

To Know and Share God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

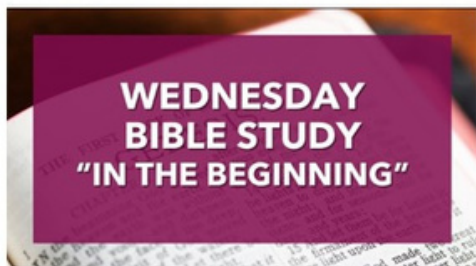
Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Sunday, January 14, 2024



CHILI & CORNBREAD COOK-OFF
SATURDAY, JAN. 27 AT 6 PM
STMTTS.ORG/CHILI

Mild, medium, or hot, come share your favorite pot of chili! Join us at St. Matthew's for a good old-fashioned Chili and Cornbread Cook-Off and tasting!

To enter: bring a large crockpot (and extension cord) of your chili or a pan of your favorite cornbread. Awards will be given for Spiciest, Best All Around, Most Unique, and Vegetarian.



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
STARTING JANUARY 10

Join Fr. Rob on Wednesday evenings from 7 PM - 8 PM for a new series. Together we will explore various Bible passages "In the Beginning."

January 17 - John 1

January 24 - Joshua 1

January 31 - 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

February 7 - Revelation 21

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 visit our website: stmmts.org/Baptism or 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:

MaryLea, Alan, Nishah, Marty, Damar, Jeremy, Kyeron, Abigail, Verdun, Candace, Sieg, Chuck, Lea, Bonnie, Arthur, John G, Gina, Glo, James, Sean, Deb, Teressa, Mel, Eric, Debbie, Marshall, Sites Family, Frank, Tess, Brian, Mike, Zach, Paine, Arjun, Scotty, Brad, Myers Family, Phil, Terry, Kathy, Bobby, Elijah, Philip, Pat, Mary W., Tonia, Bronwyn, Sanjay, Susanna, Fabiano, Lawrence Family, McKeown Family, Viola, Harry R, Karter, Addie, Mercedes Family, Crystal, Benjamin, Shaumbey, Ruth, Rennie, Webster, Julia, Charlene, Dustin, Chris, Madison, Nora, Robert, Missy, Tom, Lynne, Arianna, Amy, Jackie, Ann, Kay, Jane, Panita, Mary Ann, Sharp Family, Saint, Amelia, Kassadi, Kyle, Samantha, Dawn, Ruby, Kay, Clarissa, Huxsten, Dottie, Jonathan, Ageanna, Becky, RL, Priscilla, Darla, Gerry, Paul, Jenny, Reena, Sarah, Brandi, Barbara, Michael, Frances, Jeff, Peggy, Cathleen, Ray, BMR, Asley, and Robyn.

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 • Isaiah 61:10-62:3	
Psalm • 147:13-21	
Second Reading • Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7	
Gospel • John 1:1-18	
Sermon	The Reverend C. Rob Merola, Jr.
Nicene Creed	358
Prayers of the People, Form III	387
Peace	360
Announcements & Welcome	

The Holy Communion

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
<i>(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.stmmts.org/give)</i>	
<i>All things come of thee, O Lord,</i>	
<i>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	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 •

Song •

Gospel • John 1:1-18

Sermon

The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.

Presentation of Candidates for Baptism

Amalia Joy Rouse

Baptismal Covenant

Baptism

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.stmmts.org/give)

Great Thanksgiving (stand through Communion)

Eucharistic Prayer

Sanctus

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Song •

Closing Prayer (stand through dismissal)

Blessing

Closing Song •

Dismissal

11 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Processional Hymn • #299 • Spirit of God (vs. 1, 2, 3 & 4)	
Acclamation and Collect for Purity	355
Gloria • S280	
Collect of the Day (Contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • Isaiah 61:10-62:3	
Psalm • 147:13-21	
Second Reading • Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7	
Gospel • John 1:1-18	
Sermon	The Reverend C. Rob Merola, Jr.
Nicene Creed	358
Prayers of the People, Form III	387
Peace	360
Announcements & Welcome	

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem • Sweet, Sweet Spirit	
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
Doxology • #380 vs. 3 • Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow	
Great Thanksgiving • Eucharistic Prayer A	361
Sanctus • Hymnal S125 • Holy, Holy, Holy	
The Lord's Prayer	364
Breaking of the Bread	364
Invitation to Communion	
Communion of the People	
Communion Hymn • #691 • My Faith Looks Up To Thee (all verses)	
Post-Communion Prayer	365
Blessing	
Procession into the World • #544 • Jesus Shall Reign (vs. 1, 2, & 3)	
Dismissal	366



BACKPACK BUDDIES/HRTS STERLINGHELP.ORG

Thank you for all the ways you share the message with friends, employers, and local businesses that HRTS - Hunger Response Team of Sterling is serving students in our community who are at risk of going hungry.

Want to continue supporting HRTS? Share the message of HRTS and follow us on social media @hungerresponse. Also, Backpack Buddies will be packing at noon on Tuesdays (Jan. 16, 23, & 30th) in the Classroom on the Hill.

We are also accepting donations of shelf-stable, single-serve pantry items (e.g. canned tuna, ramen, snacks, fruit cups).

If you'd like to learn more about how you can help fight childhood hunger in our community, please contact Hilary Hultman-Lee by email at Hilary.Hultman-Lee@hrtsterling.org



FRIDAY FLASH

Email Office@stmmts.org to be added to the weekly email distribution list.



MEN'S GROUP SATURDAYS AT 8AM

All men are welcome to meet in the classrooms on the hill for fellowship, Bible study, and encouragement.



KIDS LEGO PARTY SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 10:30AM

Lego lovers of all ages are welcome to join us at 10:30 AM for Lego fun.



NEWCOMERS WELCOME AT CHILI COOK OFF - JANUARY 27

Have you recently started attending St. Matthew's? We'd love to get to know you better at the Chili and Cornbread Cook-Off. RSVP to Miriam@stmmts.org and then stop by the Newcomers table at the Chili Cook-off to pick up a special welcome gift.



YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

YOUTH GROUP
STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHEEVENTS

DONUTS & DISCOVERY

Middle and high school students are invited to join Ben on Sundays in January at 10:30am in the parish hall for donuts and discussion.

SAVE THE DATES:
MONDAY, JANUARY 15

Volunteer at Mobile Hope. Details coming soon. Check the band app or the website:
stmtts.org/youthevents

Friends are always welcome!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27
CHILI COOK-OFF

Join Ben at St. Matt's to create the youth entry for the chili and cornbread cook-off. Together we will bring the heat! Meet at church at 3 PM to start cooking. The Chili Cook-Off begins at 6 PM.

BAND APP

Are you a middle or high school student, or the parent of a middle or high school student?

Join the St. Matt's Youth Group App for updates, group chat, event reminders and more. Click the QR code to join today.




ST. MATTHEW'S GAME NIGHT

GAME NIGHT
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 6-9PM

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 in classrooms 1 & 2.



2024 YOUTH GROUP SUMMER MISSION TRIP

SUMMER 2024 YOUTH MISSION
STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHMISSION

Register now for the youth mission trip, June 23-29, 2024. Rising sixth - twelfth graders (and chaperones) are invited. The goal this year is to help students navigate the many influences in their lives and encourage them to look toward Jesus, the greatest influencer of all time, so they use their influence to positively change their culture.

Find more details and register at
STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHMISSION

ENGLISH TEA & TREATS

TEA & TREATS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 10:30 AM

You're invited to join us for fellowship and fun in between the 9:30 AM and 11 AM services on Sunday, January 21. Celebrate National Hot Tea month as we enjoy a selection of teas and treats.

WE'RE HIRING

WE'RE HIRING!

STMTTS.ORG/WORKWITHUS

St. Matt's is seeking a live stream/ audio tech that is great with troubleshooting and has some experience with sound mixing.



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
**MESSAGE
ON THE GO**

CHECK OUT OUR
WEEKLY PODCAST

Listen at
stmtts.org/podcast



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
WOMEN'S
brunch
& SMALL GROUP

2024 WOMEN'S MINISTRY

SATURDAY, FEB. 10, 9AM - 11AM

RSVP: stmtts.org/womensbrunch

Join us for a delightful Women's Brunch and Small Group Event at St. Matthew's! Connect with fellow women in our community for a time of fellowship, discuss the plans for the 2024 Women's Ministry, and enjoy delicious food. This is a potluck event, so bring your favorite dish to share! Contact the office with questions or if you need child care. Office@stmtts.org



**PANCAKE
SUPPER &
ANNUAL
MEETING**

PANCAKE SUPPER/ANNUAL MTG TUES., FEBRUARY 13

Save the date for our annual pancake supper combined with our annual meeting. Enjoy delicious pancakes and breakfast treats. We will also celebrate the successes from 2023 and share plans and elect new leaders for 2024.

We hope you'll join us. Please contact Lisa Caselli at office@stmtts.org if are able to help with set-up, clean-up, or cooking.



2 EPIPHANY

Second Sunday after the Epiphany



Revised Common Lectionary

Sunday, January 14, 2024

COLLECT

Traditional

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that thy people, illumined by thy Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Contemporary

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, [11-20]

NOW THE BOY SAMUEL was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am,

for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” [Then the Lord said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever.” Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” He said, “Here I am.” Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, “It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.” As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.]

Refrain

Lord, you have searched me out and known me.

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17 *from the Book of Common Prayer*

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; * you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar. | 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places * and are acquainted with all my ways. |
|--|--|

- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, * but you, O Lord , know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before * and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; * it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; * you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; * your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
- 14 My body was not hidden from you, * while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; * they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.
- 16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! * how great is the sum of them!
- 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; * to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

“ALL THINGS are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a

prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

GOSPEL: John 1:43-51

JESUS DECIDED to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATT'S

Sunday, January 14th

- 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
- 6:30 pm - Girl Scout Troop 2274

Monday, January 15th

- 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

Tuesday, January 16th

- 9:30 am - All Ages Read Together
- 10:00 am - Staff Meeting
- 11:30 am - Staff Holiday Lunch
- 12:00 pm - Backpack Buddies Packing
- 6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:00 pm - Band Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm - Education for Ministry
- 7:30 pm - Sandwich Generation Small Group
- 8:00 pm - Compline

Wednesday, January 17th

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

Thursday, January 18th

- 8:00 am - Life Line Screening
- 9:30 am - All Ages Read Together
- 11:00 am - Anam Cara (closed group)
- 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00 pm - Compline

Friday, January 19th

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

Saturday, January 20th

- 8:00 am - Men's Group
- 9:00 am - Reverence Committee
- 6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous
- 8:30 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- January 15th: Paula Lawall
- January 16th: Rick Ferguson, Matthew Merola, James Luke, Thomas Luke
- January 17th: Julie Kane
- January 18th: Orin Hatton, John Martin, Hadley Beltrane
- January 19th: Sean Ecker, Kate Ecker, Brooklyn Gould, Evelyn Smith, Siena Severino
- January 20th: Matt Harmon, Elizabeth Wallis

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- January 16th: Rita & Dewayne Knisely



ATTENDANCE

January 7, 2024

Time or Place	Attendance Online	Attendance In-Person
8:00 AM	24	28
9:30 AM	32	137
11:00 AM	17	36
Faith Factory		18
Youth Group		8

HELP SUPPORT


ST. MATTHEW'S MINISTRIES



GIVE ONLINE stmtts.org/give



venmo [@stmttssterling](https://www.venmo.com/@stmttssterling)



CASH OR CHECK

Checks can be made payable to "St. Matthew's Church"

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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Youth Ministry and Marketing Coordinator
Ben Merola
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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 | Fred Brittain, Maria Palmer, Justin Warnick, Sharon Ferguson, Cheryl Gilligan

Lectors | Darrell Breed, Sue Reier

Eucharistic Ministers LEMs | Debbie Majewski, Brian Bellamy, Haley Elliott, Cindy Steinman, Gerry Wardell

Tellers | Dan Robertson

Altar Guild | Richard Henry, Ann Lowden, Anitrus Jones