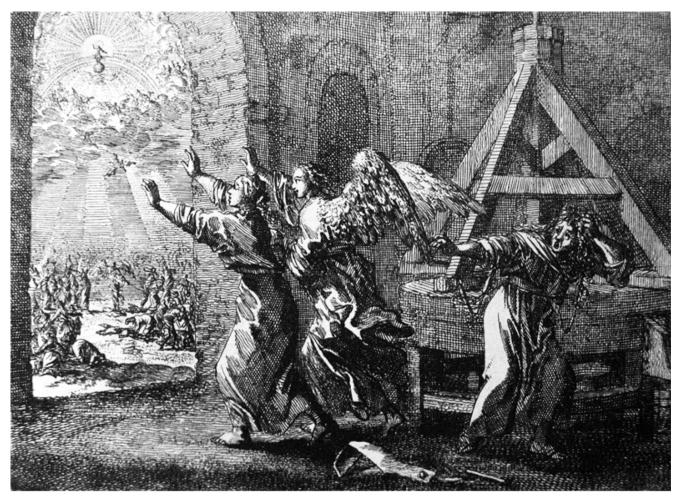
# ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Rapture: The One at the Mill - Jan Luyken (1649-1712)

The First Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist, Rite II November 30, 2025 – 10:30am

## WELCOME!

Whether it's 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, 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. Alternatively, you may complete the same Connection Card online by scanning this QR code with your phone's camera.



## **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 1982" located between the seats. Items marked in the bulletin as BCP, followed by a page number, refer to the Book of Common Prayer (black or red), which can also be found in a bookholder 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, and 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 with this, in the lobby there are "busy bags" full of fun activities for kids to enjoy at their seats. We have a large table downstairs with snacks and water, at the foot of the East stairwell. During the service, we also encourage your child (and you, if you 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. You can also visit the Baby's Nest, a sound-proof 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**

We have 8 Assisted Listening Devices (wireless audio packs with headphones) available in the lobby near the Welcome Desk for anyone wishing to experience the spoken word sections of today's service with 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 adjust the volume 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. After you have kneeled (or stood) at the altar, as the first server approaches, please cup your hands in front of you and the host will be placed in your palm. When the second server approaches, 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, 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 of 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 include Godly Play (ages 3-5th 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>www.stmattsaustin.org</u>, by scanning this QR code. While there, please click the "Subscribe to Parish News & Events Emails" button to be in the know!

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD1

PRELUDE Once in Royal David's City Marc Witmer

Tom Jeannett, alto saxophone

PROCESSIONAL HYMN<sup>2</sup> Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus Hymnal 66

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION 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

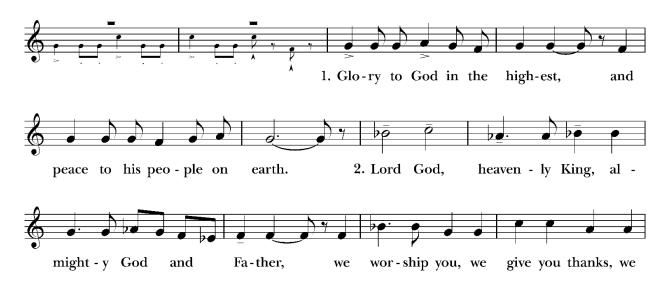
BCP 355

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 S278

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 around the time for The Peace.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The first portion 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.

<sup>3</sup> Bold portions are spoken together by the congregation.

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



## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

Please be seated.

## A READING FROM ISAIAH 2:1-54

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

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

# **PSALM 122** Responsively by half-verse

Laetatus sum

1 I was glad when they said to me, \*

"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

2 Now our feet are standing \*

within your gates, O Jerusalem.

3 Jerusalem is built as a city \*

that is at unity with itself;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> We follow a three-year cycle of readings called a **Lectionary**. These are the lessons being heard in congratulations of all types throughout the world on this day.

- 4 To which the tribes go up,
  the tribes of the Lord, \*
  the assembly of Israel,
  to praise the Name of the Lord.
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment, \* the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*
  - "May they prosper who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your walls \* and quietness within your towers.
- 8 For my brethren and companions' sake, \*
  I pray for your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the Lord our God, \* I will seek to do you good."

## A READING FROM ROMANS 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the LORD Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

Hymnal 58

THE GOSPEL<sup>5</sup>

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

Matthew 24:36-44

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> **The Gospel** - We stand to indicate the importance placed on Jesus's words and actions. The Gospel book is carried into the midst of the people, and all turn toward the reader.

your LORD is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

THE SERMON The Rev. Katie Leuba

THE NICENE CREED<sup>6</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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Creed - The Episcopal church holds 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 use the English Language Liturgical Consultation (ELLC) text of the Nicene Creed 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 325AD by the first council (gathering of bishops) in Nicaea.

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 Please stand or kneel.

The Leader and People pray responsively.

us live honorably as salvation draws ever nearer. Silence.

People of God, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord. Let us pray to the Lord saying, "Teach us your ways, O God, that we may walk in your paths."

Wake from sleep, O God, your Church. Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let

Teach us your ways, O God, that we may walk in your paths.

Wake from sleep, O God, this nation. May we beat our swords into ploughshares, and our spears into pruning hooks. May we learn war no more. *Silence*.

Teach us your ways, O God, that we may walk in your paths.

Wake from sleep, O God, your creation. May the mountains rise to meet you and crops of the fields burst forth in praise. *Silence*.

Teach us your ways, O God, that we may walk in your paths.

Wake from sleep, O God, this city. May there be peace and prosperity within our walls. Make clear our paths that we may walk in your light. *Silence*.

Teach us your ways, O God, that we may walk in your paths.

Wake from sleep, O God, those in pain and sadness. Deliver them from their darkness that they may rejoice in your light. May all those waiting for healing find your salvation is near.

The congregation may add their own petitions and thanksgivings, followed by silence.

Teach us your ways, O God, that we may walk in your paths.

Wake all your people from sleep, O God. Prepare your saints for that day when the Son of Man will return, with the saints at rest, to reign with us forever and ever. *Silence*.

Teach us your ways, O God, that we may walk in your paths.

The presider concludes with a collect.

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:

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** 

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

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY

THE DOXOLOGY

# THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE<sup>9</sup>

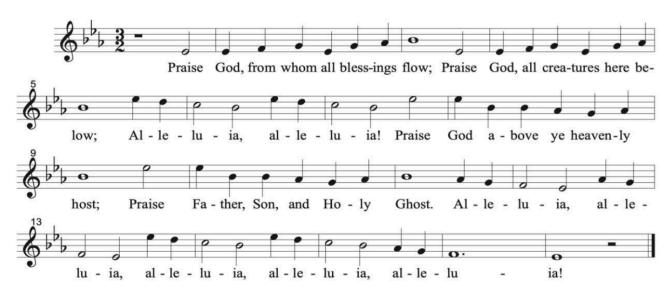
Sleepers Wake!, from *Paulus* - Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847) Laßt uns

One-Time Donation (Via Stripe)

We sin when our behavior-either by acting or failing to act-disrupts our relationship with God and with others. We come together each week and confess this sin to God with the intention to improve and 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The Peace - We affirm our reconciliation with one another as preparation for receiving communion (Matthew 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 predetermined words; "Peace," "God's Peace," "Peace be with you," and "the Peace of the Lord be with you," are all commonly said.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The **Liturgy of the Table** is the second act in the drama of the 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 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. A notification will appear which will take you to our Realm giving site, www.onrealm.org/stmattsaustin/give/now.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

**BCP 361** 

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

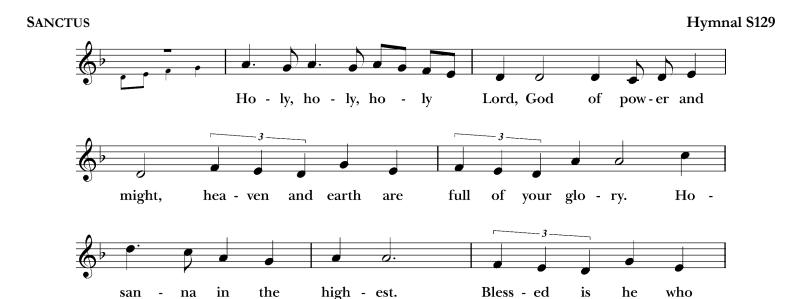
People: We lift them to the Lord.

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:





The Celebrant continues:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself. When we had fallen into sin and death, you in your mercy sent Jesus Christ your only and eternal Son...

...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...in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

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 need not be Episcopalian to receive Holy Communion. If you prefer to receive a blessing only, 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". For those in need, we are happy to bring the communion elements to your seat; just tell an usher.

# O Heavenly Word, Eternal Light

Marc Witmer

Tom Jeannett, alto saxophone

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Please stand or kneel.

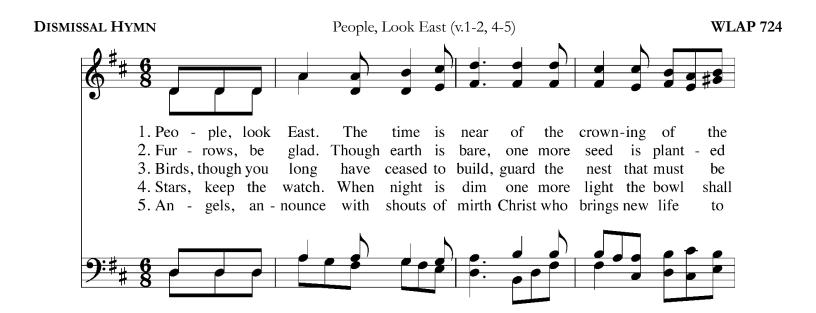
**BCP 365** 

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 the 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





SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Weekly Word (Newsletter)

Printed copies of the announcements, and more, are available on the credenza in the Sanctuary lobby, as part of the Weekly Word. The Weekly Word can also be accessed online by scanning the QR code provided.



#### THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon or Priest dismisses the congregation.

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

**POSTLUDE** 

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Marc Witmer

Tom Jeannett, alto saxophone

Cover Art: The Rapture: The One at the Mill - Jan Luyken (1649-1712); www.commons.wikimedia.org.

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# 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 Priest: The Rev. Jerry Chapman

Assisting Priest: The Rev. Seth Deleery

Director of Music: Dr. Jeff Vanderlee

Organist: Martha Galie

8 am Pianist: Lucy Zhu

Children & Families Musician: Mary Smith

Assistant to the Rector: Lena Carson
Finance Manager: Pat Brajnikoff
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: Connie Marks & Rogene Tesar

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Sundays, Nov.-Dec., 9:15am Adult Formation: What is Christian Nationalism? (Dec. 7, 14)
- Saturday, Dec. 6th, 2pm Love Notes Public Concert; Sanctuary
- Sunday, Dec. 7th, 6pm Chorus Austin, Sing-it-Yourself Messiah; Sanctuary
- Sunday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am Newcomers Luncheon; Huffman Hall
- Sunday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2pm Austin Saxophone Ensemble Youth Concert
- Wednesday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, 5pm Christmas Movie Night (Polar Express); Huffman Hall Santa will be there!

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

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

Contact Fr. Andrew Benko if you would like to know more, at: (318) 415-8131, or abenko@stmattsaustin.org

# **OFFICE HOURS**

Church office hours are M - F, 9:00am - 4:00pm. 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 Friday as the Sabbath. During office hours, the receptionist can assist you in an emergency: (512) 345-8314. For after-hours pastoral emergencies, call or text the Rev. Katie Leuba directly: (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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