

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Savior's Transfiguration, Unknown artist (circa 1403); Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow

Last Sunday after The Epiphany

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

February 15, 2026 – 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 go to the East side of the sanctuary, nearest the windows. 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 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 3-5th grade), and Grades 6-12.

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

For more information about St. Matthew's please visit www.stmattsaustin.org, 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

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Dan Miller (b.1967)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN²

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Hymnal 135

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.**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

*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.*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we

¹ 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.

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

³ Bold portions are spoken together by the congregation.

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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.

A READING FROM EXODUS 24:12-18⁴

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 2 *Responsively by half verse*

Quare fremuerunt gentes?

- 1 Why are the nations in an uproar?
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
- 2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
**and the princes plot together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed?**
- 3 "Let us break their yoke," they say;
"let us cast off their bonds from us."
- 4 He whose throne is in heaven is laughing;
the Lord has them in derision.
- 5 Then he speaks to them in his wrath,
and his rage fills them with terror.
- 6 "I myself have set my king
upon my holy hill of Zion."
- 7 Let me announce the decree of the Lord:
**he said to me, "You are my Son;
this day have I begotten you.**
- 8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for your possession.
- 9 You shall crush them with an iron rod
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."
- 10 And now, you kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers of the earth.
- 11 Submit to the Lord with fear,
and with trembling bow before him;
- 12 Lest he be angry and you perish;
for his wrath is quickly kindled.
- 13 Happy are they all
who take refuge in him!

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.

A READING FROM 2 PETER 1:16-21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN

Christ Upon the Mountainpeak

Hymnal 129

THE GOSPEL⁵

 *Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

Matthew 17:1-9

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

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

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

⁵ **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.

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.

⁶ **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.

Leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

God of love, we pray for your church: For Sean our Presiding Bishop: for Andy, Jeff, Kai, Hector, and Brian, our bishops; for Katie, and Andrew, our priests; for Bill and Charla, our deacons; In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray especially for St. Mark's, Austin; St. Joan of Arc, Pflugerville; St. John's, Austin; St. James', La Grange; and St. James', Taylor; and for all who seek you in the community of the faithful. Equip us with compassion and love, to carry out your work of reconciliation in the world.

God of love, **Hear our prayers for the church.**

God of freedom, we pray for our nation, and all the nations of the world: For peace and unity across the barriers of race, class, and creed, and for your divine inspiration for all communities to speak out against hatred and actively resist evil. *Silence.*

God of freedom, **Hear our prayers for the world.**

God of justice, we pray for the earth: for the plants and the animals, the mountains and the streams. Stir up in us a thirst for justice that protects the earth and all its resources to ensure a legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us. *Silence.*

God of justice, **Hear our prayers for the earth.**

God of peace, we pray for our national, state, and local leaders; for Donald, our president; Greg, our governor; Kirk, our mayor; for our schools and markets; for our neighborhoods and workplaces. Kindle in every heart a desire for equality, respect, and opportunity for all. *Silence.*

God of peace, **Hear our prayers for this community.**

God of mercy, we pray for all in any kind of need or trouble: For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, and those connected to us as part of the human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and suffering, the lonely and despairing; for those facing violence; for all held down by prejudice or injustice. Awaken in us compassion and humility of spirit, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons. *Silence.*

God of mercy, **Hear our prayers for all who are in need.**

God of grace, we pray for those who have died: For the faithful in every generation who have worked for your Kingdom; for prophets who called us to reconciliation; for martyrs who died for the sake of love; and for all the communion of saints. *Silence.*

God of grace, **Hear our prayers for those who have died.**

The Celebrant concludes:

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love, and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may become your Beloved Community; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN⁷

 Standing or kneeling

BCP 360

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

Silence may be held.

⁷ 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.

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.**

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.



⁸ **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.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE⁹

THE OFFERTORY

God be in My Head

John Rutter (b.1945)

One-Time Donation (Via Stripe)



THE DOXOLOGY

OLD 100th

Praise God, from whom all bles - sings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures
here be - low; Praise God a - bove ye hea - v'nly host; Praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

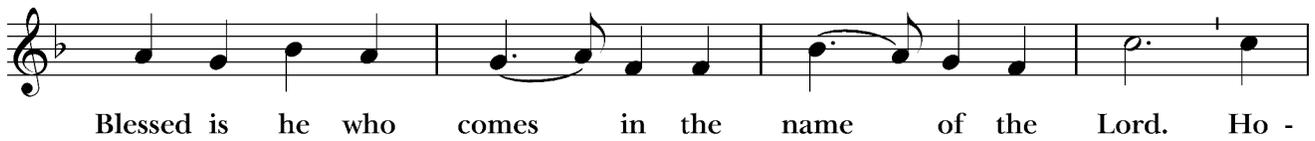
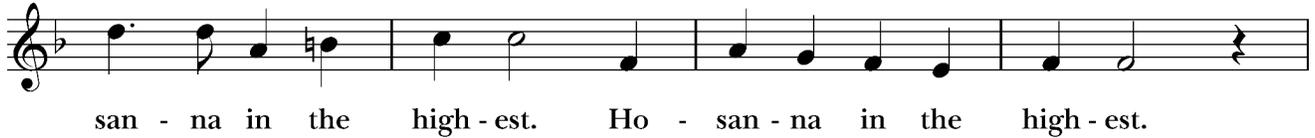
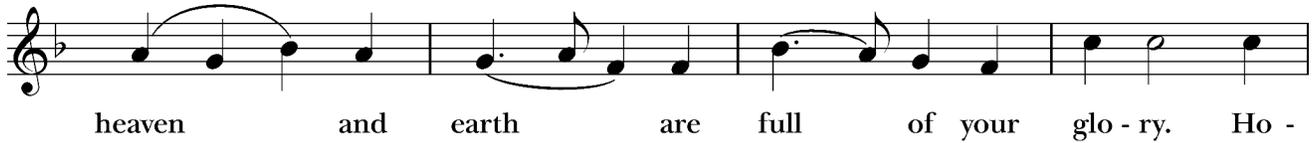
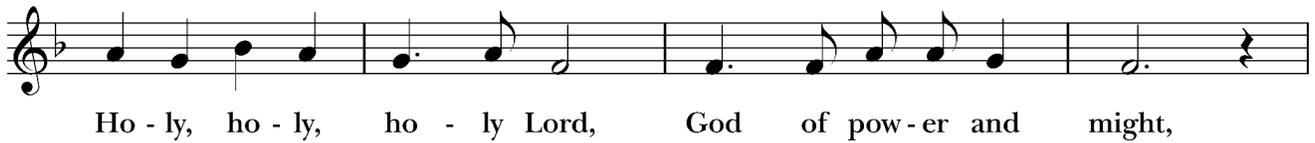
BCP 361

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:

⁹ 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/stmattsaustrin/give/now.



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.**

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. When the ushers come to your aisle please move forward to gather around the chancel to receive communion; the eucharistic ministers will come to you. 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 will bring the communion elements to your seat; just tell an usher. If you are in need of prayer or someone with whom to pray, Prayer Partners are available in the Gallery on the west side of the sanctuary.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

And Now, O Father

Hymnal 337

When Jesus Left His Father's Throne

Hymnal 480

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN

When Morning Guilds the Skies

Hymnal 427

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon or Priest dismisses the congregation.

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

POSTLUDE

Festive Toccata

Percy Fletcher (1879-1932)

OUR CLERGY, STAFF & VESTRY

Rector: The Rev. Katie Leuba

Associate Priest: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Benko

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: Yung Sil Chun

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: Doug Webster & Pat Naeve

Vestry of the Month: Allison Talarcek & Jim Fryer

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!

- The 2026 Bible Challenge continues! see <https://stmattsaustrin.org/st-matts-2026-bible-challenge/>
- February 15th, Women's Story Circle - Kay Whitney; after the 10:30 service
- February 16th, Third Monday Book Group, 5pm; Room B14
- February 17th, Shrove Tuesday, Pancake Supper, 6:00pm; Huffman Hall
- February 18th, Ash Wednesday; Services at 7:00am, 9:00am (Day School) 12:00pm and 7:00pm with Parish Choir
- February 26th, Lenten Series Recital I, Marc Witmer, piano & Tom Jeannett, alto saxophone 12:00pm; Sanctuary

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 their 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>)



ST. MATTHEW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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