# ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Parable of the Wedding Banquet, after an Orthodox icon (mural) by the hand of Dionysius of Ferapontov, in the Church of the Nativity of the Virgin

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Eucharist, Rite II August 31, 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 red "Busy Bags" full of fun activities for kids to enjoy at their seats. We have a large table downstairs with snacks and bottles of water, right at the foot of the East stairwell. 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 Liturgy of the Word; we come back together in time for Communion. 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 8 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 <a href="word@stmattsaustin.org">word@stmattsaustin.org</a> and prayer requests to Susan at <a href="mailto:office@stmattsaustin.org">office@stmattsaustin.org</a>.

# 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 -- 3<sup>rd</sup> 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!

Jun wohaita

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD<sup>1</sup>

PRELUDE "Jesus paid it all" arr. Marc Witmer

Trevor Rybicki, cello; Marc Witmer, piano

PROCESSIONAL HYMN<sup>2</sup> Joyful, joyful we adore thee Hymnal 376

THE OPENING ACCLAMATIONS

BCP 355

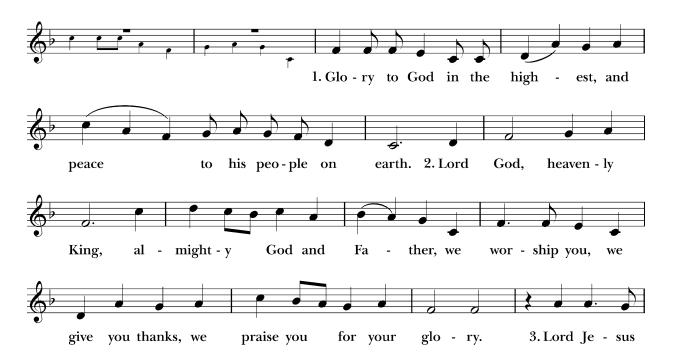
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.<sup>3</sup>

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



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> We prepare for our time together. We sing together with whatever voice God has given us!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen*.

Please be seated.

# PROCESSION TO CHILDREN'S CHAPEL & Please be seated.

At the discretion of their parents, children are invited to follow the chapel leader downstairs to room B-21 for Children's Chapel. Parents are welcome to join. They will return to the Sanctuary during the Announcements.

# A READING FROM ECCLESIASTICUS, a.k.a THE WISDOM OF JESUS THE SON OF SIRACH (10:12-18)

The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord;

the heart has withdrawn from its Maker.

For the beginning of pride is sin,

and the one who clings to it pours out abominations.

Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities, and destroys them completely.

The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers, and enthrones the lowly in their place.

The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations, and plants the humble in their place.

The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations, and destroys them to the foundations of the earth.

He removes some of them and destroys them, and erases the memory of them from the earth.

Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women.

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

# **PSALM 112** Responsively by whole verse

Beatus vir

1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord \* and have great delight in his commandments!

- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \* the generation of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, \* and their righteousness will last for ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \* the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in lending \* and to manage their affairs with justice.
- 6 For they will never be shaken; \* the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \* their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, \* until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- 9 They have given freely to the poor, \* and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honor.
- 10 The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \* the desires of the wicked will perish.

# A READING FROM HEBREWS (13:1-8,15-16)

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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





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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> **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.

when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Rev. Katie Leuba

THE NICENE CREED<sup>5</sup> & Please stand. EOW 53

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

<sup>5</sup> **The Creed** The Episcopal Church does not have a separate statement of faith or list of things we believe. Instead we hold the ancient Creeds, such as the Apostles' and the Nicene, to be our statements of faith. They contain the core of our belief as Christians, but do not limit our faith. We are using the English Language Liturgical Consultation (ELLC) text of the Nicene Creed that was approved for use in the Episcopal Church in 1994. The use of "We believe" is appropriate as the creed is a statement of the faith of the whole Church, at all times and places, and not only that of a particular congregation or person. The Nicene Creed was created in the late 4th century by the councils (gatherings of church folks) in Nicea.

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence; the People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence; the People may add thanksgivings, silent or aloud

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence; the People may add...

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Presider says a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN<sup>6</sup>

Standing or kneeling

**BCP 360** 

Minister Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be held.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> We sin when our behavior—either by acting or failing to act—disrupts our relationship with God and with other people. We come together each week and **confess this sin** to God with the intention to improve and to turn back to God. We have the courage to make this confession because we have been assured by Jesus that when we confess and repent (turn around), God will forgive us.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*.

THE PEACE<sup>7</sup> BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Please be seated for announcements.

6 Children will return from Children's Chapel around this time, and return to their pew seats.

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 TABLE<sup>8</sup>



Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in Honor of Del Tesar's 90th Birthday--With Love from Rogene

THE OFFERTORY

"Selah # 217"

Marc Witmer, piano

by Marc Witmer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 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.

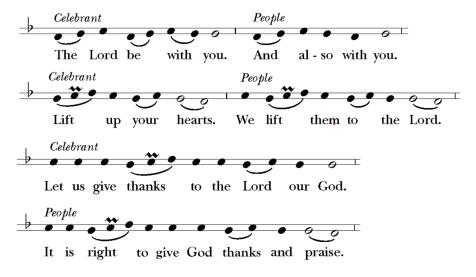
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Now we come to the second act in the drama of our service. It is based on Jewish fellowship meals, particularly the Passover observance. We begin with the **Offertory**. Collecting financial gifts, or passing the plate, serves as a visible reminder that our whole lives are 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, <a href="www.onrealm.org/stmattsaustin/give/now">www.onrealm.org/stmattsaustin/give/now</a>.

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** 



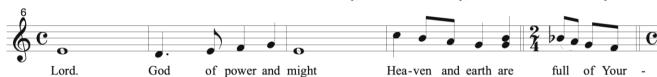
the Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth... (*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

Marc Witmer

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

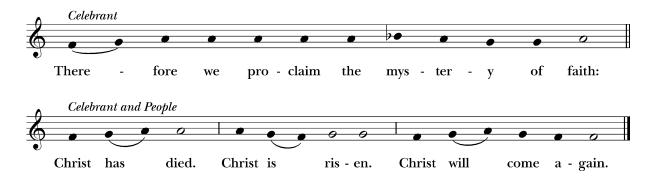




glo-ry! Ho - sa - na in the high-est! Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the



Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself... ...Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."



The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving...

...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.



THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP 364

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and 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

You do not need to be an Episcopalian to receive Holy Communion. 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." Or, we are happy to bring the communion elements to you; just tell an usher.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

"Draw us in the Spirit's Tether"

Choir

Harold Friedell

"My God, thy table now is spread"

Hymnal 322

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER & 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

DISMISSAL HYMN

Lord, whose love through humble service

Hymnal 610

#### THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon, or priest, dismisses the congregation.

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

**POSTLUDE** 

"Hymn Jazz Improvisation"

Marc Witmer

# **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

Sundays, beginning Sept. 7th – Early-Fall Adult Series: "Prayer, Praying, and Types of Prayer"; 9:15-10:15, B18/19 (with one Sunday off – see Sept. 21, below)

Wednesday, September 17th – Huffman Hall Family Picnics: Fall-themed Movie Night! BYOD.

Sunday, September 21st, 9:15 am – Adult class: Introducing "Sacred Ground" session; U.S. racial history, and the church Sunday, September 21st, 10:30-1:00 – St. Matthew's Day; wear red—all parish photo during service!; lunch in Huffman Hall Wednesday, October 29th – Huffman Hall Family Picnics: Halloween-themed Movie Night! BYOD.

Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Baptismal Sunday (email us to sign up!)

Wednesday, November 19th – Huffman Hall Family Picnics: Thanksgiving-themed Movie Night! BYOD.

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

# 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)



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