

To Know and Share God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 21, 2023 • 8:00 am

MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND
PICNIC AT
ST. MATTHEW'S

SUNDAY, MAY 28 AT ST. MATT'S!

You're invited to worship followed by food and games (incl. 30 foot obstacle course!) on the front lawn at St. Matt's. Please note: worship will be held at 8am and 9:30am only.

Members of our Men's Group will provide delicious items from the grill. Please bring a side dish or dessert based on the first letter of your last name. A- L: Desserts, M-Z Sides. You may also wish to bring a blanket, lawn chairs, outdoor games, and invite a friend.

WOMEN'S
retreat
SIGN UP TODAY!

ST. MATT'S WOMENS RETREAT **SEPTEMBER 22-24, 2023** **STMTTS.ORG/RETREAT**

You're invited to join the women of St. Matthew's to enjoy fellowship and relaxation as we cultivate fertile soil into our hearts. We are excited for the weekend's special guest speaker, Rev. Mary Margaret Winn.

Visit the link above for details and registration. Space is limited.

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.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, 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: stmtts.org/Baptism or 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:

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, Damar, Jeremy, Kyeron, Abigail, Verdun, Candace, Lea, Bonnie, Arthur, John G, Gina, James, Sean, Deb, Teressa, Mel, Eric, Ginny, Andrew, Bob, Robby, Ron, Earthquake Victims, Train Crash Victims, Kathleen, Jenny, Corinne, AJ, Kassadi, Jordan, Amelia, Michael, Steve, Raven, Kenya, Josiah, Joy, Elizabeth, Rusty, Elizabeth, Michelle, Raven, Yutzy family, Sites Family, Frank, Tess, Brian, Mike, Zach, Paine, Arjun, Scotty, Mary W., Bobby, Elijah, and Philip.

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
Glory to God	356
Collect of the Day (contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • Acts 1:6-14	
Psalm • 68:1-10, 33-36	
Second Reading • 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	
Gospel • John 17:1-11	
Sermon	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	
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
<i>All things come of thee, O Lord, And of thine own have we given thee.</i>	
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	366
Blessing	
Procession into the World	366

9:30 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Opening Songs (stand through the Gospel)

Song • You Are So Good to Me

Song • Devotion

Gospel • John 17:1-11

Sermon

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)

Great Thanksgiving (stand through Communion)

Eucharistic Prayer

Sanctus

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Song • Holy Blood

Closing Prayer (stand through dismissal)

Blessing

Closing Song • All the People Said Amen

Dismissal

11 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Processional Hymn	
Acclamation and Collect for Purity	355
Gloria S280	
Collect of the Day (Contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • Acts 1:6-14	
Psalm • 68:1-10, 33-36	
Second Reading • 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	
Gospel • John 17:1-11	
Sermon	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	
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 Song	
Post-Communion Prayer	366
Blessing	
Procession into the World	
Dismissal	366



STUDENT MISSION TRIP JULY 9-15, 2023

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. Find more information or register today at stmmts.org/youthmission.



DONUTS & DISCOVERY

LOST IN TRANSLATION: Leviticus and the 1946 Bible

The word homosexual was not in the Bible until 1946. Does the bible really condemn homosexuality? This week join Genevieve to take a look at Leviticus translations and their repercussions.



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

VBS is a special gift we offer our community. We are actively seeking adult volunteers to take leadership roles, and we need YOU to make this week a success. Contact Kathleen at Kathleen@stmmts.org to discuss how you can make a difference.

VBS will launch kids on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light on the world. Registration is open for campers (preschool-rising 5th graders) and for volunteers (rising 6th graders - adult). Use the link above and register today.



CELEBRATE GRADUATES SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 5PM

Everyone is invited to celebrate our high school and college graduates at a special worship service on Sunday, June 4 at 5PM. Dinner will be held following the service for graduates and their families. Graduates please RSVP to Office@stmmts.org.



FAITH & SCIENCE

A DISCUSSION
SERMON SERIES

MAY SERMON SERIES FAITH & SCIENCE

Join Fr. Rob and Jonathan Marvin, Sr. Scientist at Howard Hughes Medical Institute as they dive into a series of discussions on faith and science. Jonathan has been at Janelia since 2006 and has over 40 peer reviewed publications.



SUPPORT BACKPACK BUDDIES

HUNGER RESPONSE TEAM OF STERLING - HRTS STERLINGHELP.ORG

HRTS is a new 501c3 started to address the growing needs of our community. We are excited as this will allow us access to grants and corporate matching that have been previously unavailable to us as a religious organization.

To get started, we are moving Backpack Buddies funding under HRTS. Please help us spread the word by asking two friends or co-workers to join you in supporting a Backpack Buddies child. \$9/week provides six meals to a child right here in our community. Share the link above for more information, and ask your employer about corporate matching.



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 in the Classrooms on the Hill.

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



FLOWER DEDICATION STMTTS.ORG/FLOWERS

Flower dedications are welcome to honor special occasions like baptism, birthday, & anniversaries. Use the link above to make a dedication today.



MEN'S GROUP - SATURDAYS AT 8AM

All men are welcome to meet in the classrooms on the hill for fellowship.



YOUNG ADULT COUPLES GROUP

YOUNG ADULT COUPLES MEETUP SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1PM

Couples in their 20's and 30's are invited to meet at Izzi Pizza in Herndon. Email Robby Stevens at Office@stmnts.org for more details.



WEDNESDAYS AT CHURCH,

Join Fr. Rob and friends this spring on Wednesday evenings from 7pm-8pm for discussions 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.



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

MESSAGE ON THE GO

CHECK OUT OUR
WEEKLY PODCAST

Listen at
stmnts.org/podcast

Spotify

Apple Podcasts

Google Podcasts

PODCAST NOW AVAILABLE

Love the sermon? Want to listen again or share with a friend? Check out the weekly podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or Google.



ST. MATTHEW'S GAME NIGHT

FRIDAY, MAY 26, 6PM-9PM TABLETOP GAME NIGHT

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 board or card game and a snack to share, as we enjoy hanging out and trying new games.



VOLUNTEER IN THE GARDEN!

Tuesday, May 30, we will begin our weekly work in the garden. Volunteers of all ages are welcome!

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

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

We'd love to meet you and we invite you to join our small group. We are meeting TODAY, May 21, the 1st and 3rd Sundays in June. Contact Caitlin for more information.



7 EASTER

Seventh Sunday of Easter



Revised Common Lectionary

Sunday, May 21, 2023

COLLECT

Traditional

O GOD, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven: We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless, but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Savior Christ is gone before; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Contemporary

O GOD, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14

WHEN THE APOSTLES had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go

into heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Refrain

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36 *from the Book of Common Prayer*

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; * let those who hate him flee before him. | heavens; * YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him! |
| 2 | Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; * as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God. | 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, * God in his holy habitation! |
| 3 | But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; * let them also be merry and joyful. | 6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; * but the rebels shall live in dry places. |
| 4 | Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides upon the | 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, * when you marched through the wilderness, |
| | | 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down |

- rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, * at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; * you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 Your people found their home in it; * in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; * sing praises to the Lord.
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; * he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- 35 Ascribe power to God; * his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.
- 36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! * the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! Blessed be God!

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

BELOVED, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of

suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

JESUS LOOKED UP to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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BLA0211/301051-12

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATT'S

Sunday, May 21st

- 8:00 am - Rite I Worship Service
- 9:30 am - Festival Worship Service
- 10:30 am - Donuts & Discovery - Youth Group
- 10:30 am - Backpack Buddies Packing
- 11:00 am - Classic Worship Service
- 12:30 pm - Young Professionals
- 6:30 pm - Girl Scout Troop 2274

Monday, May 22nd

- 9:00 am - Classroom of Discovery
- 12:00 pm - Social Time with Candace
- 6:00 pm - Girl Scouts
- 7:00 pm - Bread of Life
- 7:30 pm - Free to Live
- 8:00 pm - Compline

Tuesday, May 23rd

- 9:00 am - All Ages Read Together
- 9:00 am - Classroom of Discovery
- 10:00 am - Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm - Backpack Buddies Packing
- 6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:00 pm - Education for Ministry
- 7:00 pm - Vestry
- 8:00 pm - Compline

Wednesday, May 24th

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

Thursday, May 25th

- 9:00 am - All Ages Read Together
- 10:45 pm - Anam Cara (Closed Group)
- 8:00 pm - Compline

Friday, May 26th

- 6:00 pm - Game Night
- 8:00 pm - Compline

Saturday, May 27th

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- May 21st: Connor Harvey
- May 22nd: Chale Jacks
- May 23rd: Bishop Campbell
- May 25th: Theresa Helein, Emma Hart
- May 26th: Elizabeth Carr
- May 27th: Lowell Thomas, Robert Cranson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- May 21st: Donna & Kerry Gray, Lacy & Randy Hurst
- May 22nd: Michelle & Gregory Drew, Dawn & Colin Deaso
- May 23rd: Sharon & Rick Ferguson
- May 24th: Karla & Matthew Merola
- May 25th: Diana & Andrew Wright

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, May 14, 2023

Time or Place	Attendance Online	Attendance In-Person
8:00 AM	12	23
9:30 AM	17	136
11:00 AM	11	46
Faith Factory		7

HELP SUPPORT ST. MATTHEW'S MINISTRIES

GIVE ONLINE

stmtts.org/give

VENMO

@stmttssterling



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:

stmtts.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

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VESTRY

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

Service Volunteers

Ushers | Maria Palmer, Pat Wagner, Sharon Ferguson, Regina McPhie

Lectors | Linden Sanders, Sue Reier

Eucharistic Ministers LEMs | Dick Almarode, Richard Henry, Haley Elliott, Brian Bellamy, Justin Warnick, Gerry Wardell

Tellers | Dan Robertson

Flower Guild | Martha Olson, Pam Hart, Priscilla Shingleton

Altar Guild | Ann Lowden, Linda Merola, Anitrus Jones