

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Entry of Christ into Jerusalem (cir. 1320 CE) - Pietro Lorenzetti (1280-1348)

PALM SUNDAY SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

Holy Eucharist: Rite II
March 29, 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 is a guide for 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

Palm Sunday Procession on ST. THEODULF

Phil Lehenbauer (b.1960)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor (v.1-2, 4-5)

Hymnal 154

THE OPENING ACCLAMATIONS & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **God's Mercy endures for ever.**

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.

KYRIE

WLP 837

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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.

PROCESSION TO CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

*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.*

A READING FROM ISAIAH 50:4-9a²

The LORD God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The LORD God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.
I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out
the beard;

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.
The LORD God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to
shame;
he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the LORD God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

PSALM 31:9-16 *Responding by whole verse*

In te, Domine, speravi

9 Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.
10 **For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.**
11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies
and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance;
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

12 **I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.**
13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.
14 **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.
I have said, "You are my God.**
15 My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
16 **Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving-kindness save me."**

² 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 PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

Ah, Holy Jesus

Hymnal 158

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

☛ *Please see the Passion Gospel booklet. The congregation remains seated for the first portion. The Passion Gospel is read in parts, led by a narrator who begins by saying: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Matthew.*

☛ *The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.*

☛ *At the verse which mentions the arrival at Golgotha “the Place that is called ‘The Skull,’” all stand as you are able for the remainder of the Passion reading.*

PRE-HOMILY MEDITATION

Herzliebster Jesu, Op. 122, No. 2

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Benko

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

☪ Please stand or kneel.

from *Planning for Rites and Rituals*, by Andrew Wright

Beloved in Christ: As we are wholly dependent upon God's tender love and mercy, let us cry out to our Lord, saying, "Look upon us in mercy; and with compassion remember us."

Have mercy on your Church, O Holy One, for the times we have denied you. We have not been humble as you are humble. We are too often quick to speak and slow to love. *Silence.*

³ **The Creed** - The Episcopal Church affirms the ancient Creeds, including the Nicene Creed, as foundational statements of Christian faith. In this liturgy, we use the English Language Liturgical Consultation (ELLC) text, approved for use in 1994. The wording "We believe" reflects the Creed's communal character, expressing the faith of the whole Church across all times and places. The Nicene Creed itself originated in A.D. 325 at the first ecumenical council, a gathering of bishops convened in Nicaea, to articulate the Church's faith in response to theological controversy.

Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

Have mercy on those who hold authority in the nations of the world, O Lord, especially those who are threatened by your message of love and mercy. Forgive us our silence and complicity.

Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

Have mercy on those of us who are called to be stewards of your creation, O God. We have exploited and mistreated your masterpiece. Teach us to love what you have called good.

Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

Have mercy on our enemies, Holy One, and on those who persecute us. Teach us the Love of Jesus, who from the cross prayed, “Father forgive them.”

Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

Have mercy on all who are sick and suffering, O Lord. Strengthen the afflicted. Comfort and care for those wasted with grief. Make your face to shine upon your servants.


Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

Merciful Jesus, you became obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Even as you have shared our mortality, mercifully grant us to share in your resurrection.

Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN⁴

 *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.**

⁴ 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.

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 PEACE⁵

BCP 360

Children will return from Children's Chapel 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.



THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE⁶

THE OFFERTORY

One-Time Donation (Via Stripe)

Lift up Your Heads - David Lantz III (b.1956)



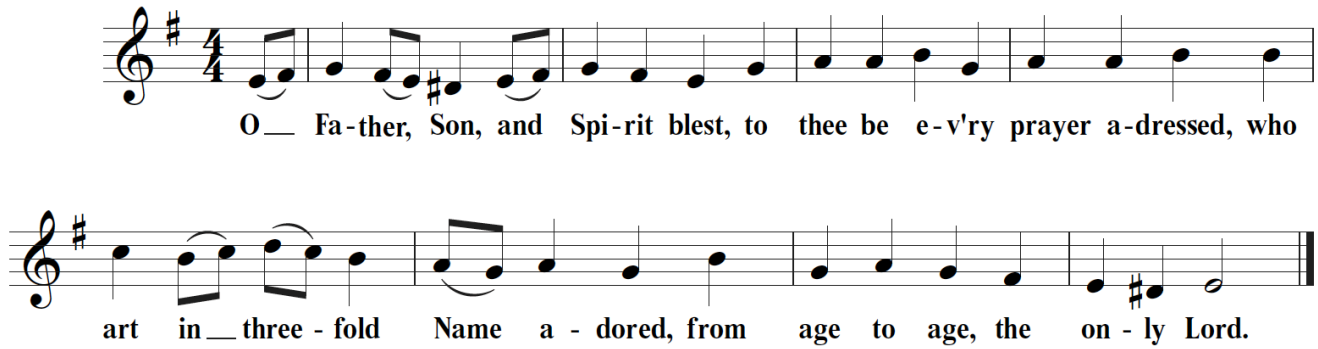
Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates,
Behold, the King of Glory waits;
The King of Kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the World is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart:
Make it a temple set apart
from earthly use, for heav'ns employ,
Adorned with prayer, and love, and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart
to Thee; Here, Lord, abide.
Let me Thy inner presence feel;
Thy grace and love in me reveal.

⁵ **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.

⁶ 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.



O — Fa-ther, Son, and Spi-rit blest, to thee be e-v'ry prayer a-dressed, who
 art in — three - fold Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C

BCP 368

- 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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds:

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Celebrant continues:

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit...“Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.

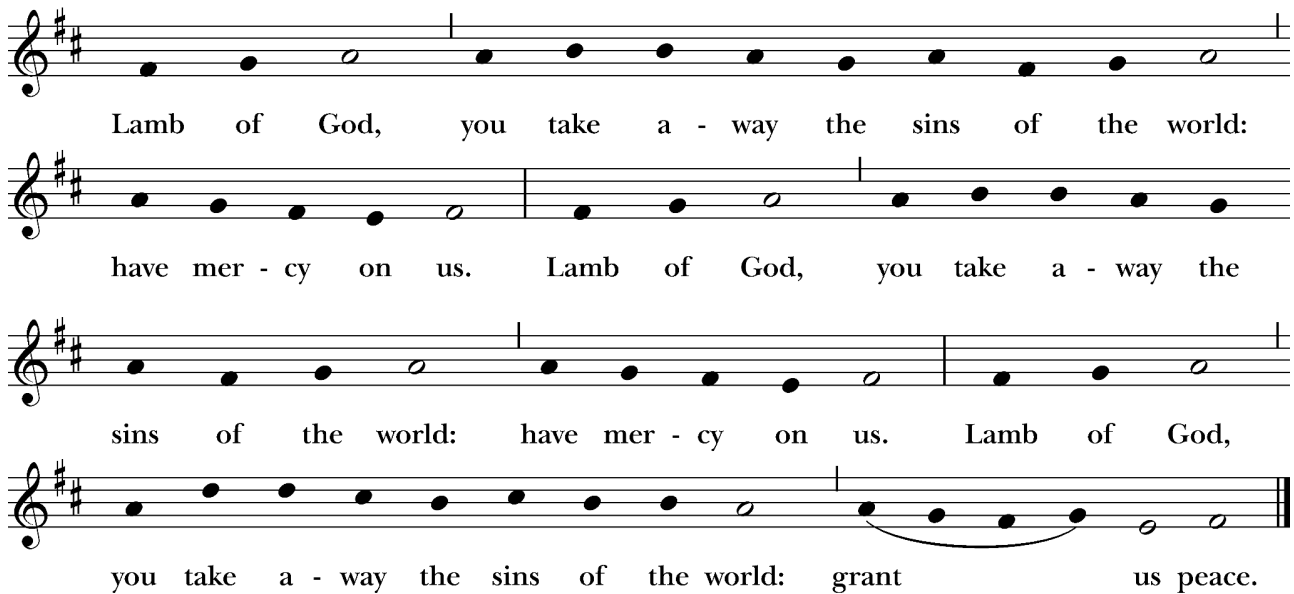
Lord God of our ancestors: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah and Hagar, Rebekah, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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.*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
 have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

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

What Wondrous Love is This?

Hymnal 439

Glory be to Jesus

Hymnal 479

POST-COMMUNION MEDITATION

Herzlich tut mich verlangen, Op. 122, No. 10

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. 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.

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE,

from the Book of Occasional Services

☞ *The people bow or kneel as they are able.*

The Celebrant says:

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lift High the Cross

Hymnal 473

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon or Priest dismisses the congregation.

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

POSTLUDE

La Béatitude

Charles Piroye (1670–1730)

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
Assistant to the Rector: Lena Carson
Director of Music: Dr. Jeff Vanderlee
Organist: Yung Sil Chun
8am Pianist: Lucy Zhu
Children & Families Musician: Mary Smith

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: Larry Simon & Jeff Hobbs

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

2026 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

<u>Palm Sunday</u> 3/29/2026	8:00 AM Palm Sunday Eucharist - Rite I 9:00 AM Liturgy of the Palms Begins in St. Matthew's Courtyard 10:30 AM Palm Sunday Eucharist with Parish Choir - Rite II
<u>Maundy Thursday</u> 4/2/2026	7:00 PM Footwashing and Stripping of the Altar - Rite II 9:00 AM Wilderness Stations of the Cross - Inga VanNynatten Hiking Trail 12:00 PM Good Friday Liturgy
<u>Good Friday</u> 4/3/2026	5:00 PM Traditional Stations of the Cross - Sanctuary Children's Good Friday Service - B18/19 7:00 PM Good Friday Liturgy with Parish Choir
<u>Holy Saturday</u> (Easter Vigil) 4/4/2026	8:00 PM Holy Eucharist with Schola Cantorum, Bells & Incense - Rite II Begins in Memorial Garden 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Parish Choir - Rite II *Easter Egg Hunt to follow
<u>Easter Sunday</u> 4/5/2026	11:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Parish Choir - Rite II *Easter Egg Hunt to follow

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.



ST. MATTHEW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

8134 Mesa Drive, Austin, TX 78759

Telephone (512) 345-8314 | Fax (512) 346-2085

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