ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Counting the Cost, Cerezo Barredo, 2000

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Eucharist, Rite II September 7, 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 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 include Godly Play (ages 3 – 5thrd grade) and Grades 6–12.

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

"Adagio for Strings"

Samuel Barber, arr. William Strickland

PROCESSIONAL HYMN²

Not here for high and holy things

Hymnal 9

THE OPENING ACCLAMATIONS

BCP 355

Celebrant

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

People

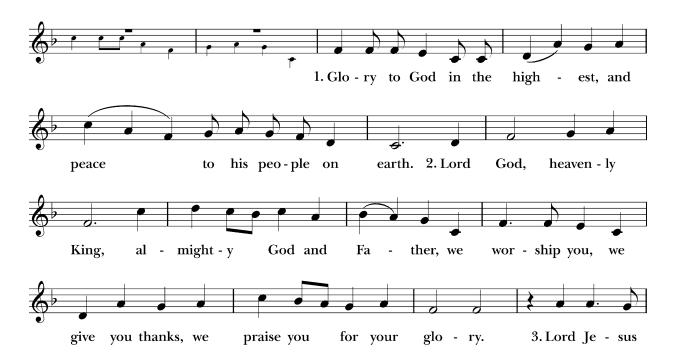
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.³

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.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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 DEUTERONOMY (30:15-20)⁴

Moses said to all Israel the words which the LORD commanded him, "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

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

PSALM 1 Responsively by whole verse

Beatus vir, qui non abiit

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, * nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, * and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; * everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; * they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, * nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, * but the way of the wicked is doomed.

A READING FROM THE LETTER TO PHILEMON (VSS. 1-21)

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother; to Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁴ We follow a three-year cycle of readings called a **Lectionary.** These are the lessons being heard in congregations of all types throughout the world on this day.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love-- and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother-- especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN Day by day Hymnal 654

THE GOSPEL⁵ Please stand for the Gospel. Luke 14:25-33

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Rev. Dr. Andrew Benko

⁵ **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 NICENE CREED⁶ & 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM VI

№ The People stand or kneel.

BCP 392

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.

⁶ **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.

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 SIN7

Standing or kneeling

BCP 360

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

Silence may be held.

Minister and People:

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

⁷ 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.

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 PEACE⁸ 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®



THE OFFERTORY

"No More a Stranger or a Guest" **Psalm 23: David Ashley White**Debra Erck, flautist;

Karis and Tommy Parnham, and Susan Ledenham, handbells

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.

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.

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

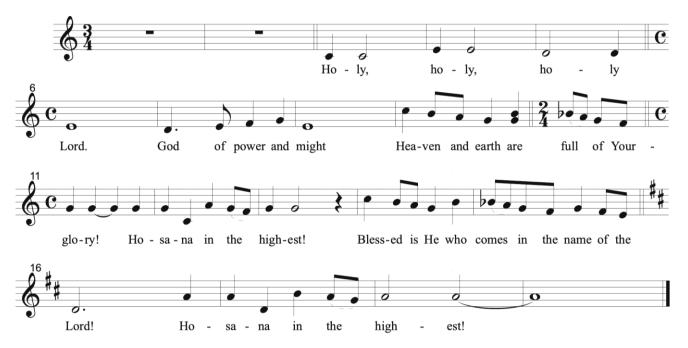
People We lift them to the Lord.

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

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



Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself... ... 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...

...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**.

BCP 364 THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

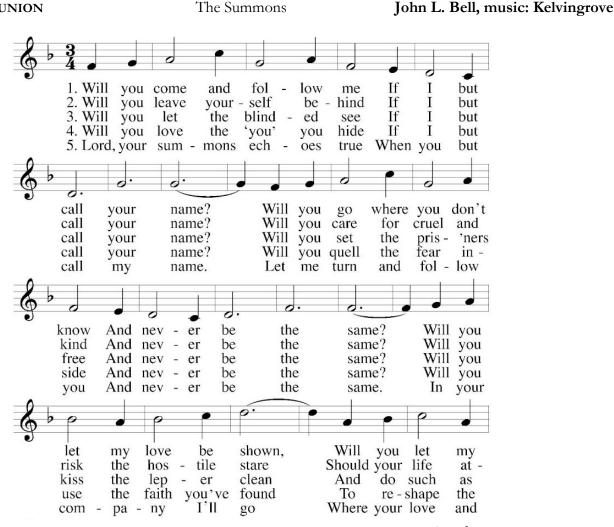
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD Silence may be held, after the fraction

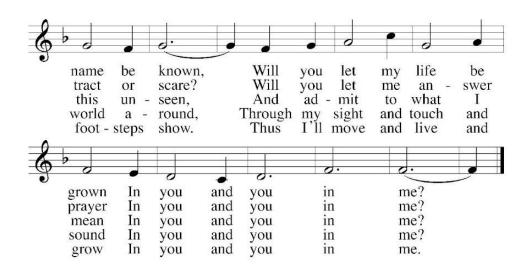
Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

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 The Summons





MUSIC AT COMMUNION

I come with joy to meet my Lord

Hymnal 304

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

DISMISSAL HYMN

O God of every nation

Hymnal 607

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon, or priest, dismisses the congregation.

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

POSTLUDE

"Jerusalem"

Hubert Parry, arr. Andrew Moore

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

Wednesday, September 17th 5 pm – 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 5pm – Huffman Hall Family Picnics: Halloween-themed Movie Night! BYOD.

Sunday, November 2nd – Baptismal Sunday (email us to sign up!)

Wednesday, November 19th 5 pm – 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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