

To Know and Share God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

**Second Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 5, 2023**

Lent
SPEND TIME
WITH GOD

WEDNESDAYS AT CHURCH

WEDNESDAYS AT CHURCH

This Lent, we invite you to spend time with God by joining us on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8PM. We'll begin with a brief reflection followed by group discussion. In so doing, we'll take time to consider how we can deepen our understanding of the following topics: March 8: Historical Jesus; Myth or Reality? March 15: The Holy Ghost and the Supernatural March 22: Why Me? March 29: What is Salvation



**EASTER
FOOD
BAGS**

EASTER BAGS RETURN MARCH 21 [STMTTS.ORG/EASTERBAGS](https://www.stmtts.org/easterbags)

Easter is a wonderful time to share hope and joy in the community. Help provide 200 bags to share with families this Easter! Take home a bag today to fill with requested items. You can also visit the link above to download the shopping list or purchase items online with direct shipping to St. Matt's. Please consider sharing with friends or co-workers who may also be interested in helping. Packers and shoppers are also needed. See the link above.

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. 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, and Mary.

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

Silent Entrance (Congregation Stands)	
Acclamation and Opening Sentences	351
Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.	
God's mercy endures for ever.	
Confession of Sin and Absolution	352
Collect of the Day (Contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • Genesis 12:1-4a	
Psalm • 121	
Second Reading • Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	
Gospel • John 3:1-17	
Sermon	The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.
Nicene Creed	358
Prayers of the People	
Peace	360
Announcements & Welcome	
The Holy Communion	
Offertory	
Great Thanksgiving • Eucharistic Prayer B	367
Proper Preface	379
Sanctus	362
The Lord's Prayer	364
Breaking of the Bread	364
Angus Dei	407
Invitation to Communion	
Communion of the People	
Post-Communion Prayer	365
Blessing	
Dismissal	366

9:30 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Opening Song • The Struggle

Opening Sentences

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures forever.

Opening Prayer (stand through the Gospel)

Song • Clean Heart

Song • Devotion

Gospel • John 3:1-17

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)

Great Thanksgiving (stand through Communion)

Eucharistic Prayer

Sanctus • Kyrie

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Song • Greater Still

Closing Prayer

Blessing

Closing Song • Alive

Dismissal

11 AM SERVICE

Silent Entrance (Congregation Stands)	
Acclamation and Opening Sentences	351
Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.	
God's mercy endures for ever.	
Decalogue	350
Confession of Sin and Absolution	352
Collect of the Day (Contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • Genesis 12:1-4a	
Psalm • 121	
Second Reading • Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	
Gospel • John 3:1-17	
Sermon	The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.
Nicene Creed	358
Prayers of the People	
Peace	360
Announcements & Welcome	
The Holy Communion	
Offertory Anthem • Lonesome Road	
Doxology • Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow	
Great Thanksgiving • Eucharistic Prayer B	367
Proper Preface	379
Sanctus • Hymn #362 (verse 1 only)	
The Lord's Prayer	364
Breaking of the Bread	364
Angus Dei • S163	
Invitation to Communion	
Communion of the People	
Communion Hymn • Give Me Jesus	
Post-Communion Prayer	365
Blessing	
Procession into the World • Hymn #149 (verses 1, 2, & 3)	
Dismissal	366



YOUTH 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.

A \$50 deposit is due to reserve your spot. Friends are always welcome! Scholarships and payment plans are available. Contact Office@stmmts.org



DONUTS & DISCOVERY

The Parting of the Red Sea: Fact or Fiction? This week in Donuts & Discovery take a look at geography, archeology, and ancient documents. Join Genevieve to look at the evidence for the Exodus and decide what you think happened.

Middle and high school students are invited to meet in classroom four at 10:30AM for a lively discussion.

MARCH COFFEE HOUR KIDS



COFFEE HOUR KIDS

Elementary aged kids are invited to join Ms. Aurelia between the 9:30am and 11am worship services for coffee hour fun while parents enjoy fellowship in the parish hall. Grab a snack and head to classroom two for fun!

Lots of fun coming this spring!

March 5 - Backpack Buddies packing

March 12 - March Madness Games

March 19 & 26 - Easter Egg Stuffing

Read the March newsletter for more information on upcoming events.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

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

Shine a light on Jesus' love and launch into a cosmic quest this summer! Save the date for the best week of summer! Register today using the link above, then invite a friend to join you.

Rising 6th graders and above are welcome to join us volunteers!



FLOWER DEDICATION

DEDICATE EASTER FLOWERS [STMSTS.ORG/FLOWERS](https://stmmts.org/flowers)

You're invited to help us fill the church with flowers as we celebrate the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Dedications for Easter flowers are welcome to remember loved ones, give thanks for blessings, honor birthdays, anniversaries, or any special occasion. Donations may be made in any amount. Submit dedications at stmmts.org/flowers or use the cards provided in the pews. Donations may be made by cash, check, or online at stmmts.org/give.



St. Matthew's
LUNCH MEET UP
at
**VIRGINIA
KITCHEN**

SPRING LUNCH MEET-UP FRIDAY, MARCH 24. 11:45AM

Head over to Virginia ²⁷tchen (450 Elden St, Herndon, VA) at 11:45am, grab a bite to eat, & enjoy good food & great company. Friends are always welcome to join us.



MEN'S GROUP

SATURDAYS AT 8 AM
IN THE TRAILER & ON ZOOM

Email Linden@stmmts.org



EASTER EGG HUNT CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED

Individually packaged, nut-free
candy & toys

EASTER CANDY NEEDED [STMSTS.ORG/EGGHUNT](https://stmmts.org/egghunt)

Egg stuffing will begin today during coffee hour. Kids of all ages love the Easter egg hunt on Easter morning! Help us fill thousands of eggs by donating individually packaged candy and small toys. Use the link above to purchase online and ship directly to church.



Lent Resources

LENT RESOURCES [STMSTS.ORG/LENT](https://stmmts.org/LENT)

We welcome you to walk this Lenten journey with us at Saint Matthew's. Use the above link to see a list of resources and services to assist you in your observation of Lent. Adult and children's devotionals available.



EASTER VOLUNTEERS

EASTER VOLUNTEERS [STMSTS.ORG/EASTERHELP](https://stmmts.org/EASTERHELP)

Learn more at the link above.

DELIVER FOOD FOR LINK FOOD PANTRY



LINK FOOD DELIVERIES STMTTS.ORG/LINK

Make a difference in the lives of people in our community by delivering food for LINK. St. Matt's is specifically helping with deliveries the last two weeks of March. Visit the link above for more info.

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

FRIDAY FLASH

Weekly Newsletter

Email office@stmtts.org
to be added to the
distribution list today!

FRIDAY FLASH EMAIL NEWS

Subscribe by emailing
Office@stmtts.org.

TALENT SHOW & SILENT AUCTION

TALENT SHOW & AUCTION SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 6PM

Join us for a night of fun and great talent while supporting the student summer mission trip to Erie, PA. Students are invited to register to participate in the talent show by contacting Jae through the church office at Office@stmtts.org.

BACKPACK BUDDIES GROUP PACKING

BACKPACK BUDDIES STMTTS.ORG/BACKPACKBUDDIES

Join us Tuesdays at noon in the Classroom on the Hill as we pack bags to support families in our community. **We'll also be packing together today, March 5 at 10:30am in the parish hall.** Learn more ways to help at the link above.

JOIN THE CHOIR

THE ST. MATTHEW'S CHOIR IS BACK!

ALL ARE WELCOME

JOIN THE CHOIR!

The choir is preparing for Holy Week and Easter, and we'd love to have you join us. All voices are invited to participate. The rehearsal/call schedule through Easter is: March 23, 7:30-9:00pm, March 30, 7:30-9:00pm, April 2 at 10am, Maundy Thursday–April 6 at 6:30pm, and Easter–April 9 at 9:45am. For more information, contact Kevin at kevin@stmtts.org



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

MESSAGE ON THE GO

CHECK OUT OUR WEEKLY PODCAST

Listen at
stmtts.org/podcast





2 LENT

Second Sunday in Lent



Revised Common Lectionary

Sunday, March 5, 2023

COLLECT

Traditional

O GOD, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Contemporary

O GOD, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

NOW THE LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

Refrain

My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 121 *from the Book of Common Prayer*

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; * from where is my help to come? | 5 The LORD himself watches over you; * the LORD is your shade at your right hand, |
| 2 My help comes from the LORD, * the maker of heaven and earth. | 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, * nor the moon by night. |
| 3 He will not let your foot be moved * and he who watches over you will not fall asleep. | 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; * it is he who shall keep you safe. |
| 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel * shall neither slumber nor sleep; | 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, * from this time forth for evermore. |

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

WHAT THEN ARE WE to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise

is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

NOW THERE WAS a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who

descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Scripture Text Bulletin Insert No. RCL 202010A-RCL. 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, March 5th

8:00 am - Rite I Worship Service
9:30 am - Festival Worship Service
10:30 am - Backpack Buddies Packing
10:30 am - That's in There?! Youth Grp
11:00 am - Classic Worship Service
12:30 pm - Young Professionals
6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
6:30 pm - Girl Scout Troop 2274
8:15 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

Monday, March 6th

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, March 7th

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
7:30 pm - Sandwich Generation
8:00 pm - Compline

Wednesday, March 8th

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

Thursday, March 9th

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

Friday, March 10th

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

Saturday, March 11th

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 6th: Gregory Drew, Randy Hurst
March 7th: Sandra Harvey
March 8th: Christie Olson
March 9th: Katie Elliott
March 10th: Emory Henderson
March 11th: Liliana Signorini

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

March 8th: Lisa & Glenn Lintelman
March 9th: Cheryl & Robert Cranson
March 10th: Miriam & Mason Turner

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, February 26, 2023

Time or Place	Attendance Online	Attendance In-Person
8:00 AM	18	26
9:30 AM	38	120
11:00 AM	20	45
Faith Factory		10

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

Audio, Livestream Coordinator,
Kristin Bellamy
Kristin.Bellamy@stmmts.org

Bookkeeper, Jean DeFuria
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Aurelia Porto, Aurelia.Porto@stmmts.org

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Kevin@stmmts.org

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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 | Jackie Harbourne, Marie Thomen, Zena Horaibi, Andrew Wright, Jim Helein, Bob Cranson

Lectors | Darrell Breed, Jim Helein

Eucharistic Ministers | **LEMs** | Martha Olson, Gerry Wardell

Tellers | Dan Robertson

Flower Guild | Martha Olson, Pam Hart, Priscilla Shingleton

Altar Guild | Ann Lowden, Linda Merola, Anitrus Jones