



ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I DECEMBER 07, 2025

THE WORD OF GOD

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THE HOLY COMMUNION

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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Merciful God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

A READING FROM ISAIAH 11:1-10¹

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19 *Responsively by half-verse*

Deus, judicium

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

¹ 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.

- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

A READING FROM ROMANS 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.


Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name";
and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";
and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";
and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

THE GOSPEL²

 *Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

Matthew 3:1-12

Clergy: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
People: **Glory be to Thee, Lord Christ.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

² **The Gospel** - We stand to indicate the importance placed on Jesus's words and actions. The Gospel book comes into the midst of the people and all turn toward the reader.

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Clergy: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

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
8am 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.stmattsaustrin.org, or by calling the church office.

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

- Sundays, Nov.-Dec., 9:15am – Adult Formation: What is Christian Nationalism? (Dec. 14)
- Sunday, Dec. 14th, 11:30am – Newcomers Luncheon; Huffman Hall
- Sunday, Dec. 14th, 2pm – Austin Saxophone Ensemble Youth Concert
- Wednesday, Dec. 17th, 5pm – Christmas Movie Night (Polar Express); Huffman Hall - Santa will be there!
- Sunday, Dec. 21st, 11:30am – Cooking for Community First; Huffman Hall

CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24, 2025

- 4pm, Youth Pageant; 7:30pm & 10:30pm, Traditional Services

Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25, 2025

- 10:30am Christmas Morning Service

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@stmattsaustrin.org

OFFICE HOURS

Church office hours are M - F, 9:00am - 4:00pm. Appointments to meet with clergy and staff are recommended. Contact office@stmattsaustrin.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, 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>)



ST. MATTHEW'S
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