

To Know and Share God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 24, 2023 • 11:00 am

TRUNK & TREAT & PET BLESSING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2PM-4PM
TRUNK OR TREAT & PETS

We are excited to combine our Trunk or Treat and Pet Blessing on Sunday, October 22. Decorate a trunk (animal themes encouraged) and come dressed in your favorite costumes for an afternoon of treats fun and pets with the community.

LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT:
[STMTTS.ORG/TRUNKORTREAT](https://www.stmtts.org/trunkortreat)

WINTER COATS FOR KIDS!

COAT DRIVE BEGINS SEPT. 17

**NEW & GENTLY USED
CHILDREN'S WINTER
COATS SIZE 6-16**

WINTER COATS FOR KIDS!
[STMTTS.ORG/WINTERCOATS](https://www.stmtts.org/wintercoats)

The winter coat drive is underway. Help us provide new or gently used coats to children at our local partner schools. Place coats in the bins by the front or back door, or order online and ship directly to church at 201 E. Frederick Drive, Sterling, VA 20164. Costco has children's coats on sale until September 24! Use the link above to order online, or buy in store for the best price.

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:

Flood Victims, Panita, Mary Ann, Sharp Family, 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, Ginny, Bob, Robby, Ron, Kathleen, Jenny, Corinne, AJ, Kassadi, Jordan, Amelia, Michael, Steve, Raven, Kenya, Josiah, Joy, Elizabeth, Rusty, Elizabeth, Michelle, Yutzy family, Frank, Tess, Brian, Mike, Zach, Paine, Arjun, Scotty, Brad, Mary W., Bobby, Elijah, Philip, Myers Family, Phil, Terry, Kathy, Pat, Bob, Tonia, Bronwyn, Sanjay, Susanna, Fabiano, Lawrence Family, McKeown Family, Viola, Harry R, Karter, Addie, Mercedes Family, Crystal, Benjamin, Saint, Shaumbey, Ruth, Rennie, Webster, Julia, and Charlene.

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 • Exodus 16:2-15	
Psalm • 105:1-6, 37-45	
Second Reading • Philippians 1:21-30	
Gospel • Matthew 20:1-16	
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

*All things come of thee, O Lord,
And of thine own have we given thee.*

Great Thanksgiving	
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

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Opening Songs (stand through the Gospel)

Song • Old Church Choir

Song • Good Morning Mercy

Gospel • Matthew 20:1-16

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

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Song • Never Far Away

Closing Prayer (stand through dismissal)

Blessing

Closing Song • Running Home

Dismissal

11 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Processional Hymn • #637 • How Firm a Foundation (vs. 1, 2, & 3)	
Acclamation and Collect for Purity	355
Gloria • S280	
Collect of the Day (Contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • Exodus 16:2-15	
Psalm • 105:1-6, 37-45	
Second Reading • Philippians 1:21-30	
Gospel • Matthew 20:1-16	
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	
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
Doxology • #380 vs. 3 • Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow	
Great Thanksgiving	
Sanctus • S125	
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 • #618 • Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones (vs. 1, 2, & 4)	
Dismissal	366



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.

MAGICIANS WORKSHOP ESCAPE ROOM - ESCAPOLOGY FAIRFAX SUNDAY, SEPT. 24, 3 PM

For Middle & high school students- Join Ben at the Escapology Escape Room in Fairfax on the 24th of September at 3 PM, 4211 Fairfax Cor Ave E #230, Fairfax, VA 22030. Cost \$23*. Space is limited to 20 participants so please invite your friends and register early! **RSVP AT STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHEEVENTS**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2PM-4PM TRUNK OR TREAT

Help decorate a trunk (or two), come dressed in your favorite (family-friendly) costume and share some fun with the community. Talk to Ben about your décor ideas!

CLIMB UPTON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 3PM-5PM

Climb UPTon is a 90-element vertical adventure located in Upton Hill Regional Park in Arlington. With varying levels of difficulty, climbers can choose their challenge with easy, medium, and hard features on all 3 levels! **RSVP AT STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHEEVENTS**

JOIN US FOR FAITH FACTORY!

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

FAITH FACTORY 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 new 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 FaithFactory@stmtts.org



2024 YOUTH GROUP SUMMER MISSION TRIP PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

2024 PARENT MTG FOR SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TRIP SUN. OCTOBER 8, 10:30AM

We have exciting news regarding our 2024 summer youth mission trip. We already have a trip and dates planned for this summer and your middle and high school students won't want to miss it. If you are the parent of a current fifth - 11th grade student, please join Jae in the parish hall on October 8 at 10:30am to learn more.



NEWCOMERS WELCOME SAT., SEPT. 30 AT 4PM

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 Saturday, September 30, 4pm at the home of Vick and Sethiya. Children are welcome.

Please email the office for the address at Office@stmmts.org. RSVP by Tuesday, September 26, 2023.



FLOWER BOUQUETS

Pick up a bouquet so you can share with a friend, neighbor, or stranger. If you need inspiration, Miriam has a list of St. Matthew's friends that would love to be surprised with a bouquet!



FRIDAY, SEPT 29, 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.



LINK FOOD PANTRY [STMMTS.ORG/LINK](https://stmmts.org/link)

Looking for a great volunteering opportunity for your family or a small group of friends? LINK food pantry needs help delivering food to local families! It's easy and a fun way to give back to the community. Non-perishable food donations are accepted year round. Questions? Ask Miriam at Office@stmmts.org.



JOIN THE CHOIR

ALL ARE WELCOME

JOIN THE ST. MATT'S CHOIR

All are welcome as we lift our voices and sing each week at the 11am worship service. Join us for weekly rehearsals on Thursdays at 7:30 PM. Questions? Contact our Choir Director, Kevin Fletcher at Kevin@stmtts.org

BIBLE STUDY

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Join Rob for a weekly Bible study. We'll meet on Wednesdays at 7pm for discussion and learning.

Mark your calendar now for Wednesdays in October when our Seminarian, Kara Laughlin, will be leading the Bible Study on the women in the book of John.

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 are meeting the 2nd and 4th Sundays in September. We'd love to meet you! Email Caitlin for info.



HUNGER RESPONSE TEAM OF STERLING - HRTS STERLINGHELP.ORG

HRTS is a new 501c3 started to address the increasing needs of our Backpack Buddies and Care Response Team programs.

School is back in session and Backpack Buddies is packing again! We packed 260 bags last week and expect that number to climb to 270 soon! Join us Tuesdays at noon in the Classroom on the Hill or on Sunday, October 1 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.

Please help us spread the word by asking a friend or co-worker 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.



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

MESSAGE ON THE GO

CHECK OUT OUR WEEKLY PODCAST

Listen at stmtts.org/podcast

 Spotify

 Apple Podcasts

 Google Podcasts



17 PENTECOST

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 20



Revised Common Lectionary
TRACK ONE

Sunday, September 24, 2023

COLLECT

Traditional

GRANT US, O Lord, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to cleave to those that shall abide; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Contemporary

GRANT US, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Exodus 16:2-15

THE WHOLE CONGREGATION of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread

in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.” Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’” In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

Refrain

Remember the marvels God has done.

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 *from the Book of Common Prayer*

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Give thanks to the Lord
and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds
among the peoples. | 4 Search for the Lord and
his strength; * continually
seek his face. |
| 2 Sing to him, sing praises
to him, * and speak of all
his marvelous works. | 5 Remember the marvels he
has done, * his wonders
and the judgments of his
mouth, |
| 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those
who seek the Lord re-
joice. | 6 O offspring of Abraham
his servant, * O children
of Jacob his chosen. |

- 37 He led out his people with silver and gold; * in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.
- 38 Egypt was glad of their going, * because they were afraid of them.
- 39 He spread out a cloud for a covering * and a fire to give light in the night season.
- 40 They asked, and quails appeared, * and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.
- 41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, * so the river ran in the dry places.
- 42 For God remembered his holy word * and Abraham his servant.
- 43 So he led forth his people with gladness, * his chosen with shouts of joy.
- 44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, * and they took the fruit of others' toil,
- 45 That they might keep his statutes * and observe his laws. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

TO ME, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

JESUS SAID, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Scripture Text Bulletin Insert No. RCL 201739A-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, September 24th

8:00 am - Rite I Worship Service
9:30 am - Festival Worship Service
10:30 am - Donuts & Discovery for
Middle & High School Students
11:00 am - Classic Worship Service
12:30 pm - Young Professionals
2:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
3:00 pm - Youth - Escape Room
6:30 pm - Girl Scout Troop 2274

Monday, September 25th

12:00 pm - Social Time with Candace
7:00 pm - Bread of Life
7:30 pm - Free to Live
8:00 pm - Compline

Tuesday, September 26th

12:00 pm - Backpack Buddies Packing
1:30 am - Staff Meeting
6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 pm - Education for Ministry (EfM)
7:00 pm - Vestry
7:00 pm - Band Rehearsal
8:00 pm - Compline

Wednesday, September 27th

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

Thursday, September 28th

11:00 am - Anam Cara (Closed Group)
2:00 pm - CSA pick-up
7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal
8:00 pm - Compline

Friday, September 29th

6:00 pm - Game Night
7:00 pm - Old Dominion Dancers
8:00 pm - Compline

Saturday, September 30th

8:00 am - Men's Group
9:00 am - Reverence Committee
12:00 pm - Private Party
4:00 pm - Newcomers Reception
6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous
8:30 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September 24th: Barbara Buck, Kassidy Julianne
September 25th: Victoria Wiseman, Penny Signorini, Julie Jacoby, Olivia Rodriguez
September 27th: Teresa Metcalfe, Noelle Kane
September 28th: Rev Rob Merola

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

September 24th: Dina & Dean D'Ambrosi, Julie & Josh Kane
September 25th: Ellen & Richard Whitehouse
September 26th: Shelly D'Antoni & John Runski, Joleen & John Gradich

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, September 17, 2023

Time or Place	Attendance Online	Attendance In-Person
8:00 AM	11	23
9:30 AM	23	122
11:00 AM	26	93
Faith Factory		11
Youth Group		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

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

Service Volunteers

Ushers | Justin Warnick, Emory Henderson, Sharon Ferguson

Lectors | Debbie Majewski, Kevin Fletcher

Eucharistic Ministers LEMs | Debbie Majewski, Richard Henry, Tom Leary, Heather Tomaszek, Cindy Steinman, Gerry Wardell

Tellers | Dan Robertson

Altar Guild | Richard Henry, Adrienne Miller