GATHERING

+ Opening Hymn

“Built on a Rock the Church Shall Stand”


+ Acclamation

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
Glory to God for ever and ever.

+ Collect (Prayer) for Purity (said by all)

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.

+ Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.
Please be seated.

First Lesson Isaiah 51:1–6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

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

Psalm 138 (please remain seated ~ congregation sings verses in bold)

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with /my whole heart; *
before the gods I will /sing your praise.
I will bow down toward your holy temple and /praise your Name, *
because of your /love and faithfulness;

For you have glori-/fied your Name * and your word a-/bove all things.
When I /called, you answered me; * you increased my /strength within me.

All the kings of the earth will praise /you, O LORD, * when they have heard the /words of your mouth.
They will sing of the ways /of the LORD, * that great is the glory /of the LORD.

Though the LORD be high, he cares /for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty /from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you /keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right /hand shall save me.

The LORD will make good his pur-/pose for me; *
O LORD, your love endures for ever; do not abandon the works /of your hands.
Second Lesson Romans 12:1–8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

Thanks be to God.

+ Gospel Acclamation (cantor begins, all repeat) “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

Verse: Upon this rock I will build my Church; against it the gates of hell will not prevail.

+ Gospel Reading Matthew 16:13–20

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Followed by silence
Nicene Creed

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

The Nicene Creed is a confession of faith from the fourth century that affirms the two great mysteries of Christian faith: that ultimate reality (God) is a community of love (the Trinity) and that God joins us in our life and suffering (the Incarnation of Jesus). We say it in unity with followers of Jesus around the world and across the ages.
For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Craig our Bishop, Christopher our coming Rector, and all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in God’s Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence—The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence—The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence—The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

+ Confession

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presider: 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

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

TABLE

+ Offertory

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

Followed by silence

+ Offertory

When we’ve heard God’s word from the Bible and the sermon, and offered our communal prayers for the healing of ourselves and all of creation, we take a moment to be honest about our brokenness—and to hear God’s steadfast promise of forgiveness and mercy. We then share the peace with each other as a sign of our reconciliation in Christ.

The offertory regathers us as we begin Holy Communion. Historically, congregants brought forward the bread and wine for the offering. We now begin to offer all that we have to God, receiving it back, remade and renewed by God’s love.
Eucharistic Prayer

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.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

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

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

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

Sanctus and benedictus

Cantor sings first time, people sing on repeat

Le lo le lo lay lo, le lo le lo lay lo,

Cantor sings first

le lo le lo lay lo, lo le lo le lo lay.

San-to, san-to,

Cantor sings first time

san-to Dios de glo-ria y po-der. Cie-los y tie-rra pro-

cla-man tu glo-ria. glo-ria. Ho-sa-na, ho-sa-na, ho-

People,


Cantor sings first time, People sing on repeat

cie-los. Ben-di-to a-quel que vie-ne en el nom-bre de Dios.
And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

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

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

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

+ 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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

+ 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, without exception._

_Please stay in your place; the communion ministers will bring communion to you._

_We offer pita bread broken from a common loaf, which you may dip into a common chalice._

_You can also take individually-wrapped gluten-free wafers or individual containers of grape juice from a basket._

_We also have a chalice reserved for gluten-free, which will be brought to those who request it._

_Please choose whichever you prefer._

_If you do not wish to receive bread and wine, but would like a blessing, please cross your hands over your chest._

Hymn During Communion

“Seek Ye First”

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Post-Communion Prayer

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.

Sending of Eucharistic Visitors (when requested)

Vant and Marilyn, in the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that Pat and Juola Haga, to whom you go, may share with us in the communion of Christ’s body and blood.

We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

Closing Hymn

“Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing”


The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve our God. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

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 Michelle Chiezah.

Scripture readings next week:
Jeremiah 15:15–21; Psalm 26:1–8; Romans 12:9–21; Matthew 16:21–28
Announcements

Faith Formation
St. Matthew’s offers faith formation for all ages each week during the academic year. Regular weekly meetings are currently on hiatus for the summer and will return on **Sunday, October 1**.

Outdoor Worship
Each week during the summer when the weather cooperates, we worship in the grove of trees on the north side of College Park, across the street from our church, past the playground and tennis courts. Please bring a chair or blanket to sit on. In case of bad weather, there will be an announcement sent over CCB and we gather in the church sanctuary. We will return to indoor worship on **Sunday, September 24**.

August Vacations and Wednesday Service
The office is now on break and will resume regular office hours **Wednesday, September 6**. If you need something, you can make an appointment by emailing Lars at **lars@stmatthewsmn.org**. Michael is also on vacation this week and next; thanks to Christopher Sibilla for stepping in to lead the musicians. Noonday Eucharist is on hiatus until **Wednesday, September 20**, but we hold Zoom Noonday Prayer each Wednesday at noon, following the Book of Common Prayer and the gospel reading for the following Sunday. For more information and the link, please contact Marilyn Grantham at **m.grantham@comcast.net**.

Hattitude Sunday
Today is Hattitude Sunday! You are invited to don your finest haberdashery for our outside worship service. Show off your personal style, cultural background, or family heirlooms.

Loaves and Fishes
We are serving at Loaves and Fishes this afternoon. If you have any questions, please contact Loaves and Fishes coordinator Mahlon Collins at **mahlon@umn.edu**.

Crafting Group
The crafting and fellowship group will meet after the service today. Starting in September, on the first and third Sundays, we will meet from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm, outside if it is nice, inside when it is not. On the second and fourth Thursdays, we will meet on Zoom from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. All are welcome to join any week! If you have any questions, please contact Linda Lopez at **lindablopez@gmail.com**.

Farewell to Dave McEachron
Today is Dave’s next-to-last week with us. We will formally say farewell to him and his family during the service next **Sunday, September 3** and at the farewell luncheon to follow in the Parish Hall.

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**Spiritual Practice for Late Summer: Centering Prayer**

Centering Prayer is a receptive method of Christian silent prayer which deepens our relationship with God, the Indwelling Presence … a prayer in which we can experience God’s presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself. Try this for 5 or 10 minutes the first time.

1. Choose a sacred word as the symbol of your intention to consent to God’s presence and action within.

2. Sitting comfortably and with eyes closed, settle briefly and silently introduce the sacred word as the symbol of your consent to God’s presence and action within.

3. When engaged with your thoughts, return ever-so-gently to the sacred word.

4. At the end of the prayer period, remain in silence with eyes closed for a couple of minutes.

If you would like to practice in community, a group meets every Saturday at 9:30 am in the library and on Zoom to engage in Centering Prayer together. You are welcome to join; please contact Marilyn Grantham at **m.grantham@comcast.net** for details.
Diaper Drive for Casa Maria
Casa Maria at St. Nicholas’s in Richfield is in great need of diapers and wipes. They are accepting all sizes of diapers. Please leave donations on the chairs across from the office. The last day to donate will be Sunday, September 3. If you have questions, please talk to Margaret Whitworth or email her at mh.whitworth52@gmail.com.

State Fair
The State Fair is underway and runs until Monday, September 4. Sometimes traffic in this area can be slow, and parking may be more difficult, so please plan accordingly. If you are planning to go to the fair other than during a worship service time, feel free to park in the spaces in the alley behind the church. Be aware that the street parking rules are enforced much more stringently than at other times.

Women’s Retreat
All women are invited to join our retreat at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church on Saturday, October 7 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. This year, Dr. Rev. Dorothy White will be our guest speaker and we will make fun crafts to be sold at the Blue House Boutique. Meanwhile, we will reflect and build on our own spiritual growth. Please RSVP by Saturday, September 30 to Holy Trinity at holytrinity2019@gmail.com.

Prayer list

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui 香港聖公會.

Prayers: Margaret, John, Nevin, Dennis, Bob, Judy and Susan, Jerry and family, Ruth and family, Susan, Gloria and Betsy, Geri, Elissa, and Jason, Louise, Liz, Martha, and family, Roger, Meg, Maddy, Kate, Chris and Kristine, Mary, Lenny, Anne, Susan and family, Cecelia, Pamela, Katy, Jewel, Lynn, Steve, Sam, Carol and Robyn, Betty, Tim, Mary, Ken, Pat and Juola, Michael, Don, Michele, Gail, Raquel and family, Larry and Pam.

Deceased: (Parish History) Frances Fox, David Briggs, Solomon McAlpine, George Lindsey McKewin, Allan Loomis, Helen Robbins Salmon, Julie Nelson Gurney, Gert Andries VanderSluis, Ida Wray, George Burgess Boyd, Dorothy Caapron Harris, Katherine Southall Corning, Elmer Vong, Earl Hartwick Benson, Marie Elizabeth Heron.
St. Matthew’s staff

Dave McEachron, Liturgy Coordinator, dave@stmatthewsmn.org
The Rev. Vant Washington, Deacon, deacon@stmatthewsmn.org
The Rev. Marcia Hunter, Pastoral Care Priest, marciahunter031@gmail.com
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

Rosa Uy, Senior Warden, rosauy@aol.com
Terese Lewis, Junior Warden, lewiskiehne@gmail.com

Ministry leaders

Elizabeth O’Toole, Altar Guild
Judy Johnson, Healing Ministry
Marilyn Grantham and Cathy Wilkowske, Acolytes
Gwen Odney, Readers and Prayer Leaders
Laura Bathke, Vergers

Today’s worship leaders

The Rev. Gwen Powell, celebrant
Dave McEachron, preacher
Lars Christensen and Dave McEachron, readers
Katie White, prayer leader
Laura Bathke, verger
Mike and Linda Lopez, ushers
Vicki McKenna, Gwen Odney, Marie Ström, and Cathy Wilkowske, chalice bearers
Michelle Chiezah, seven-minute welcome
Sarah Cole, Aine Johnson, and Joan Lessner, childcare
Vant Washington and Marilyn Grantham, Eucharistic visitors
Dave Wilkowske and Amy Fisher, counters
Christopher Sibilia, cantor and deputy music director
Jenny Bach, Lars Christensen, Mahlon Collins, Heather Craig, Elaine Eyre, Kathryn Grambsch,
Kristine Granias, Lynn Jenkins, Susan Jones, Christopher Sibilia, and Dave Wilkowske, choir
Janet Murphy, flute
Tina Maynor, trumpet
Richard Burns, trombone
J Michael Smith, bass
Lars Christensen, steelpan