ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH





"A Great Cloud of Witnesses" (Heb. 12:1-2) The "Dancing Saints" icon (details), Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal, San Francisco, compl. 2009

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Backpack Sunday
Holy Eucharist, Rite II
August 17, 2025 at 10:30 am

WELCOME!

Whether this is your first visit to St. Matthew's, you've come several times now, or you're a long-time member, we are grateful for your presence and pray that your time with us will be enriching. Our clergy would love the chance to welcome you, and introduce you to the life of our community, and answer any questions you may have. To start that conversation, please fill out the printed Connection Card located in the seatbacks and place it in the offering plate during the Offertory portion of our worship. Alternatively, you can complete the same Connection Card online by scanning this QR code with your phone's camera.

Connection card

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

This bulletin leads you through our worship service. Service music not included in this bulletin will likely be found in the blue Hymnal located in between your seats. Items marked in the bulletin as BCP, followed by a page number, refer to the Book of Common Prayer (usually black or red), which can also be found in a book holder nearby.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

We extend a warm welcome to families with children as we worship together. We want everyone to feel at home at St. Matt's! We encourage you to have everyone in your family stay in place during the service as you wish, even if your little one starts to get fussy. To assist in this, in the lobby area, you will find both red "Busy Bags" full of fun activities for kids to enjoy at their seats, and a large table with fun snacks and bottles of water. During the service, we would also encourage your child (and you, if you'd wish) to visit Children's Chapel for a kid-friendly, interactive sermon experience. Need some extra wiggle room? The lobby can be a great place to move around or grab a snack during the service, or you can visit the Baby's Nest, a soundproof room in the balcony with gliders and infant toys where you can still see and hear the service. An unstaffed nursery is available on the lower level, in Room B-16.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES

Available in the lobby near the Welcome Desk, we have 12 Assisted Listening devices (wireless audio packs with headphones) for anyone wishing to experience the spoken word sections of today's service with a bit more clarity, or at a higher volume. Please feel free to take a wireless pack, with headphones, from the charging station back to your seat. The power button is on the top of the pack, near the headphone jack. Once the pack is on, we recommend using the arrow buttons to increase the volume level to 15-20 as a starting point. After the service, please return the pack to the charging station.

ABOUT COMMUNION

All who seek Christ are invited to come forward during the distribution of Holy Communion. If you have never been baptized, please contact us to explore the possibility! The ushers will guide you forward by row. As you approach the first server, please cup your hands in front of you and the host will be placed in your palm. As you move to the second server, you may consume the host and then guide the chalice to your lips to receive the wine, or you may choose to dip the host into the wine before consuming it. To receive gluten-free elements, please ask the first server as you approach. People of all faiths (and none) are invited to receive a blessing. To indicate your desire to receive a blessing, simply fold your arms over your chest as you approach the first server. For those who do not wish to consume alcohol, please be assured that to receive the elements in one kind (bread alone) is to receive the full grace of the Sacrament. If walking to the front is a challenge for you, just notify an usher and we would be happy to bring the elements to your seat.

All that said, should you choose to stay seated during communion, you will not be judged for doing so. This part of the service is God's time to feed you, however you need to be fed. Just know that whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

WEEKLY WORD & PRAYER LIST

All Weekly Word submissions and prayer requests must be received by Wednesday at noon in order to appear in the upcoming Sunday's edition. Please send Weekly Word announcements to word@stmattsaustin.org and prayer requests to Susan at office@stmattsaustin.org.

FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP BETWEEN SERVICES

Every Sunday at 8:45am, please join us in the Sanctuary lobby for a time of fellowship with coffee and donuts. You may choose to either stay in the lobby, or at 9:15am, participate in one of our formation offerings. Our Sunday Adult Gospel Class meets downstairs in Room B-14, and an Adult Topical Class meets in B-18/19. Children's offerings currently on Summer hiatus include Godly Play (ages 3 -- 3rd grade) and Grades 4–12.

Need help getting somewhere? Please don't hesitate to ask!

For more information about St. Matthew's, please visit <u>stmattsaustin.org</u> by scanning the QR code. While there, please click the "Subscribe to Parish News & Events Emails" button to be in the know!

Our website

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD¹

PRELUDE

"This Little Light of Mine"

arr. Jason Klug

PROCESSIONAL HYMN²

"This Little Light of Mine"

Harry Dixon Loes

- 1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! [Repeat x2] Refrain: Let it shine, let it shine!
- 2. Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine! [etc.]
- 3. Won't let anyone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine! [etc.]
- 4. Shine so bright for the world to see, I'm gonna let it shine! [etc.]

THE OPENING ACCLAMATIONS

BCP 355

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.³

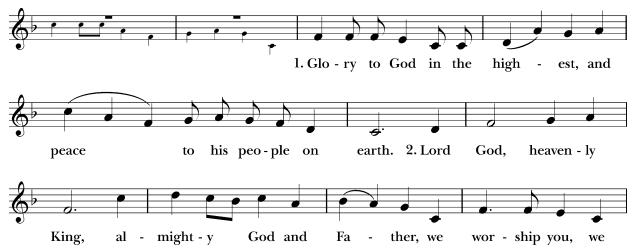
THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

GLORIA

Hymnal S280



¹ The first part of the service is the **Liturgy of the Word**. Based on ancient Jewish worship, we hear and learn about God's work in the world.

² We prepare for our time together. We sing together with whatever voice God has given us!

³ The Bold portions are the parts the congregation says together.



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

A READING FROM JEREMIAH (23:23-29)

Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back-- those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 82 Responsively by whole verse

Deus stetit

- 1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; * he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:
- 2 "How long will you judge unjustly, * and show favor to the wicked?
- 3 Save the weak and the orphan; * defend the humble and needy;
- 4 Rescue the weak and the poor; * deliver them from the power of the wicked.
- 5 They do not know, neither do they understand; they go about in darkness; * all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- 6 Now I say to you, 'You are gods, *
 and all of you children of the Most High;
- 7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, * and fall like any prince.'"
- 8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, * for you shall take all nations for your own.

A READING FROM HEBREWS (11:29–12:2)

Faith that helped the people walk through the Red Sea like it was dry land. Faith brought down the walls of Jericho after they'd been circled for seven days. Rahab was saved by faith because she had helped the spies and didn't give them away. What more can I say? I could go on and on about how faith conquered kingdoms, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched fire, and sent enemies away screaming.

Some people with faith have been tortured, thrown in jail, sawn in two. Some wandered in deserts and caves and holes in the ground. And God honored them for their faith. God has made them perfect and given them to us as examples.

We walk through a cloud of these faithful witnesses each day. As we walk, let's lay down everything that holds us back, along with the sin that clings to us like dirt. In fact, let's not walk, let's run on the path that is before us, with Jesus who has run this way ahead of us. He is the perfect example of faith. He endured the cross and its shame, and is now sitting with God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

I've got peace like a river

Lift Every Voice and Sing 201



THE GOSPEL⁴

Please stand for the Gospel.

Luke 12:49-56

Clergy

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I have come to set the world on fire, and I wish it were ready to be ignited. I am so ready to begin this new thing God is doing. It is hard for me to hold back. Don't think I've come to make your life easy and peaceful. I'm here to shake things up instead. Things will get ugly before they get better. Families will be divided because they cannot agree onn me, or on how to act or worship God. You know how you look to the sky to see what the weather might be like tomorrow? Why don't you look around you and see what is happening around you on earth too, and figure out what tomorrow will bring."

Clergy

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Children are invited to come forward to front with their backpacks, before the sermon.

The Rev. Katie Leuba

⁴ **The Gospel** We stand to indicate the importance we place on Jesus' words and actions. The Gospel book comes into the midst of the people and all turn toward the reader.

THE BLESSING OF STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS

Eternal God, father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our great teacher and savior, bless these your servants as they begin the school year. Your Son was once himself a child, learning and teaching in the temple. Grant that all who enter into places of learning as students and educators this year be filled with your grace and heavenly wisdom: that all their efforts be directed by your Holy Spirit, and work to your praise and glory. *Amen*.

BLESSING OVER THE BACKPACKS, BAGS, BRIEFCASES, & OTHER INSTRUMENTS OF LEARNING

Almighty God, we bring before you these instruments of teaching and of learning. We pray that your Holy Spirit of wisdom goes forth with all who carry them this year: that all bearers of briefcases and of backpacks will rest secure in the knowledge of your abiding strength, peace, and love. May they, like the young Jesus, grow in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God. And so we bless these backpacks in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. *Amen*.

THE CHILDREN'S CREED⁵

St. Matthew's Day School version

► Please stand. Please feel free to make the hand-signs, if you know them!

I believe, yes, I believe in God who loves everyone.

I believe, yes, I believe in Jesus, His son.

I believe in the Spirit, too,
Who comes to live in me and you.
I believe, yes, I believe God is love!
I believe, yes, I believe; Alleluia!
I believe, yes, I believe; Alleluia!

COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

It's time to count our blessings! What are we thankful for today? Birthdays? Anniversaries? Invite the children to name things they are thankful for. After each one, say, "Thank you, God!"

Then the priest says the following Collect

O Generous God, accept the prayers of your people, and in your great mercy, look with compassion on us, and on all who turn to you for help; for you are kind, O lover of souls, and we give you glory: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen**.

THE PEACE⁶ BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

⁵ **The Creed** This simiplified Creed is sung during morning chapel, by students in the St. Matthew's Day School; and also in "Children's Chapel" (during the Liturgy of the Word) on most Sundays.

⁶ In the **Peace**, we affirm our reconciliation with one another as preparation for receiving communion (see Matt. 5:23-24). In ancient times, Christians would greet each other with "the kiss of peace." Today we shake hands or hug. There are no set words; "Peace," "God's Peace," and "The Peace of the Lord be with you" are all commonly used.

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Please take a musical instrument on your way back, after communion! *₽* Please be seated for announcements.

Weekly Word

Printed copies of the announcements, and more, are available on the credenza in the Sanctuary lobby, as part of the Weekly Word.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE⁷

Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in Memory of Bud Payne on his 100th Birthday

THE OFFERTORY

"Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen" Tommy and Karis Parnham, piano and cello

One-time Donation

Traditional



THE DOXOLOGY Hymnal 380, verse 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you. People And also with you. Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

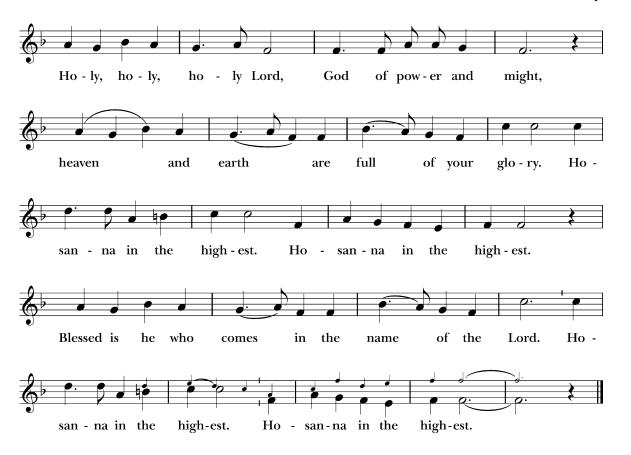
We lift them to the Lord. People

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

⁷ Now we come to the second act in the drama of our service. It is based on Jewish fellowship meals, particularly the Passover observance. We begin with the **Offertory**. Collecting financial gifts, or passing the plate, serves as a visible reminder that our whole lives are offered to God, and a part of the riches God has given to us are offered back to God in Thanksgiving for all that we have and all that we are. If you wish to make a one-time donation or annual gift online, scan our Virtual Offering Plate QR code with your phone's camera app. A notification will pop up to take you to our Realm giving site, www.onrealm.org/stmattsaustin/give/now.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth... (Here the Celebrant adds a Proper Preface) ... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS Hymnal S125



Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ... ...Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

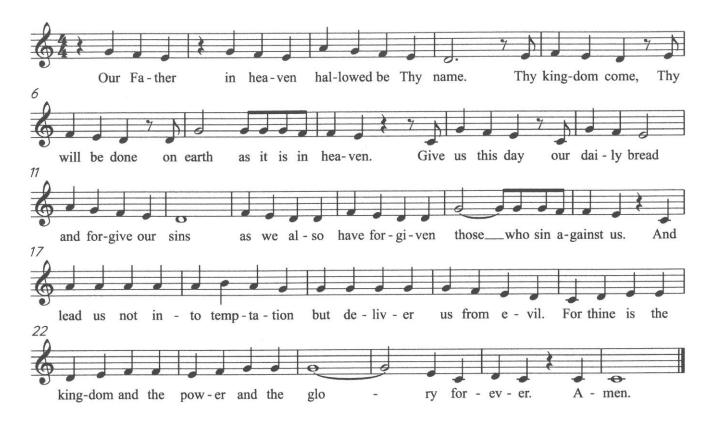
Celebrant and People:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts...

...All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Silence may be held, after the fraction

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All who seek Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion; you do not need to be an Episcopalian. If you prefer to just receive a blessing, simply fold your arms across your chest. Gluten-free elements are available at the station closest to the windows on the east side of the Sanctuary; come up and tell the ministers "gluten-free." We are happy to bring the communion elements to you if processing to the front is a challenge; just notify an usher.

४७ Kids, remember to take a musical instrument on your way back, after you take Communion!

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

"Lord Prepare Me"

Lyrics: Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you. (Sung twice through)

- 1. Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him in the morning, praise Him in the noontime. Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him when the sun goes down.
- 2. Jesus, etc.
- 3. Love Him, etc.
- 4. Serve Him, etc.

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

adapted from LEVAS #217

- 1. He's got the whole world in His hands, (sung x4)
- 2. He's got the little bitty baby in His hands, etc.
- 3. He's got everybody here in His hands, etc.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

8 Please stand or kneel.

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

In the name of God and this Congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

THE BLESSING

Dear Father, bless each little child, and keep us all we pray Safe in your loving care, until we meet another day. Amen. Sing the English once through, then the Swahili, then back to the English...





THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon, or priest, dismisses the congregation.

The People respond: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE "Fanfare" Jacques Lemmens

After the service:

- Please remember to turn in your instruments on your way out of the Sanctuary—
- and join us in the Portico, and Huffman Hall, for an ice cream truck party!



Bonus Coloring Page: "A Cloud of Witnesses"

Cover Art: "Dancing Saints" icon (detail), by the hand of Mark Dukes and the people of St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal, S.Francisco; compl.2009. This Page: "All Saints," from Coloringonly.com. https://coloringonly.com/category/holidays/all-saints-day/all-saints-day-coloring-page/Music: All hymns used by permission. OneLicense A-705727. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

OUR CLERGY, STAFF & VESTRY

Rector: The Rev. Katie Leuba
Associate Priest: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Benko
Associate Priest: The Rev. Christine Brunson
Assisting Deacon: The Rev. Bill Holder
Assisting Deacon: The Rev. Sharla Marks
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Jerry Chapman
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Seth Deleery
Director of Music & Organist: Martha Galie
8:00 am Pianist: Lucy Zhu

Finance Manager: Pat Brajnikoff
Children & Families Musician: Mary Smith
Office Manager: Susan Kerr
Parish Administrator: Lisa Kay Pfannenstiel
Communications Assistant: April Beaty
Sextons: Carly & Gabriel
Chef: Robert Mayberry
Head of Day School: Page Race
Wardens: Jenny Watson & Doug Webster
Vestry of the Month: Alison Talarcek & Kevin McGillicuddy

Contact information can be found on our website, <u>www.stmattsaustin.org</u>, or by calling the church office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, August 17th - Backpack Sunday - the Blessing of the Backpacks, w/ Ice-Cream Truck after the 10:30 service Saturday, August 23rd, 9:45 am - Inga Trail Cleanup volunteering: Meet @ St. Matt's parking lot to carpool there Sunday, August 24th, about 12:00 pm - Women's Story Circle (following the 10:30 service); Huffman Hall Sunday, August 24th, 12:30 pm - Sci-Faith & Fantasy book group: *The Just City* by Jo Walton. Room B-6; BYOL. August 24th & 31st - "Focus on Communion" Sundays; all-ages formation & learning about the Eucharist! Saturday, August 30th, 10:00 am - Funeral: Bud Payne Wednesday, September 17th - Fall-themed Movie Night Sunday, September 21st - St. Matthew's Day! Luncheon and Ministry Fair after 10:30 service; Huffman Hall Wednesday, October 29th - Halloween-themed Movie Night Sunday, November 2nd - Baptismal Sunday (email us to sign up!) Wednesday, November 19th - Thanksgiving-themed Movie Night

See the Weekly Word for more details on these, and other parish events!

All ages Sunday Formation kicks off for the year, Sunday, Aug. 24th, beginning with our two "Focus on the Eucharist" Sundays. Keep your eyes out for Fall classes!

Considering becoming Episcopalian? Or just curious to learn more about the Episcopal Church?

Contact Fr. Andrew Benko if you would like to know more: (318.415.8131 or abenko@stmattsaustin.org.)

OFFICE HOURS

Church office hours are Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Appointments to meet with clergy and staff are recommended. Contact office@stmattsaustin.org or 512-345-8314 to set an appointment with clergy, and for staff, contact the staff member directly. Your clergy typically take Fridays as Sabbath days. During office hours, the receptionist can assist you in an emergency: 512-345-8314. For after-hour pastoral emergencies, call or text the Rev. Katie Leuba directly at 440-985-8982.

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:00am, Traditional Holy Eucharist (Rite I), Sanctuary

10:30am, Holy Eucharist with Music (Rite II), Sanctuary

Wednesday: 12:00pm, A Service of Public Healing with Holy Communion, Sanctuary Every Evening: 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Zoom (https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88579583087)



Coloring: "A Great Cloud of Witnesses Cheers us on the Race"



@ marydeandraws.com

Additional coloring and activities in the red Children's Bags, in the Lobby.