

Gospel • Matthew 28:1-10

Easter Homily

The Reverend Rob Merola

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

292-294

Prayers of the People, Form III

387

Peace

360

Announcements & Welcome

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem • Christ the Lord is Risen Today!

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Doxology • Hymn 380 (verse 3)

Great Thanksgiving • Eucharistic Prayer A

361

Sanctus • S125

The Lord's Prayer

364

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

364

Communion of the People

Communion Motet • Lord of All, Most Holy

Communion Motet • African Gloria

Communion Hymn #199 (all verses)

Post-Communion Prayer

365

Blessing

Procession into the World • Hymn #205 (verses 1, 2, 3 & 5)

Dismissal

Please join us after the service on the front lawn for an Easter egg hunt.

Dedications for Easter Flowers

Darrell Breed	In celebration of family and friends.
Sharon Ferguson	In loving memory of my dad, Neil Davis.
Sandra Gentry	To the glory of God and in thanksgiving for family and friends.
Cheryl Gilligan	In memory of my grandfather.
John, Joleen, and Allison Gradich	In memory of John Gradich, Sr., Bonnie Dickson, Judy Bisig, & Anna Russell.
Suzanne Lawrence	In remembrance of my children, Kathleen and Scott.
Neil and Regina McPhie	In memory of our parents: Rose and Sydney McPhie, and Mr. & Mrs. Doo Kew Chow.
Elly Hilz	To the glory of God in thanksgiving for many blessings received.
Rob and Linda Merola	In thanksgiving for our daughters and grandson.
Adrienne Miller	In memory of Gerry Miller, Sharon Hoffman, and Bill & Dimmie Wilks.
Vicki Nelson	In memory of my mom. Easter was her favorite holiday of the year.
Martha Olson and Family	In loving memory of Jose & Victoria Campos, Arthur & Jane Olson, Rosie Garcia, and our good friends, Dessie, Ben and Carey. In thanksgiving for the many blessings of family and friends.
Sue Reier	In thanksgiving for the blessings of family and friends.
Tom and Mary Ann Smith	For all the blessings we have received.
John and Verdun Thomas	Dedicated to Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Thomas and Mr. & Mrs. John Thomas.
Candace Timmons	In loving memory of my parents, Howard & Miriam, and my brother, Howard II.
Mason and Miriam Turner	In great thanksgiving for our moms—Kathie and Candace.



WEDNESDAYS AT CHURCH, STERLING APRIL 19, 7PM-8PM

Join Fr. Rob and friends this spring for discussion as we consider how to live a life pleasing to God. Topics may include: What God wants, The world: good or evil?, The role of Satan, & What do we do with guilt? Please join us.



BACKPACK BUDDIES STERLINGHELP.ORG

Backpack Buddies packs 250 bags of food each week to feed local school children. Pack with us on Tuesdays at 12pm, and the first Sunday of each month at 10:30am.

To arrange another time and for more information, please contact Hilary at Office@stmnts.org.



NEWCOMERS RECEPTION SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 3PM

Are you new to St. Matt's or just want to learn more? Join us at the home of Rob & Linda Merola (34 Bedford Dr. Sterling) for conversation and treats. We'd love to have the opportunity to get to know you.

Please RSVP to the church office for directions at Office@stmnts.org.



SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 6-8PM

You're invited to Rob and Linda's (34 Bedford Dr) as we discuss the emotional ending which has generated such deep feelings for so many. Starting with a cookout (a side dish or dessert is welcome), we'll then gather around a fire as darkness falls to discuss. (Note: the show contains disturbing themes, graphic violence. It is not kid friendly.)





**STUDENT MISSION TRIP
JULY 9-15, 2023
STMMTS.ORG/YOUTHMISSION**

This summer, rising 6th graders and up will partner with Group Mission in Erie, PA to repair and transform homes while deepening their faith & building relationships with peers and youth leaders.



**TALENT SHOW & AUCTION
SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 6PM-8PM
STMMTS.ORG/TALENTSHOW**

Join us for a night of fun and great talent while supporting the student summer mission trip to Erie, PA.

Can you sing? Dance? Tell jokes? Play an instrument? If so, the Mission Trip Talent Show is the place for you! Students are invited to register to participate in the talent show using the link above.

If you have items or personal services to donate to the auction, please contact Jae through the church office at office@stmmts.org.



SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 9:30AM

Join us as the youth of St. Matt's host the 9:30am worship service. You'll see our students serve in a variety of roles. To learn more, email Ron at Journey@stmmts.org.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 24-29, 2023, 5:30-8:30PM
STMMTS.ORG/VBS**

Launch kids on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light on the world.



DONUTS & DISCOVERY

Middle and high school students are invited to meet in classroom four on Sundays at 10:30AM for a lively discussion. No meeting on Easter. See you April 16.

To learn more, email Genevieve at Office@stmmts.org.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATT'S

Sunday, April 9th

6:00 am - Easter Vigil & Brunch
9:30 am - Festival Worship Service
11:00 am - Classic Worship Service
6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
8:15 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

Monday, April 10th

9:00 am - Classroom of Discovery
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
8:20 pm - Social Time with Kevin

Tuesday, April 11th

9:00 am - Classroom of Discovery
10:00 am - Outside Book Group
10:00 am - Staff Meeting
12:00 pm - Backpack Buddies Packing
6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 pm - Education for Ministry
8:00 pm - Compline

Wednesday, April 12th

9:00 am - Classroom of Discovery
12:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
8:00 pm - Compline

Thursday, April 13th

10:45 am - Anam Cara (Closed Group)
8:00 pm - Compline

Friday, April 14th

7:00 pm - Old Dominion Dancers
8:00 pm - Compline

Saturday, April 15th

8:00 am - Men's Group
9:00 am - Reverence Committee
6:00 pm - Silent Auction: Mission Fundraiser
6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous
7:00 pm - Student Talent Show: Mission Fundraiser
8:30 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 9th: Anne Beltrane
April 10th: Katherine Gomez
April 11th: Olivia Sta. Ana

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

April 12th: Vicki & Peter Nelson, Jenny & Matt Greenlund
April 13th: Sara & Justin O'Connell
April 14th: Barbara & Lowell Thomas
April 15th: Martha & Bob Olson

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, April 2, 2023

<i>Time or Place</i>	<i>Attendance Online</i>	<i>Attendance In-Person</i>
8:00 AM	14	24
9:30 AM	33	115
11:00 AM	13	50
Faith Factory		20

HELP SUPPORT ST. MATTHEW'S MINISTRIES

GIVE ONLINE

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

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,
Kristin Bellamy
Kristin.Bellamy@stmmts.org

Bookkeeper, Jean DeFuria
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Children's Ministry Intern
Aurelia Porto, Aurelia.Porto@stmmts.org

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

Dir. of Student Connections, Ron Whitt
Ron.Whitt@stmmts.org

Office Assistant, Sue Reier
Sue@stmmts.org

VESTRY

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

Service Volunteers

Ushers | Jim Helein, Sharon Ferguson

Lectors | Sue Reier

Eucharistic Ministers | LEMs | Haley Elliott, Heather Tomaszek, Justin Warnick

Tellers | Dan Robertson

Flower Guild | Martha Olson, Pam Hart, Priscilla Shingleton

Altar Guild | Richard Henry, Elly Hilz, Lisa Lintelman, Anitrus Jones

The Lessons Appointed for Use on
Easter Day

Year A
RCL



Acts 10:34-43
Colossians 3:1-4
or Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18
or Matthew 28:1-10
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

The Collect

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

or this

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

or this

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with

him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Psalm

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Confitemini Domino

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."
- 14 The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; *
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

The Epistle

Colossians 3:1-4

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

The Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Optional parts of the readings are set off in square brackets.

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The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979.

From The Lectionary Page: <http://lectionarypage.net>