

Second Sunday of Easter Sunday, April 27, 2025



WOMEN'S MINISTRY STMTTS.ORG/WOMENSGROUPS

The women of St. Matthew's invite you to a volunteer event at Women Giving Back on Sun., May 18, 1 - 3:30PM. RSVP required using the link above.

Women Giving Back provides clothing and accessories free of charge to women in our community who are in crisis. We will be sorting and organizing donations at our event on May 18. See you there!



2030 HIKE & LUNCH MAY 17

Whether you're single, married, or starting a family, our 2030 group is a great opportunity for those in their 20's and 30's to build friendships and community. Join Robby and Emily Stevens, to connect with others and enjoy the outdoors at our spring hike. We'll meet at the church on Saturday, May 17 at 8:30 AM and carpool to a hike at Bears Den followed by lunch at Bear Chase Brewery.

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. For more information about our community, visit our website www.stmtts.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, please follow the directions from the ushers and on the slides. 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@stmtts.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:

Sean, Sieg, Chuck, Lea, Bonnie, Arthur, John G, Glo, Deb, Teressa, Mel, Eric, Debbie, Marshall, Ruth, Remmie, Arianna, Jeanine, Hunter, Robyn, Emma, Frances, Christy, Nick, Gus, Aldana, Clint, Chelsea, Edgar, Rusty, Anne, Shelby, Kiera, Marty, Candace, Kevin, John, Ome, Renee, Grace, Kristina, Freya, Ava, Steve, Natalie, Kristen, Sophia, Sadie, Shaundra, Larry, Don, Fabiano, Luke, John, Brenda, Pete, Valorie, Cathy, Naomi, Dan, Christy, Dennis, Diane, Brent, Mary, Sybil, Judy, James, Rick, Avery, Emory, Mario, Molly, Cooper, Rose, Sarah, Jessica, Jay, Amanda, Venessa, Desira, Rose, Sarah, Natalie D, Natalie S, Paul, Katy, Randy, Maura, Kaufman Family, Rinker Family, Blair Family, Colon Family, Suaib Family, Gonzalez Family, Omar, Mona, Tala, Dima, Carter, Jean, Martha, Tony, Nancy, Clara, Elijah, Maria, Bob, Cindy, Don, Megan, Ian, Marielle, Sharp Family, Mila, Moreau Family, Pat, Heather, Marilyn, Katie, Madison, Karen, Marcy, Barbara, Gerry, Becky, RL, Panita, Jane, Katt, Jenn, Charles, John, Arlene, Darla, Kassi, and Amelia.

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 • Acts 5:27-32	
Psalm • 150	
Second Reading • Revelation 1:4-8	
Gospel • John 20:19-31	

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

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

(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)

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

9:30 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Wel	come
VVC	COILIC

Opening Song • You Can't Always Get What You Want

Opening Prayer (stand through the Gospel)

Song • Still Rolling Stones

Song • Walk with Jesus

Gospel • John 20:19-31

Sermon The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.

Presentation of Candidates for Baptism

301

Anselm Arthur Bruce
Charlotte Hayley Edwards
Lincoln Timothy Reed
Penelope Jane Reed
Tallulah Grace Reed

Baptismal Covenant 304

Baptism 307

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)

Great Thanksgiving (stand through Communion)

Eucharistic Prayer

Sanctus • Holy

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Song • Springtime

Closing Prayer (stand through dismissal)

Blessing

Closing Song • Hallelujah Feeling

Dismissal

11 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Processional Hymn #192 • This Joyful Eastertide		
Acclamation and Collect for Purity	355	
Gloria • S280		
Collect of the Day (Contemporary)	Insert	
Lessons		
First Reading • Acts 5:27-32		
Psalm • 150		
Second Reading • Revelation 1:4-8		
Gospel • John 20:19-31		
Sermon The Reverend C. Robert Merc	ola, Jr.	
Nicene Creed	358	
Prayers of the People		
Confession of Sin and Absolution 35	9-360	
Peace	360	
Announcements & Welcome		
The Holy Communion		
Offertory Anthem • Mansion Over the Hilltop		
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings		
Doxology • #380 vs. 3 • Praise God from Whom all Blessing	gs 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 #204 • Now the Green Blade Riseth		
Post-Communion Prayer		365
Blessing		
Procession into the World • Hymn #191 vs. 1, 2, 3, and 5		
Dismissal		366



TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK STERLINGHELP.ORG/TEACHER

Looking for a creative and meaningful way to thank a teacher this year? Join the HRTS Teacher Appreciation Campaign-and help us spread the word!

This unique initiative invites families to honor teachers by sponsoring a student through the Backpack Buddies program. Each donation provides weekend meals for a child in need-right here in our Sterling schools-while letting teachers know their work truly matters.

There are even downloadable cards FAITH FACTORY kids can sign!

Here's how you can help:

- Share a post honoring a teacher on social media and tag @hungerresponse #HonorATeacher
- Invite your school's PTA to share this idea with families
- Share the campaign with friends and neighbors

Let's fill our feeds-and our community-with gratitude.

Learn more:

sterlinghelp.org/teacher



MOTHER'S DAY, SUN., MAY 11

Stop by the parish hall at 10:30AM for pictures with family and friends at our photo booth, and then enjoy a create your own Mom-Osa Bar-a fizzy, fun toast to the incredible people who lift us up.



EVERY SUNDAY AT 9:30 AM PRESCHOOL - 5TH GRADE

Faith Factory is St. Matthew's Sunday morning programming for students ages preschool - fifth grade. Classes are more exciting than ever, with three ageappropriate classes designed to engage and inspire every child.

- Preschoolers: Learn and play with Ms. Zorana in Classroom 3.
- K-2nd Grade: Sing, craft, and dive into Bible stories with Ms. Alex in Classroom 2.
- 3rd-5th Grade: Solve word puzzles, conduct science experiments, and explore the Scriptures with Ms. Hilary in Classroom 1.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY STMTTS.ORG/WOMENSGROUPS

Join us for a delightful morning of coffee and fellowship. All women are invited to meet on Saturday, May 10 at 9AM at Ridgetop Coffee and Tea in Sterling for a casual morning of conversation, and connection. Kids are welcome.

The women of St. Matthew's invite you to a volunteer event at Women Giving Back on Sun., May 18, 1 - 3:30PM. RSVP required using the link above.



SUMMER INTERNSHIPS STMTTS.ORG/WORKWITHUS

Explore your calling with a summer internship at St. Matt's. Use the link above to learn about our openings for this summer, or share with young adults in your life.





BACKPACK BUDDIES STERLINGHELP.ORG

Backpack Buddies provides weekend meals for 309 local school children each week. Pack with us on Tuesdays at 12PM, and the first Sunday of each month at 10:30AM.

To learn more about HRTS contact Hilary at Hilary@hrtsterling.org.



WEDNESDAY BOOK STUDY CONTINUES APRIL 30, 7PM-8PM

Join Fr. Rob and friends this spring to continue discussing Gregory Boyle's book, Cherished Belonging - exploring the powerful themes of love, healing, and connection.

At this time we do not have plans to coordinate dinner or include children's programming. Nursery is available upon request.

If you would like to continue the light supper prior to meeting, we'll need someone to coordinate. If you're interested in taking on this simple but meaningful role (or even co-leading with a friend!), please contact Miriam in the church office at Office@stmtts.org.



SUPER MARIO SUNDAY, APRIL 27

LEVEL UP your Sunday fun on April 27th at 10:30 AM. Join us for worship and then at 10:30 AM coffee hour - Meet MARIO & PRINCESS PEACH, POWER UP with some SUPER SNACKS, and bring the whole family for a morning of fun!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 21–25, 2025

VBS 2025 will guide kids on the ultimate Alaskan adventure. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that he is a faithful friend we can always trustour True North.

Register today or share with a friend at stmtts.org/VBS.

Make a difference in the life of a child this summer. Adult and teen volunteers are needed to make VBS the best week of summer. Sign up today using the link above.

Documentation of service hours will be provided.



YOUTH GROUP

Activities, connection, and conversation designed specifically for middle & high school students.

Scan the QR Code to stay up to date with all the youth happenings, or contact our Youth Minister, Ben at Ben.Merola@stmtts.org.

DONUTS & DISCOVERY Sundays at 9:30AM

Students are invited to join us for donuts and engaging faith discussions tailored just for them.

TREE OF LIFE MEAL PREP SUNDAY, MAY 18, 4:30-7:30PM

Meet at church to prepare dinner for 70 people at the weekly Tree of Life dinner. Help our local neighbors by providing a warm, delicious meal. Dinner will be provided.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP AUGUST 2-8 TO FLORIDA!

Join us as we serve communities, grow in faith, and make lasting memories. Before we head home, we'll take our minions on a detour to Universal Studios and spend our last day making magical memories and having big fun!

Register using the link below. Payment plans and scholarships are available.

STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHMISSION



2 EASTER

Second Sunday of Easter



Revised Common Lectionary

Sunday, April 27, 2025

COLLECT

Traditional

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who in the Paschal mystery hast established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

Contemporary

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

WHEN THE CAPTAIN and the temple police had brought the apostles out of the temple, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Refrain

The Lord is my strength and my song.

Psalm 118:14-29 from the Book of Common Prayer

- 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:
- "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.
- 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."
- I will give thanks to you, for you answered me * and have become my salvation.

- 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.
- On this day the LORD has acted; * we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! * LORD, send us now success.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD; * we bless you from the house of the LORD.
- 27 God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; * form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
- "You are my God, and I will thank you; * you are my God, and I will exalt you."
- 29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; * his mercy endures for ever.

Refrain

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Psalm 150 from the Book of Common Prayer

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; * praise him in the firmament of his power.
- 2 Praise him for his mighty acts; * praise him for his excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; * praise him with lyre and harp.

- 4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; * praise him with strings and pipe.
- 5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; * praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
- 6 Let everything that has breath * praise the LORD. Hallelujah!

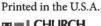
SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

JOHN TO THE SEVEN churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

WHEN IT WAS EVENING on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission. Collects and Psalter translation are from The Book of Common Prayer, 1979.





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THIS WEEK AT ST. MATT'S

Sunday, April 27th

8:00 am - Rite I Worship Service

9:30 am - Festival Worship Service

9:30 am - Faith Factory

9:30 am - Middle & High School Student Groups

11:00 am - Classic Worship Service

12:15 pm - Gabe's Lay Committee

2:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous

2:00 pm - On That Note Rehearsal

Monday, April 28th

12:00 pm - Social Time with Candace

7:00 pm - Bread of Life

7:30 pm - Free to Live

Tuesday, April 29th

9:00 am - All Ages Read Together

9:00 am - Staff Meeting

12:00 pm - Backpack Buddies Packing

6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous

7:00 pm - Education for Ministry

7:00 pm - Naturalization Class

7:00 pm - Band Rehearsal 8:00 pm - Compline

Wednesday, April 30th

12:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous

7:00 pm - Cherished Belonging Book Discussion

8:00 pm - Women's NA Group

Thursday, May 1st

9:00 am - All Ages Read Together

12:00 pm - Bible Study with Fr. Rob

7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 2nd

7:00 pm - Old Dominion Dancers

Saturday, May 3rd

8:00 am - Men's Group

6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous

7:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

8:30 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 27th: Christie Circle, Andres Williams, Johanna Harvey, Annie O'Connell

April 28th: Shay Nelson

April 29th: Mike Brennan, Akila O'Grady, Margaret Wallis, Jamie Lawall, Gwyneth Jackson, Bella Warnick

April 30th: Shelli Crockett

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

May 1st: Nikki & Charle Acierto May 2nd: Rita & Richard Leslie

ATTENDANCE

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

Time or Place	Attendance Online	Attendance In-Person
6:00 AM	-	96
9:30 AM	32	261
11:00 AM	14	98
Faith Factory		41
Youth Group		14



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) Tuesdays at 8pm on Facebook

Online Worship stmtts.org/live

Sunday services are broadcast on Facebook and YouTube.

St. Matthew's Staff & Vestry

Rector, Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr. Rob@stmtts.org

General Manager, Miriam Turner Office@stmtts.org

Audio, Livestream Coordinators, Colin Leary, Kaylyn Burakowski, and Christian Turner

Bookkeeper, Jean DeFuria Bookkeeper@stmtts.org

Deacon, Reverend Kara Laughlin Kara.Laughlin@stmtts.org

Director Choir, Kevin Fletcher Kevin@stmtts.org

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

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

Office Assistant, Sue Reier Sue@stmtts.org

Seminarian, Gabe Oakes Gabe.Oakes@stmtts.org

Youth Ministry and Marketing Coordinator, Ben Merola Ben.Merola@stmtts.org

VESTRY

Robby Stevens, Senior Warden Andrew Wright, Junior Warden Craig Dubishar Bob Henry Julie Kane Alexis Sather

Service Volunteers

Stephanie Zebrowski

Ushers | Fred Brittain, Dee Carter, Emory Henderson, Cheryl Gilligan, Sharon Ferguson

Lectors | Richard Henry, Kevin Fletcher Eucharistic Ministers LEMs | Debbie Majewski, Julie Kane, Gerry Wardell

Tellers | Dan Robertson

Flower Guild | Martha Olson, Pam Hart, Priscilla Shingleton Altar Guild | Linda Merola, Adrienne Miller, Anitrus Jones