

# Palm Sunday

HOSANNAH IN THE HIGHEST

**Palm Sunday**  
Sunday, April 13, 2025  
9:30 AM Service

CELEBRATE  
**EASTER**  
HE IS RISEN

**6:00 AM | Outdoor Easter Sunrise Service & Brunch**

Start your Easter day with a breathtaking Outdoor Sunrise Service, featuring Paschal fire and music by Kevin and Christine Merola-Wenzel. Afterward, enjoy a festive Easter Brunch in the Parish Hall.

**9:30 AM | Festival Easter Service**

Join us for an uplifting Festival Worship led by the 930 Band and Horn Trio, as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Your kids will love our 'taste of VBS' Easter program.

**10:30 AM | Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Meet with the Easter Bunny**

Join us for our annual Easter egg hunt (only 1 this year) between the 9:30 and 11:15 AM services.

**11:15 AM | Classic Easter Service**

Experience a heartfelt celebration with Choir, Flute, and Strings as we mark the resurrection of our Lord. Plus, our Children's Easter Drama Workshop gives your kids the chance to step into the Easter story and make it their own.

[stmmts.org/Easter](http://stmmts.org/Easter)

## WELCOME

We know that going to church or to a new church for the first time can be nerve-racking. We want to help make your first experience at St. Matthew's a great one!

If this is your first visit to Saint Matthew's, we welcome you. Please join us between services for coffee, tea and refreshments in the Parish Hall. For more information about our community, visit our website [www.stmmts.org](http://www.stmmts.org). We are so glad you are here!



## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized Christians are welcome to participate in communion. If you would like to receive, simply place one hand on top of the other, palms up, and the priest will place bread in your hand. You may then consume the wafer. If for any reason you prefer to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Would you like to learn more about baptism? Please contact our office via email at [Office@stmmts.org](mailto:Office@stmmts.org) or phone at 703-430-2121.

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST

The Saint Matthew's intercessory prayer list is for those in or related to our community who are in need of prayer. It is designed so that all members of our community can pray for each other on an ongoing basis. In order to pray for those on the list, simply ask God to be with them and help them in any way needed - God knows what is going on, so we don't need to.

### Please pray for the following:

Sean, Sieg, Chuck, Lea, Bonnie, Arthur, John G, Glo, Deb, Teresa, Mel, Eric, Debbie, Marshall, Ruth, Rennie, Arianna, Jeanine, Hunter, Robyn, Emma, Frances, Christy, Nick, Gus, Aldana, Clint, Chelsea, Edgar, Rusty, Anne, Shelby, Kiera, Marty, Candace, Gerry, Becky, RL, Panita, Jane, Kevin, John, Ome, Renee, Grace, Kristina, Freya, Ava, Steve, Natalie, Kristen, Sophia, Sadie, Shaundra, Larry, Don, Fabiano, Luke, John, Brenda, Pete, Valorie, Cathy, Naomi, Dan, Christy, Dennis, Diane, Brent, Mary, Sybil, Judy, James, Rick, Avery, Emory, Mario, Molly, Cooper, Rose, Sarah, Jessica, Jay, Amanda, Venessa, Desira, Rose, Sarah, Natalie D, Natalie S, Paul, Katy, Randy, Maura, Kaufman Family, Rinker Family, Blair Family, Colon Family, Suaib Family, Gonzalez Family, Omar, Mona, Tala, Dima, Carter, Jean, Martha, Tony, Nancy, Clara, Elijah, Maria, Bob, Cindy, Don, Megan, Ian, Marielle, Sharp Family, Mila, Moreau Family, Pat, Heather, Marilyn, Katie, Madison, Karen, Marcy, Barbara, Katt, Jenn, Charles, John, Arlene, and Darla.

If you or someone you care about are in need of Pastoral Care, please call 703-430-2121.



# PALM SUNDAY



Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Revised Common Lectionary

Sunday, April 13, 2025

## The Liturgy of the Palms

*When circumstances permit, the congregation may gather at a place apart from the church, so that all may go into the church in procession. The branches of palm or of other trees or shrubs to be carried in the procession may be distributed to the people before the service, or after the prayer of blessing.*

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.  
*Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.*

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

ASSIST US MERCIFULLY WITH YOUR HELP, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### LUKE 19:28-40

JESUS WENT ON AHEAD, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**Celebrant:** It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The following or some other suitable anthem may be sung or said.*

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
*Hosanna in the highest.*

### *The Procession*

**Deacon:** Let us go forth in peace.

**People:** In the name of Christ. Amen.

*During the procession, all hold branches in their hands, and appropriate hymns, the suggested Psalm (Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29), or anthems are sung. At a suitable place, the procession may halt while the following or some other appropriate Collect is said.*

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*When the Liturgy of the Palms immediately precedes the Eucharist, the celebration begins with the Salutation and Collect of the Day.*

*To find the Passion Gospel, simply unfold this page.*

## COLLECT

*Traditional*

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Contemporary*

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

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

THE LORD GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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### Refrain

Have mercy on me, O Lord.

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**Psalm 31:9-16** *from the Book of Common Prayer*

- 9 Have mercy on me, O LORD,  
for I am in trouble; \* my eye  
is consumed with sorrow, and  
also my throat and my belly.
- 10 For my life is wasted with  
grief, and my years with  
sighing; \* my strength fails  
me because of affliction, and  
my bones are consumed.
- 11 I have become a reproach  
to all my enemies and  
even to my neighbors, a  
dismay to those of my  
acquaintance; \* when they  
see me in the street they  
avoid me.
- 12 I am forgotten like a dead  
man, out of mind; \* I am as  
useless as a broken pot.
- 13 For I have heard the  
whispering of the crowd; fear  
is all around; \* they put  
their heads together against  
me; they plot to take my life.
- 14 But as for me, I have trusted  
in you, O LORD. \* I have said,  
“You are my God.
- 15 My times are in your  
hand; \* rescue me from the  
hand of my enemies, and  
from those who persecute  
me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon  
your servant, \* and in your  
loving-kindness save me.”

**SECOND READING:** Philippians 2:5-11

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

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## YOUTH GROUP

Activities, connection, and conversation designed specifically for middle & high school students.

Scan the QR Code to stay up to date with all the youth happenings, or contact our Youth Minister, Ben at Ben.Merola@stmtts.org.



## DONUTS & DISCOVERY Sundays at 9:30AM

Students are invited to join us for donuts and engaging faith discussions tailored just for them.

## TREE OF LIFE MEAL PREP SUNDAY, MAY 18, 4:30-7:30PM

Meet at church to prepare dinner for 70 people at the weekly Tree of Life dinner. Help our local neighbors by providing a warm, delicious meal. Dinner will be provided.

## SUMMER MISSION TRIP AUGUST 2-8 TO FLORIDA!

Join us as we serve communities, grow in faith, and make lasting memories. Before we head home, we'll take our minions on a detour to Universal Studios and spend our last day making magical memories and having big fun!

Register using the link below, and make a \$150 deposit today to reserve your space. Payment plans and scholarships are available.

**STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHMISSION**



## SUPER MARIO SUNDAY, APRIL 27

**LEVEL UP** your Sunday fun on April 27th at 10:30 AM. Join us for worship and then at 10:30 AM coffee hour - Meet **MARIO & PRINCESS PEACH, POWER UP** with some **SUPER SNACKS**, and bring the whole family for a morning of fun!



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 21-25, 2025

VBS 2025 will guide kids on the ultimate Alaskan adventure. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that he is a faithful friend we can always trust—our True North.

Register today or share with a friend at [stmtts.org/VBS](http://stmtts.org/VBS).

Make a difference in the life of a child this summer. Adult and teen volunteers are needed to make VBS the best week of summer. Sign up today using the link above. Documentation of service hours will be provided.



### **BOARD GAME NIGHT! FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 6-9PM**

Do you love tabletop board and card games? Uno, Scrabble, Sorry, Bananagrams, Codenames, Qwirckle, Catan, and more!

There are so many great games! Bring your favorite game and a snack to share, as we hang out and try new games and enjoy old favorites.



### **SUNDAY FUN DAYS!**

Join us at 10:30AM on Sundays for fun, fellowship, and delicious treats.

#### **Sun. April 13: PEEPS Day**

Love them or hate them, join us for Peep tasting and activities.

#### **Sun. April 20: EASTER**

We do not hold traditional coffee hour on Easter Sunday, but we hope you'll join us at the Sunrise service and delicious brunch immediately following.

#### **Sun. April 27: POWER UP**

Level Up your Sunday by visiting with Mario and Princess Peach.



### **WALK THROUGH HOLY WEEK Maundy Thursday-April 17, 7PM**

A commemoration of the Last Supper.

#### **Good Friday-Apr. 18, 12PM & 7PM**

A commemoration of Christ's suffering and death on the cross.

#### **Holy Saturday-April 19, 10AM**

A day of solemn waiting and remembrance, marking the period between Jesus' death and resurrection.

Evening services will be livestreamed and nursery will be available.



### **SERVE OTHERS THIS EASTER STMTTS.ORG/EASTERHELP**

Easter brings many guests, and it is our great privilege to welcome them. There are many ways to serve on Easter and in the days leading up to Easter. From creating centerpieces or sharing home baked sweet treats for brunch following the sunrise service to offering parking assistance or setting up for the egg hunt, there are many ways to be involved. Please visit the link above to select an opportunity to serve.





**WOMEN'S VOLUNTEER EVENT  
SUNDAY, MAY 18, 1:00-3:30PM  
STMTTS.ORG/WGB**

Join the women of St. Matthew's for a volunteer event at Women Giving Back. RSVP required using the link above.

Women Giving Back supports women and children in crisis on a first step to stability by providing quality clothing at no cost.



**BACKPACK BUDDIES  
STERLINGHELP.ORG**

Backpack Buddies (HRTS) requests have increased, and we are now serving over 300 local school children. Join us on Tuesdays at noon and the first Sunday of each month at 10:30 AM to pack food.

Do you know a teen looking for service hours? We are actively seeking people or companies interested in hosting neighborhood or company food drives.

Learn about feeding children in our community by emailing Hilary at Hilary.Hultman-Lee@hrtsterling.org.



**BAPTISM  
CLASSES**

**EXPLORE BAPTISM - APRIL 13  
STMTTS.ORG/BAPTISMCLASS**

If you or your child would like to be baptized, or are interested in learning more about baptism, Seminarian Gabe Oakes invites you to join our Baptism Preparation Class on Sunday, April 13 at 10:30AM. Baptisms will be held, for those who so choose, on Sunday, April 27 at all three services.




**EASTER FLOWER  
DEDICATIONS**

**DEDICATE EASTER FLOWERS  
STMTTS.ORG/FLOWERS**

You're invited to help us fill the church with flowers on Easter Sunday. Dedications for Easter flowers are **due Palm Sunday, April 13**. Flower dedications are a joyful way to celebrate special occasions, give thanks, or honor the memory of loved ones. Any donation amount is welcome using the link above.

**FOLLOW US  
ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

 @stmttssterling

 @StMatthewsEpiscopalChurch

## THIS WEEK AT ST. MATT'S

### Sunday, April 13th

8:00 am - Rite I Worship Service  
9:30 am - Festival Worship Service  
9:30 am - Faith Factory  
9:30 am - Middle & High School Student  
10:30 am - Baptism Preparation Class  
11:00 am - Classic Worship Service  
2:00 pm - On That Note Rehearsal

### Monday, April 14th

12:00 pm - Social Time with Candace  
7:00 pm - Bread of Life  
7:30 pm - Free to Live

### Tuesday, April 15th

9:00 am - Staff Meeting  
12:00 pm - Backpack Buddies Packing  
6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous  
7:00 pm - Naturalization Class  
7:00 pm - Band Rehearsal  
8:00 pm - Compline

### Wednesday, April 16th

12:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous  
7:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous

### Thursday, April 17th

12:00 pm - Bible Study with Fr. Rob  
7:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Service

### Friday, April 18th

12:00 pm - Good Friday Service  
7:00 pm - Good Friday Service

### Saturday, April 19th

8:00 am - Men's Group  
10:00 am - Holy Saturday Service  
10:45 am - Set-up for Easter Brunch  
10:45 am - Altar Guild Polishing and  
Easter Set-up  
6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous  
7:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous  
8:30 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 14th: Leyla Milligan  
April 16th: Paula Wills  
April 17th: Cate Roche, Marilyn  
Anderson, Matt Drummond  
April 19th: Emily Stevens

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

April 13th: Sarah & Justin O'Connell  
April 14th: Barbara & Lowell Thomas  
April 15th: Martha & Bob Olson  
April 16th: Marilyn & Webster Anderson,  
Linu Cherian & Cbin Thomas

## ATTENDANCE

Sunday, April 6, 2023

| Time or Place | Attendance<br>Online | Attendance<br>In-Person |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 8:00 AM       | 18                   | 27                      |
| 9:30 AM       | 37                   | 157                     |
| 11:00 AM      | 12                   | 44                      |
| Faith Factory |                      | 16                      |
| Youth Group   |                      | 11                      |

## HELP SUPPORT ST. MATTHEW'S MINISTRIES



WEBSITE



MOBILE



CASH/  
CHECK

Checks can be  
made payable to  
"St. Matthew's  
Church"

For more ways to give and  
information on automatic giving:

[stmmts.org/give](http://stmmts.org/give)