

# ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



*Les Saintes Femmes au Tombeau - William Adolphe Bouguereau (1825-1905)*

**The Great Vigil of Easter**  
Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
April 4, 2026 – 8:00pm

## **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](mailto:word@stmattsaustin.org), and prayer requests to Susan at [office@stmattsaustin.org](mailto: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](http://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 LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

☞ *This service begins in the Memorial Garden.*

☞ *In the darkness, fire is kindled, after which the Celebrant address the People, saying:*

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

☞ *The Celebrant then says the following prayer:*

Let us pray. O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

☞ *The Paschal Candle is then lit from the newly kindled fire. Please make your way into the Sanctuary at this time.*

☞ *The Deacon bearing the Candle, enters the chancel, pausing three times and singing:*



*Deacon*                      *People*

The light of Christ.      Thanks be to God.

☞ *At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response are sung successively a step higher.*

☞ *The Paschal Candle is then placed in its stand.*

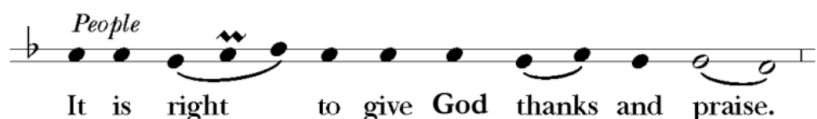
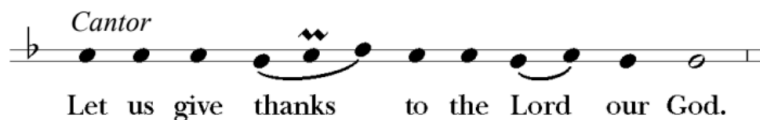
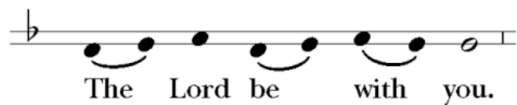
## THE EXSULTET

**Cantor: Marc Erck**

☞ *The candles of the congregation are now lit, beginning from the worship leaders; please tilt unlit candles towards lit candles to minimize wax drips. Please do not light your candle from the aisle torches.*

☞ *The cantor, standing near the Paschal Candle, chants the Exsultet*

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult, let Angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph! Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing and end to gloom and darkness. Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice, arrayed with the lightning of his glory, let this holy building shake with joy, filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.



☛ *The cantor continues:*

It is truly right and just, with ardent love of mind and heart and with devoted service of our voice, to acclaim our God invisible, the Almighty Father, and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son, his Only Begotten. Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the eternal Father, and, pouring out his own dear Blood, wiped clean the record of our ancient sinfulness. These then are the feasts of Passover, in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb, whose Blood anoints the doorposts of believers.

This is the night, when once you led our forebears, Israel's children, from slavery in Egypt and made them pass dry-shod through the Red Sea.

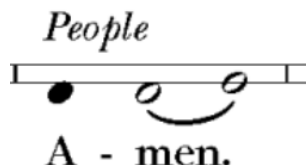
This is the night that, with a pillar of fire, banished the darkness of sin.

This is the night that even now, throughout the world, sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices and from the gloom of sin, leading them to grace and joining them to his holy ones.

This is the night, when Christ broke the prison bars of death and rose victorious from the underworld. O wonder of your humble care for us! O Love, O Charity beyond all telling, to ransom a slave you gave away your Son! O truly necessary sin of Adam, destroyed completely by the Death of Christ! O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer! The sanctifying power of this night dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners.

O truly and blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth, and divine to the human.

On this, your night of grace, O holy Father, accept this candle, a solemn offering, the work of bees and of your servants hands, an evening sacrifice of praise, this gift from your most holy Church. Therefore, O Lord, we pray you, that this candle, hallowed to the honor of your name, may persevere undimmed, to overcome the darkness of this night. Receive it as a pleasing fragrance, and let it mingle with the lights of heaven. May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star: the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son, who, coming back from death's domain, has shed his peaceful light on humanity, and lives and reigns forever and ever.



# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD<sup>1</sup>

☞ *The People extinguish their candles. The Celebrant introduces the Scripture Readings with the following words:*

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

☞ *Please be seated.*

## ABRAHAM'S SACRIFICE OF ISAAC<sup>2</sup>

GENESIS 22:1-18

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

*Reader:*           The Word of the Lord.

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

## THE RESPONSE

The God of Abraham Praise (v.1-3,5)

Hymnal 401

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<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>2</sup> 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.

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them:

"Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

*Reader:*       The Word of the Lord.

*People:*       **Thanks be to God.**

Say to the house of Israel, Thus says the LORD God: I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

## THE RESPONSE

## PSALM 42, and PSALM 43

Psalm 42 - *Quemadmodum* - Responsively by half-verse

- 1 As the deer longs for the water-brooks,  
so longs my soul for you, O God.
- 2 My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God;  
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
- 3 My tears have been my food day and night,  
while all day long they say to me,  
“Where now is your God?”
- 4 I pour out my soul when I think on these things;  
how I went with the multitude and led them into the  
house of God,
- 5 With the voice of praise and thanksgiving,  
among those who keep holy-day.
- 6 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul?  
and why are you so disquieted within me?
- 7 Put your trust in God;  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.
- 8 My soul is heavy within me;  
therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,  
and from the peak of Mizar among the heights of Hermon.
- 9 One deep calls to another in the noise of your cataracts;  
all your rapids and floods have gone over me.
- 10 The LORD grants his loving-kindness in the daytime;  
in the night season his song is with me,  
a prayer to the God of my life.
- 11 I will say to the God of my strength,  
“Why have you forgotten me?  
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy  
oppresses me?”

- 12 While my bones are being broken,  
**my enemies mock me to my face;**
- 13 All day long they mock me  
**and say to me, "Where now is your God?"**
- 14 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul?  
**and why are you so disquieted within me?**
- 15 Put your trust in God;  
**for I will yet give thanks to him,  
 who is the help of my countenance, and my God.**

**Psalm 43 - *Judica me, Deus* - Responsively by whole verse**

- 1 Give judgment for me, O God,  
 and defend my cause against an ungodly people;  
 deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.
- 2 **For you are the God of my strength;  
 why have you put me from you?  
 and why do I go so heavily while the enemy  
 oppresses me?**
- 3 Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me,  
 and bring me to your holy hill  
 and to your dwelling;
- 4 **That I may go to the altar of God,  
 to the God of my joy and gladness;**  
 and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God.
- 5 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul?  
 and why are you so disquieted within me?
- 6 **Put your trust in God;  
 for I will yet give thanks to him,  
 who is the help of my countenance, and my God.**

**THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS**

**BCP 292**

☪ *All stand as they are able.*

*The Celebrant says:*

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

*Celebrant:* Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*People:* **I do.**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People:* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?  
*People:* **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**  
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary.**  
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**  
**was crucified, died, and was buried.**  
**He descended to the dead.**  
**On the third day he rose again.**  
**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  
**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?  
*People:* **I believe in the Holy Spirit,**  
**the holy catholic Church,**  
**the communion of saints,**  
**the forgiveness of sins,**  
**the resurrection of the body,**  
**and the life everlasting.**

*Celebrant:* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows:*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

## **BLESSING OF THE INCENSE & HOLY WATER**

*The Celebrant blesses the incense; and then the Holy Water, using this prayer:*

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit; that those who are hereby reminded of their baptism may be cleansed from sin, and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

*The candles at the Altar may now be lit from the Paschal Candle. Bells are rung, and the People may be asperged (sprinkled) with Holy Water as a reminder of their baptism.*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
 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 made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE EPISTLE

## ROMANS 6:3-11

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

## PSALM 114 *Responsively by whole verse*

## *In extra Israel*

- 1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt,  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 **Judah became God's sanctuary  
and Israel his dominion.**
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled;  
Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 **The mountains skipped like rams,  
and the little hills like young sheep.**
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled?  
O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 **You mountains, that you skipped like rams?  
you little hills like young sheep?**
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 **Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

THE GOSPEL<sup>3</sup>

☞ *Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

**MATTHEW 28:1-10**

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

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

*Clergy:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE HOMILY

**The Rev. Dr. Andrew Benko**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

☞ *Please stand or kneel.*

*Deacon or Priest:*

Filled with Joy on this royal feast of feasts, let us offer prayers to God who has given us the promise of new life in the risen life of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Leader:*

For the holy churches of God, for those everywhere baptized this night, for Sean our Presiding Bishop; for Andy, Kai, Jeff, Hector, and Brian, our bishops; for our parish clergy and lay leaders; for this gathering, and all the holy people of God:

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For the world and all people, for our nation and community and our leaders; for Donald our president, for Greg our governor, for Kirk our mayor, that they may be given to wise action for the common good:

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

<sup>3</sup> **The Gospel** - We stand and face the Gospel book to indicate the importance placed on Jesus's words and actions.

For victims of gun violence, for those marginalized and suffering in systems of oppression, for the dismantling of white supremacy and patriarchy; that the new life of the Resurrection may unravel all the ways we have damaged one another:

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all those in need, the suffering and the oppressed, travelers and prisoners, the dying, and the dead:

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all refugees, for ourselves, our families, and those we love:

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

That with Christ we may crush beneath our feet all the powers of evil:

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

That Christ may fill us with the joy and happiness of his holy resurrection:

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

That we may long for that heavenly feast of rich food and well-aged wines, with all those we love but see no longer, as the shroud of death is destroyed:

**Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

Remembering the most glorious and blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ: To you, O Lord our God.

*The Celebrant concludes with this or some other appropriate collect:*

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for the victory over death of your Son Jesus Christ. Hear the prayers we offer this holy day, and grant that we who have received new life in baptism may live for ever in the joy of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE<sup>4</sup>

BCP 360

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

*People:* **And also with you.**

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<sup>4</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.

# THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE<sup>5</sup>

OFFERTORY HYMN

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing  
One-Time Donation (Via Stripe)

Hymnal 205



THE DOXOLOGY

OLD 100<sup>th</sup>

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.

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:*

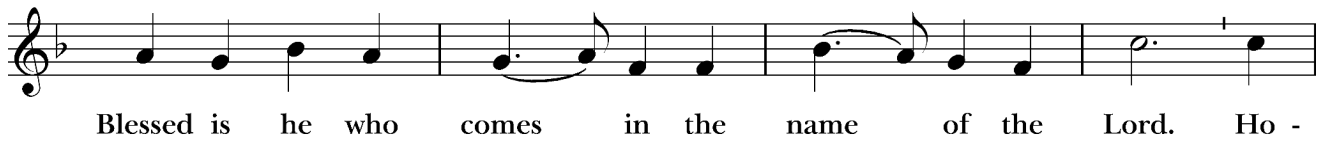
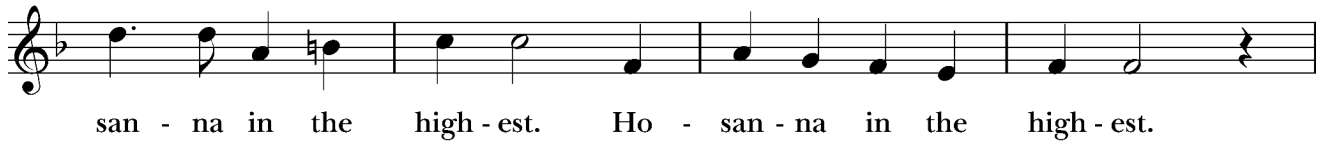
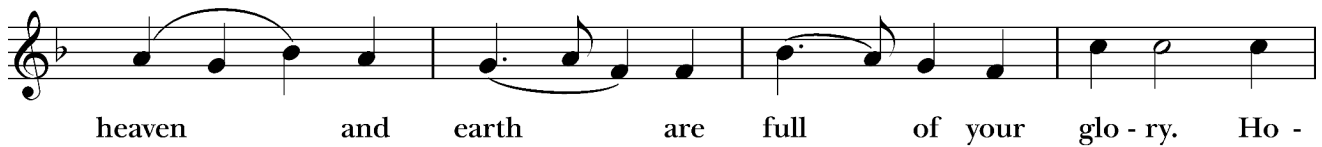
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...(*Proper Preface*)...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Hymnal S125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

<sup>5</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](http://www.onrealm.org/stmattsaustin/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.**

## 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. 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**

This Easter Day

**LEVAS 101**

**Victimae Paschali Laudes - Chant**

**Schola Cantorum**

Christians, to the Paschal victim, offer your thankful praises!  
A lamb the sheep redeemeth:  
Christ, who only is sinless, reconcileth sinners to the Father.  
Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous:  
the Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal.  
Speak, Mary, declaring what thou sawest, wayfaring:  
"The tomb of Christ, who is living, the glory of Jesus' resurrection;  
bright angels attesting, the shroud and napkin resting.  
Yea, Christ my hope is arisen;  
to Galilee he will go before you."  
Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining;  
have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!  
Amen. Alleluia!

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**      🕯️ *Please stand or kneel.*

**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.**

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

He is Risen! He is Risen!

Hymnal 210

## THE DISMISSAL

*The Deacon or Priest dismisses the congregation.*

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

## POSTLUDE

Festive Postlude in C Major

Paul Fey (b.1998)



**Easter Flowers were given to the glory of God, by:**

*Don & Judy Neely (Don & Judy Neely's 54th Wedding Anniversary), Mary Nell Frucella (Thanksgiving for my St. Matt's Family), Joyce Statz & David Hogan, Bob & Pat Yeargain (In memory of Pat's sister Maggie), Tom & Shelby Goodrum (In memory of Dr. St. Elmo Newton), Leon & Kay Whitney, Jill Miller, Del & Rogene Tesar, Jim & Linda Fryer, Merry Wheaton (In memory of Marion McWhorter In memory of Doug Rhodenbaugh), Rick & Karen Krause, Peggy Ryder, Larry & Debbie Simons (In memory of Cammie Simons); Joseph Brown (In memory of my wife Sylvia Brown, and our son, David Brown); Mark Blockus (In memory of Louis, Dan, and David Blockus); Bruce & Janet Newman (In memory of Jeff Newman, Terry Newman, and Ralph Anderson); Carole Taxis & Mary Matus (In memory of Eugene & Patty Matus, and John & Jean Taxis); Verna Hazlewood, Lisa Reed & Pat Brajnikoff (In memory of Richard Reed, and Georgia Routh Slaughter); TJ & Karis Parnham; Mary Koffend; Marty & Amy Novak; James & Dana Young (Happy Easter); Patty Ellen O'Hara (To honor my cousin, Lila Ekblad); Chuck & Pat Brockie Naeve; The Rev. Katie Leuba; Clay & Letty Parker (In memory of H.G. Pool, Gary Parker, and Carolyn Parker); John & Mary Eastberg (In memory of J.R. Eastberg)*

**Cover Art:** *Les Saintes Femmes au Tombeau* - William Adolphe Bouguereau (1825-1905)

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# 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:* Debra Erck & Thomas Parnham

Contact information can be found on our website, [www.stmattsaustrin.org](http://www.stmattsaustrin.org), or by calling the church office.

Remember to check the Weekly Word for all parish events!

## **Easter Sunday**

4/5/2026

**9:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Parish Choir - Rite II**  
\*Easter Egg Hunt to follow

**11:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Parish Choir - Rite II**  
\*Easter Egg Hunt to follow

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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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