



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

A Neighborhood Church with a Worldwide Community

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Please stand if you are able during the portions indicated by a +. The congregation is invited to say the words in **bold** and to sing along to the music printed in the bulletin or in the red hymnals in the backs of the pews.

Please be aware that we live-stream our services on Facebook and your image may appear in the video.

If you do not want your image to appear, please speak to an usher.

We are committed to children and youth meeting God in worship. For that reason we have a staffed nursery downstairs, a play area in the Parish Hall, and a PrayGround at the right front of the sanctuary, where you can sit together with your children so they have a space to wiggle when needed and they have age-appropriate resources to keep their hands busy. In the PrayGround, please be extra gentle with each other, help each other be respectful of one another's space and safety, and help each other reflect prayerful voices and movements.

GATHERING

+ **Opening Hymn** "Jesus, Our Mighty Lord, Our Strength in Sadness" *Hymnal #478*

+ **Acclamation**

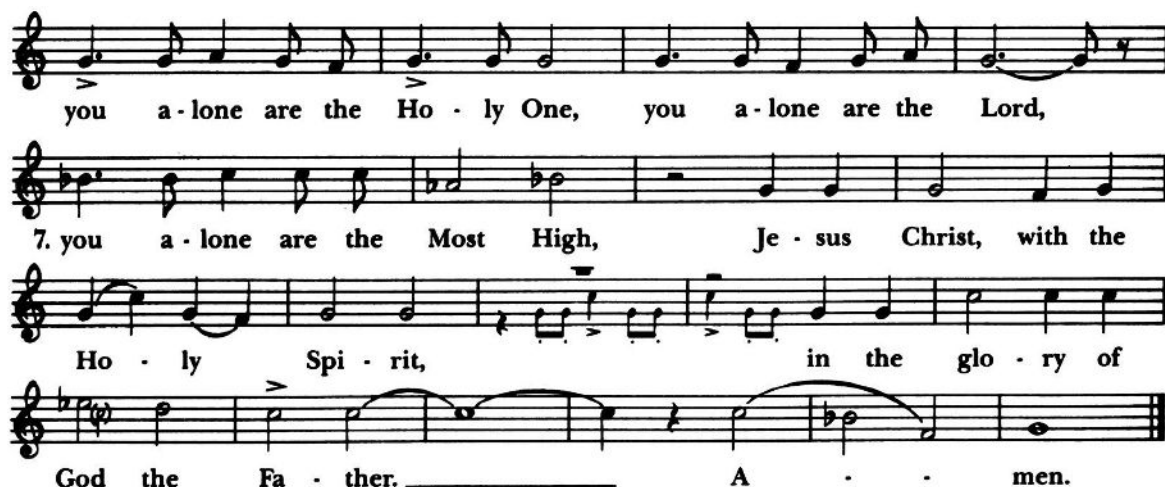
Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

+ **Welcome and Opening Prayer**

+ **Gloria in excelsis**

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



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+ Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

WORD *Please be seated.*

Kiersten: We now sit and listen to what God might have to say to us in scripture.

First Lesson *Acts 9:36–43*

In Joppa there was a woman named Tabitha, who was a believer. (Her name in Greek is Dorcas, meaning “a deer.”) She spent all her time doing good and helping the poor. At that time she got sick and died. Her body was washed and laid in a room upstairs. Joppa was not very far from Lydda, and when the believers in Joppa heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him with the message, “Please hurry and come to us.”

So Peter got ready and went with them. When he arrived, he was taken to the room upstairs, where all the widows crowded around him, crying and showing him all the shirts and coats that Dorcas had made while she was alive. Peter put them all out of the room, and knelt down and prayed; then he turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up!” She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. Peter reached over and helped her get up.

Then he called all the believers, including the widows, and presented her alive to them. The news about this spread all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Peter stayed on in Joppa for many days with a tanner of leather named Simon.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 (*please remain seated ~ congregation sings verses in **bold***)



J Michael Compton.

The Psalms are prayers and songs to God from ancient Jewish worship that speak so powerfully to the human condition that they were incorporated into the Bible. Sometimes, they lift up voices of joyful praise. Other times, they speak from the places of deepest lament and sorrow.

The LORD is my /shepherd; *
I shall not be in /want.
He makes me lie down in green /pastures *
and leads me beside still /waters.

He revives my /soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his /Name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no /evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they /comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who /trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running /over.
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my /life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for /ever.

+ **Gospel Acclamation** (*cantor begins, the people repeat "Alleluia"*)



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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Verse: I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

+ **Gospel Reading** *John 10:22–30*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

It was winter, and the Festival of the Dedication of the Temple was being celebrated in Jerusalem. Jesus was walking in Solomon's Porch in the Temple, when the people gathered around him and asked, "How long are you going to keep us in suspense? Tell us the plain truth: are you the Messiah?"

Jesus answered, "I have already told you, but you would not believe me. The deeds I do by my Father's authority speak on my behalf; but you will not believe, for you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never die. No one can snatch them away from me. What my Father has given me is greater than everything, and no one can snatch them away from the Father's care. The Father and I are one."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

followed by silence

The Rev. Dave McEachron

+ **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;**

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.

**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. Amen.**

+ **Prayers of the People**

Place your hands together in prayer and move them back and forth.

(hands at forehead) **God be in my head and in my thinking.**

(hands at mouth) **God be in my mouth and in my speaking.**

(hands at heart) **God be in my heart and in my loving.**

(hands open palms up) **God be in my hands and in my helping.**

For our community of friends and family, their concerns, and celebrations, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For our church, our leaders and all the people who are trying to make good in this world, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For our country, our states, our cities and our families, and especially all of those in need, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For all the people who are at war, in trouble, or have problems, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For peace on earth, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For those in need of clean water, food, housing and education, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the earth, and all the lands, waters, creatures, and people that live there, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Presider: We bring all our prayers together with those of the saints on earth and heaven as we say: Merciful Father, accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, Our Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Confession and Absolution (*please kneel as you are able*)

We have done what was wrong in your sight and chosen what has displeased you.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

As a mother comforts her child so shall you comfort us.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Let us return to you, for you know our every deed and thought.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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.**

+ Peace

Kiersten: Jesus gave his disciples a message of peace which they were to share with everyone.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

TABLE

Offertory

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

“Lo, My Shepherd’s Hand Divine”

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

Lo, my Shepherd’s hand divine! Want shall never more be mine.

When I faint with summer’s heat, He shall lead my weary feet

To the streams that, still and slow, Through the verdant meadow flow.

—James Merrick (1720–1769), after Psalm 23: 1–2

+ Eucharistic Prayer

Kiersten: Now we come to the special time when we remember the night before Jesus died.

At the Passover meal he broke bread and shared wine.

Jesus asked us to do it over and over again to be with him as closely as possible.

The bread and the wine will become his body and blood, which he gave on the cross for the life of the World.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

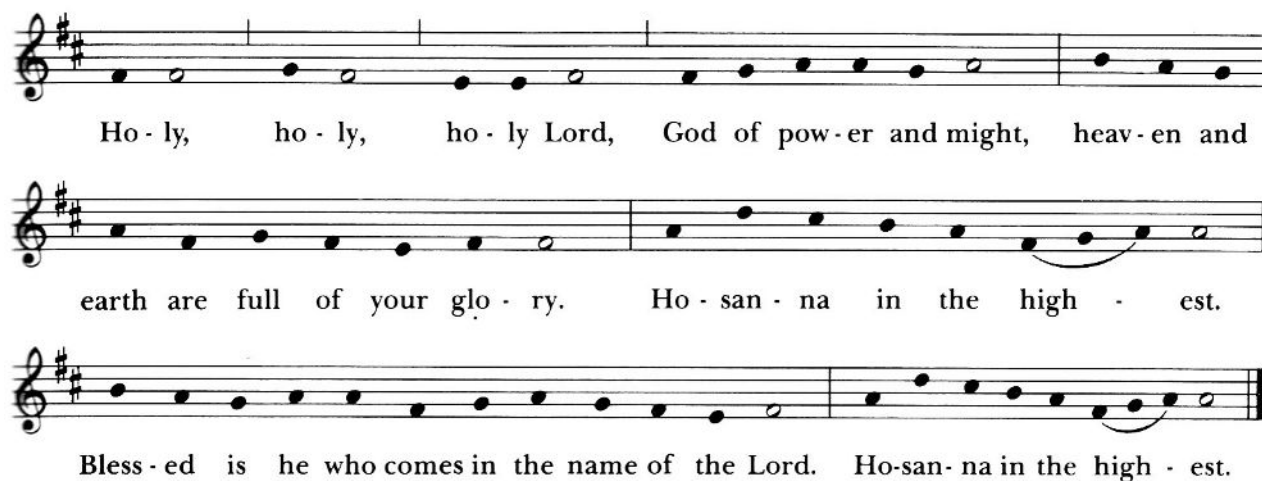
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

+ **Sanctus and benedictus**



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

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Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with Matthew, Beatrice, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

+ The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

+ The Breaking of the Bread

+ Fraction Anthem

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is

sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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+ Invitation to Communion

The table of bread and wine is now made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus and all those who love him. So come to this table you who have much faith, and you who would like to have more. You who have been to this sacrament often and you who have not been in a long time. You who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. Come, it is Christ who invites us to meet Him here.

Communion

All are welcome at Christ's table. Please come forward to receive communion.

If you cannot come forward for communion, please let an usher know and a clergy person will come to you.

We offer bread broken from a common loaf and wine from a common cup. The church teaches that you have received fully if you only receive the bread. If you choose to receive the wine, you are encouraged to drink directly from the common cup rather than to dip.

There are also individually-wrapped gluten-free wafers and a pewter chalice reserved for gluten-free.

If you would like the prayer team to pray for you, another person or family, or a local or global situation, please come to the side chapel after receiving communion. Please let them know if you would prefer they wear a mask.

Hymn During Communion


"Song of the Body of Christ"

Refrain



We come to share our sto - ry, we
come to break the bread, We come to know our
ris - ing from the dead.

Verses



1. We come as your peo - ple, we
2. We are called to heal the bro - ken, to be
3. Bread of life and cup of prom - ise, in this
4. You will lead and we shall fol - low, you will
5. We will live and sing your prais - es, "Al - le -
come as your own, u - nit - ed with each
hope for the poor, we are called to feed the
meal we all are one. In our dy - ing and our
be the breath of life; liv - ing wa - ter, we are
lu - ia" is our song. May we live in love and
oth - er, love finds a home.
hun - gry at our door.
ris - ing, may your king - dom come.
thirst - ing for your light.
peace our whole life long.

D.C.

Words by David Haas, Traditional Hawaiian tune (NO KE ANO' AHI AHI) © 1989, GIA Publications, Inc.
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+ Postcommunion Prayer

Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth a people
forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

SENDING

+ Sending of Eucharistic Visitors (*when requested*)

N., in the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that N., 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

Kiersten: When the service is over we are sent back into the world with the blessing of God.

He sends us out to be good and kind and to be the children He made us to be.

This is what we call the Blessing.

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's ambassador in this world. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

+ Closing Hymn

"Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing"

Hymnal #334

+ The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve our God.

Thanks be to God.

If you are new to St. Matthew's and would like to learn more about our church, you are invited to come forward immediately after the service for a seven-minute welcome led by Birdie Carter.

All are invited downstairs following the service for food and fellowship at the Coffee Hour.

Scripture readings next week (The Fifth Sunday of Easter):

Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

Announcements

Faith Formation

St. Matthew's offers faith formation for all ages each week at 9:15 am during the academic year. For more information on Sunday School and youth group, please contact Mia Millares at kids@stmatthewsmn.org. For more information on the Faith Forum, please contact Chris Lilley at chrisl@stmatthewsmn.org. For more information on the Sunday Morning Book Group, please contact Linda López at lindablopez@gmail.com.

Nursery

The nursery is open each Sunday. Parents are welcome to drop off their children in the nursery downstairs near the bathrooms starting at 10:15 am.

Women's Spiritual Retreat

The Guild of the Black Madonna, the women's group at Holy Trinity, have invited the women of our parish to join them for a joint retreat on **Saturday, May 17**, titled "Walking in Grace: A Journey of Faith." The focus will be on walking through life with God's grace and growing spiritually together. The retreat will be at Holy Trinity (1636 Van Buren Ave, near Hamline University) from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. If you would like to attend, please register at tinyurl.com/walking-in-grace. If you have any questions, please contact Lars at admin@holyltrinitystpaul.org.

Open Church

On Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 2:00 to 5:00 pm, we open our church to welcome any who wish to enter for prayer, rest, or to have a look around. We need volunteers to monitor the door and assist if anything arises. Shifts will each be one hour long, with two volunteers in each shift. If you can volunteer for a slot, please do so at stmatthewsmn.org/open-church.

Saturday Night Movies and Chats

Dave McEachron is organizing a monthly get-together for casual moviegoers and cinephiles who love to watch and discuss all types of films, hosted in our library. The next movie will be *Lars and the Real Girl* (2007), screening this **Saturday, May 17**, at 7:00 pm.

MICAH Speakers Bureau

During the Faith Forum at 9:15 am next **Sunday, May 18**, we welcome a panel of three speakers from MICAH who will talk about their own lived experience of either being homeless or currently fighting to stay in homes. They are open to questions after their brief presentations. Elaine Tarone will serve as moderator.

Social Justice Ministry Fair

After our morning Eucharist next **Sunday, May 18**, come downstairs to learn about the active social justice ministries at St. Matthew's! As you may have seen in our booklet, we have over a dozen regular programs that we contribute our time and treasure to, including the Blue House, Loaves and Fishes, Project Home, and many others. There will be tables with representatives from each of our ministries, so you can learn about them and decide where you feel called to help out.

Spiritual Practice for the Easter Season: The Examen

Become aware of God's presence.

Reflect on the day with gratitude.

What was lifegiving?

What was lifetaking?

Pray into what was lifetaking today.

Prayer list

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Nippon Sei Ko Kai.

ECMN Intercessory Calendar: Please pray for all academic graduates, for all educational institutions, and for the specialized chaplaincies in those institutions. Remember especially Breck School and Shattuck-St. Mary's and their chaplains, Circle of the Beloved, University Episcopal Community, and all those who work with campus ministries.

Prayers: Wendy, Cindy, Bridget, Cathy, the Trans community, Winnie, Kristine, Laura, Katrina, Larry and Pam, Ray, Lance and Chris, Rosie, Birdie, Pat, Nancy, Bonnie, Chris, Sarah, and family, Mary, Elaine, Evelynne, Callum and Boden, June, Jarrett, Jon, Martha, James and Barbara, Richard, Larry, Tom and Elaine, Nevin, Judy, Ruth and family, Jewel, Ken, Michael, Michele, Gail.

Deceased: (*Parish History*) Amelia Army, Raymond W. Enghusen, L. Frederick Martin, Lyman (Doc) R. Milburn, John O. Tanner, Ann Griffiths, Denis Dailey, Robert Eugene Bulger, John Vere De Vere Hunt.

Your generous contributions make the ministries of our church possible. If you are a person for whom St. Matthew's Episcopal Church provides a spiritual home or respite, a place to gather, pray, and seek God, we hope you will make a contribution to sustain our shared life of faith. To give securely and easily online, scan



Congregational Calendar

Sunday, May 11 The Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 9:15 am Sunday School (Parish Hall)
- 9:15 am Sunday Morning Book Group (Gathering Room)
- 9:15 am Faith Forum (library)
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Dave McEachron preaching (sanctuary)
- 11:45 am Coffee Hour (Parish Hall)

Wednesday, May 14

- 12:00 noon Noonday Eucharist and Lunch (Parish Hall or Zoom)
- 7:00 pm Choir practice (sanctuary)

Thursday, May 15

- 12:00 noon SAPAS Lunch (Parish Hall)
- 6:00 pm Monthly MICA Meeting (Zoom)
- 7:00 pm Cooks' Night Out (Babani's Kurdish Restaurant)

Saturday, May 17

- 9:30 am Centering Prayer (library)
- 10:00 am Women's Spiritual Retreat (Holy Trinity)
- 10:00 am East Metro Mission Area Gathering (Christ Church, Woodbury)
- 7:00 pm Movies and Chats: *Lars and the Real Girl* (library)

Sunday, May 18 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 9:15 am Sunday School (Parish Hall)
- 9:15 am Sunday Morning Book Group (Gathering Room)
- 9:15 am MICA Speakers Bureau (library)
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Christopher Rogers preaching (sanctuary)
- 11:45 am Social Justice Ministry Fair (Parish Hall)
- 12:00 noon Crafting and Fellowship (library)

All weekdays

- 8:00 am Daily Morning Prayer (Zoom)

*For more information about any of these offerings or the Zoom links,
please email office@stmatthewsmn.org.*

St. Matthew's staff

The Rev. Christopher Rogers, Rector, rector@stmatthewsmn.org

The Rev. Dave McEachron, Curate, dave@stmatthewsmn.org

MiaLisa McFarland Millares, Director of Children's and Youth Ministry, kids@stmatthewsmn.org

J Michael Compton, Music Director, jmichaelcompton@aol.com

Lars Christensen, Office Manager and Communications Director, office@stmatthewsmn.org

Fariba Sanikhatam, Bookkeeper, bookkeeper@stmatthewsmn.org

Wardens

Barrett Fisher, Senior Warden, barrettf215@gmail.com

Lis Christenson, Junior Warden, lisdc@comcast.net

Ministry leaders

Liz O'Toole, Altar Guild

Judy Johnson, Healing Ministry

Kate Vold and Cathy Wilkowske, Acolytes

Gwen Odney, Readers and Prayer Leaders

Eric Odney, Ushers

Laura Bathke, Vergers

Today's worship leaders

Frankie Billing, reader

Kiersten Millares, gospeler and commentator

Sophia Powell, prayer leader

Kennedy Nyenya, verger

Jonah Powell, crucifer

Sophia Anderson and Annika White, torchbearers

Barrett Fisher and Nancy Przymus, ushers

Janet Murphy and Katie White, chalice bearers

Hana Randle, Liz O'Toole, and Nancy Alholm, Altar Guild

Sherry Latty and Susan Stember, Healing Prayer

Paul Kiehne, live-streaming

Mollie Jenkins and Liam Kiehne, nursery

Emily Kingston and Olivia Kingston, childcare assistants

Birdie Carter, seven-minute welcome

Amy Fisher and Mike Lopez, counters

Elizabeth Hosch, hospitality team coordinator

Christopher Sibilia, cantor

Jenny Bach, Peter Cartford, Lars Christensen, David Colwell (on leave), Laura Corcoran,

Heather Craig, Kristine Granias, Lynn Jenkins, Judy Jones, Susan Jones, Dave McKenna,

Isaac Olurotimi (on leave), Christopher Sibilia, Daniel Sinaga (on leave), and Dave Wilkowske, choir

Steve Riendl, organist

Lars Christensen, deputy music director



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2136 Carter Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108 + 651-645-3058

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