

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Jacob's Ladder - William Blake (1757-1827)

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

July 19, 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.

CONNECTION CARD



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; While there, you can click the "Subscribe to Parish News & Events Emails" button to stay in-the-know!

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD¹

PRELUDE

Liturgical Improvisation No. 1

George Oldroyd (1886-1956)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN²

Father, We Praise Thee

Hymnal 1

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 413

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**³

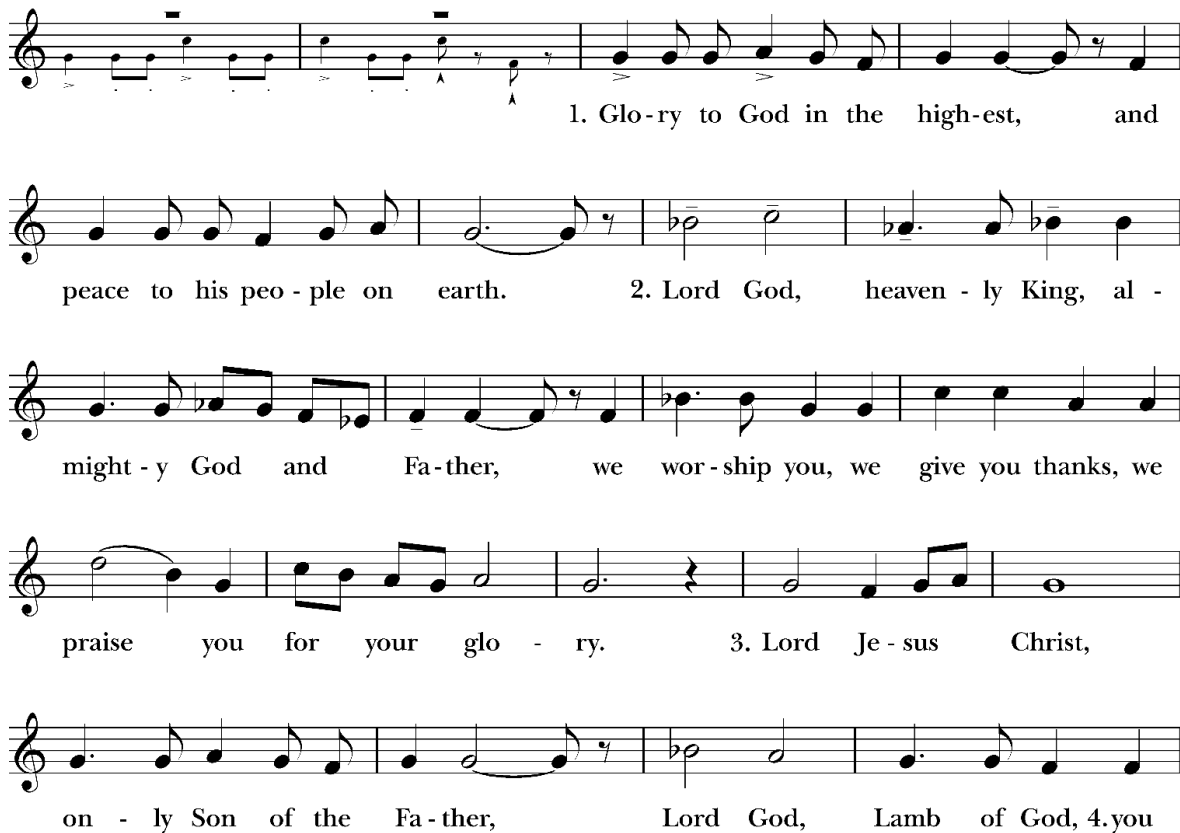
THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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 S278



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

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.

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.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

☞ *Please be seated*

At the discretion of their parents, children are invited to follow the chapel leader downstairs to room B-21 for Children's chapel. They will return to the Sanctuary around the time for The Peace.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 139:1-11, 22-23  *Responsively by half verse*

Domine, probasti

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me;
 you know my sitting down and my rising up;
 you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places
 and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
 but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before
 and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit?
 where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
 if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning
 and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me
 and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,
 and the light around me turn to night,"

⁴ The Episcopal Church follows a three-year cycle of readings called a "Lectionary." These are the same lessons being heard in congregations of all types throughout the world on this day.

- 11 Darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 22 Search me out, O God, and know my heart;
try me and know my restless thoughts.
- 23 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

SECOND LESSON/EPISTLE

ROMANS 8:12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

Almighty God, Your Word is Cast

Hymnal 589

THE GOSPEL⁵ 🕊️ *Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43

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

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

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.

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.

Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Benko

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;**

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.

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

Form III; BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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

☞ *Silence may be held.*

Minister and People:

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant stands and says:

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
 strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

THE PEACE⁸

BCP 360

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

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

People: **And also with you.**

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 above.



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.

⁸ **The Peace** - We affirm our reconciliation with one another as preparation for receiving the Eucharist (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

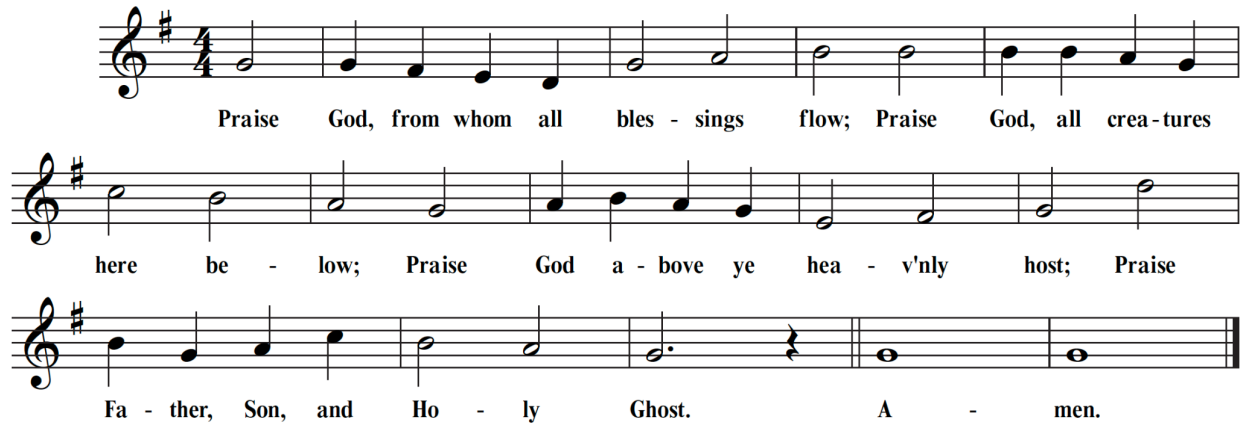
OFFERTORY HYMN

O Master Let me Walk with Thee

Hymnal 660

THE DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER D

BCP 372

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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name as we sing:

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 on the back of this bulletin with your phone's camera.** A notification will appear which will take you to our Realm giving site, www.onrealm.org/stmattsaustrin/give/now.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow - er and might, — hea - ven 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. —

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation...Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People in unison:

**We praise you, we bless you,
 we give thanks to you,
 and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ...Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and 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. Also, here are also members of the Prayer Team in both side aisles of the church, who welcome your prayer requests in person.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

For the Fruit of All Creation

Hymnal 424

Lord, Make us Servants of your Peace

Hymnal 593

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.

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN

How Firm a Foundation (v.1-2, 4-5)

Hymnal 637

THE DISMISSAL¹⁰

The Deacon or Priest dismisses the congregation.

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

POSTLUDE

Marche

Jean-Baptiste Maillochaud (

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

Interim Family Ministries Director: Kelli Hughes
Finance Manager: Pat Brajnikoff
Office Manager: Susan Kerr
Parish Administrator: Lisa Kay Pfannenstiel
Communications Assistant: Amanda Gentry
Sextons: Carly & Gabriel
Chef: Robert Mayberry
Head of Day School: Page Race
Wardens: Doug Webster & Pat Naeve
Vestry of the Month: Larry Simons & Rogene Tesar

Contact information can be found on our website, www.stmattsaustin.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://stmattsaustin.org/st-matts-2026-bible-challenge/>
- July 22 - 5pm, Family Picnic, Youth Center
- August 8 - 3pm-5pm, Luann Barrow Book Launch Party, Huffman Hall
- August 16 - Backpack Sunday
- Sept. 20 - St. Matthew's Day photo and Lunch - Remember to wear red if possible!

WEEKLY WORD



Interested in becoming an Episcopalian, or curious to learn more about the Episcopal Church?

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



MAKE A ONE-TIME GIFT (via Stripe)

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday, 9:00am - 4:00pm – Appointments to meet with clergy and staff are recommended. Please contact office@stmattsaustin.org or (512) 345-8314 to set an appointment with clergy, and for staff, one may 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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