

To Know and Share God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Christ the King Sunday
Sunday, November 24, 2024 · 11:00am



GIVING TREE

ADOPT A FAMILY OR PICK A SINGLE GIFT

GIVING TREE 2024

Make someone's Christmas brighter by shopping for a local family or individual student. This year our school leaders gave us valuable feedback on what is most helpful to families in our community. This means while there are fewer family requests, we are able to make the holiday brighter for more students and have collected wish lists for all! We encourage you to select as many student (tree) ornaments and family (star) ornaments as you are moved to fill. Please note each ornament represents a wish list for a real

student or family so they all must be turned in by **December 15th!**

- Choose an ornament from the tree (for family star ornaments, be sure to note your name and contact info on the sign-up sheet).
- Drop off labeled, unwrapped gifts by December 15 (include school name and gift number).
- Invite a friend to donate a Walmart, Food Lion or Safeway store gift card in the \$25-\$50 range or a specific item identified on an ornament.

More info: stmtts.org/givingtree

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. 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 visit our website: stmmts.org/baptism or contact our office via email at 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, Amy, Jackie, Ann, Kay, Jane, Panita, Mary Ann, Sharp Family, Amelia, Kassadi, Samantha, Dawn, Rudy, Kay, Clarissa, Dottie, Jonathan, Ageanna, Becky, RL, Darla, Gerry, Jenny, Reena, Sarah, Brandi, Barbara, Michael, Peggy, Emmett, Cathleen, Ray, BMR, Asley, Robyn, Emma, Frances, Christy, Nick, Gus, Aldana, Clint, Chelsea, Edgar, Rusty, Anne, Shelby, Kiera, Marty, Verdun, Candace, Kevin, John, Ome, Renee, Grace, Kristina, Fire and Hurricane Victims, Freya, Ava, Steve, Natalie, Kristen, Sophia, Sadie, Shaundra, Larry, Don, Fabiano, Diana, Phil, 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, Barbara, Jonathan, Jay, Amanda, Venessa, Desira, Rose, Sarah, Natalie D, Natalie S, and Paul.

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

8 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Opening Prayer	
Acclamation and Collect for Purity	355
Gloria	356
Collect of the Day (contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • 2 Samuel 23:1-7	
Psalm • 132:1-13	
Second Reading • Revelation 1:4b-8	
Gospel • John 18:33-37	
Sermon	The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.
Nicene Creed	358
Prayers of the People, Form III	387
Confession of Sin and Absolution	359-360
Peace	360
Announcements & Welcome	

The Holy Communion

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

(An offertory plate is not passed at this service. If you wish to make a donation, the collection plate can be found at the back of the church, or donations are accepted online at www.stmmts.org/give)

All things come of thee, O Lord,

And of thine own have we given thee.

Great Thanksgiving • Eucharistic Prayer A	361
The Lord's Prayer	364
Breaking of the Bread	364
Invitation to Communion	364
Communion of the People	
Post-Communion Prayer	365
Blessing	
Procession into the World	366

9:30 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Opening Songs (stand through the Gospel)

Song • King

Song • Chain Breaker

Gospel • John 18:33-37

Sermon

The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.

Prayers of the People

Peace

Announcements & Welcome

The Holy Communion

Offertory

(An offertory plate is not passed at this service. If you wish to make a donation, the collection plate can be found at the back of the church, or donations are accepted online at www.stmmts.org/give)

Great Thanksgiving

Sanctus • Bring the Rain

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Song • First Things First

Closing Prayer (stand through dismissal)

Blessing

Closing Song • King

Dismissal

11 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Processional Hymn • #460 vs. 1,2 , 3 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus	
Opening Acclamation	299
Collect of the Day (Contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • 2 Samuel 23:1-7	
Psalm • 132:1-13	
Second Reading • Revelation 1:4b-8	
Gospel • John 18:33-37	
Sermon	The Reverend C. Robert Merola, Jr.
Nicene Creed	358
Prayers of the People	
Confession of Sin and Absolution	359-360
Peace	360
Announcements & Welcome	

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem • Hymn of Promise	Sleeth
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
Doxology • Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow	
Great Thanksgiving • Eucharistic Prayer A	361
Sanctus • Holy, Holy, Holy	
The Lord's Prayer	364
Breaking of the Bread	364
Invitation to Communion	
Communion of the People	
Communion Hymn • #645 vs. 1, 2, 3, 6 The King of Love My Shepherd Is	
Post-Communion Prayer	365
Blessing	
Procession into the World • #544 vs. 1, 2, 3, & 5 Jesus Shall Reign	
Dismissal	366



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Join Fr. Rob each Wednesday at 7PM or Thursday at 12PM for an engaging Bible study. (No Bible study November 27 or 28.) Whether you're new to studying the Bible or a seasoned reader, join this welcoming space to explore scripture, share insights, and grow in faith together. All are welcome—bring questions.

FAMILY MOVIE OUTING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Let's kick off the holiday season with a fun afternoon movie at Dulles Town Center. Today at 12:30PM. Buy your ticket and join us to start the season!



CHRISTMAS AT ST. MATT'S

Invite your friends and family and join us for any of our Christmas services. All services include holiday music, communion, and a Christmas message from Rev. Rob Merola.

ADVENT WREATH MAKING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 10:30AM

An Advent wreath helps us set aside the season of hope as we await the birth of Jesus. Join us in the parish hall to make a fresh Advent wreath. May it be a wonderful addition to your holiday celebrations.

Christmas Eve

- 3 PM - Children's Christmas Nativity Play and service
- 5 PM - Classic Christmas Mass with soloists and strings
- 8 PM - Festival Christmas Service with live band
- 11 PM - Traditional Midnight Mass with hymns, choir and strings

Christmas Day

- 10 AM - Classic Christmas Day service with holy communion



ROB RECOMMENDS STMTTS.ORG/ROBREADS

Fr. Rob often recommends books in Sunday messages. If you're looking for a holiday gift, check out the latest suggestions at the link above.

YOUTH GROUP

Cooking for Tree of Life
Thanksgiving Community Meals

YOUTH FAITH, FUN, & SERVICE **Wednesday, Nov. 27, 1-5PM Tree of Life Thanksgiving Prep**

Let's get together to prepare meals for Tree of Life's annual Thanksgiving Together Ministry!

This is more than just cooking—it's an opportunity to create meaningful connections and offer hope to those facing hard times, especially during a season where gratitude and giving mean so much.

Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 27th at St. Matthew's to make a difference in the lives of others. Let's come together, share our hearts, and offer support in a time of need.

Scan the QR Code to stay updated with all the youth happenings.



DONUTS & DISCOVERY **SUNDAYS AT 9:30AM**

Middle and high school students are invited to start Sunday mornings with a treat and some thought-provoking conversations at Donuts and Discovery. Join us for donuts and engaging faith discussions tailored just for you. It's the perfect way to connect with friends, explore big questions, and deepen your understanding of faith.



CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY **STMTTS.ORG/CHRISTMASPLAY**

All children and youth are invited to participate in this fun retelling of the Christmas story. Register today using the link above. Elementary students interested in a speaking roles are invited to audition today at 10:30AM on Nov. 24.

Teens are also needed to assist with tech, costumes, welcome team, song leading, and more.

Questions? Contact Hilary at FaithFactory@stmtts.org

FAITH FACTORY KIDS
EVERY SUNDAY AT 9:30 AM
PRESCHOOL - 5TH GRADE

The logo features three interlocking gears in red, yellow, and blue above the text. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font.

KIDS SUNDAY FUN

Sunday morning is an important faith building time for the entire family. We invite your preschool–fifth grade children to join us at 9:30AM for Faith Factory - St. Matt's Sunday morning faith formation. It's a chance for kids to learn about God's love for them through Bible stories, relationship building, singing songs, art projects, & more! After worship stay for fun and games or a special treat each Sunday at 10:30AM!



**GIVING
TUESDAY**
SUPPORT
BACKPACK BUDDIES

BACKPACK BUDDIES
STERLINGHELP.ORG/SUPPORT

1 in 4 children in Loudoun County Schools is food insecure. That means someone in your child's classroom won't have enough to eat this weekend.


Join us on **December 3rd** for **#GivingTuesday**, a global generosity movement that transforms communities when they work together for a worthy cause, and together we will help fight childhood hunger right here in Sterling.

Be a Giving Tuesday Ambassador for HRTS by visiting the link above.



GAME NIGHT ON BLACK FRIDAY!
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 6-9PM

Do you love tabletop games? Uno, Machi Koro, Star Wars Deck Building, King of Tokyo, Tether, Forbidden Desert, Who Killed Dr. Lucky? There are so many great games! Which is your favorite? Bring your favorite game and a snack to share, as we hang out and try new games.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY
MIDWEEK MINDFUL MOMENT

MIDWEEK MINDFUL MOMENT
WITH ZORANA ON WEDNESDAYS

Take a break from the hustle and join Zorana for a Mindful Moment. This is a peaceful 30-minute Zoom session designed to help you reconnect with God while enjoying meditation and a chance for women's fellowship – perfectly timed for midweek renewal. Bring your favorite cup of tea at 8PM on Wednesdays in December. Zoom Meeting ID 747 4043 8363
Passcode: Stmatts



SCAM ALERT
STMTTS.ORG/SCAMS

As the holiday season approaches, we find this is a time when fraudulent emails and texts are sent asking well intentioned church members to provide support for fake causes. Please review the link above for information on how to spot false claims. Also, St. Matthew's clergy and staff will never ask you to email or text gift card codes. If you receive a request that seems sketchy, please contact the office to confirm 703-430-2121 or Office@stmatts.org.



LAST PENTECOST

Last Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 29



Revised Common Lectionary
TRACK ONE

COLLECT

November 24, 2024

Traditional

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, whose will it is to restore all things in thy well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Contemporary

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 23:1-7

NOW THESE ARE the last words of David: The oracle of David, son of Jesse, the oracle of the man whom God exalted, the anointed of the God of Jacob, the favorite of the Strong One of Israel: The spirit of the Lord speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue. The God of Israel has spoken, the Rock of Israel has said to me: One who rules over people justly, ruling in the fear of God, is like the light of morning, like the sun rising on a cloudless morning, gleaming from the rain on the grassy land. Is not my house like this with God? For he has made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and secure. Will he not cause to prosper

all my help and my desire? But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away; for they cannot be picked up with the hand; to touch them one uses an iron bar or the shaft of a spear. And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

Refrain

Arise, O LORD, into your resting-place,
you and the ark of your strength.

Psalm 132:1-13, [14-19] *from the Book of Common Prayer*

- | | | | |
|---|---|----|--|
| 1 | LORD, remember David, *
and all the hardships he
endured; | 6 | “The ark! We heard it
was in Ephratah; * we
found it in the fields of
Jearim. |
| 2 | How he swore an oath to
the LORD * and vowed a
vow to the Mighty One
of Jacob: | 7 | Let us go to God’s dwell-
ing place; * let us fall
upon our knees before
his footstool.” |
| 3 | “I will not come under
the roof of my house, *
nor climb up into my
bed; | 8 | Arise, O LORD, into your
resting-place, * you and
the ark of your strength. |
| 4 | I will not allow my eyes
to sleep, * nor let my
eyelids slumber; | 9 | Let your priests be
clothed with righteous-
ness; * let your faithful
people sing with joy. |
| 5 | Until I find a place for
the LORD, * a dwelling
for the Mighty One of
Jacob.” | 10 | For your servant
David’s sake, * do not
turn away the face of
your Anointed. |

- 11 The LORD has sworn an oath to David; * in truth, he will not break it:
- 12 “A son, the fruit of your body * will I set upon your throne.
- 13 If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, * their children will sit upon your throne forevermore.”
- [14 For the LORD has chosen Zion; * he has desired her for his habitation:
- 15 “This shall be my resting-place for ever; *
- here will I dwell, for I delight in her.
- 16 I will surely bless her provisions, * and satisfy her poor with bread.
- 17 I will clothe her priests with salvation, * and her faithful people will rejoice and sing.
- 18 There will I make the horn of David flourish; * I have prepared a lamp for my Anointed.
- 19 As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; * but as for him, his crown will shine.”]

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4b-8

GRACE TO YOU and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL: John 18:33-37

PILATE ENTERED the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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THIS WEEK AT ST. MATT'S

Sunday, November 24th

- 8:00 am - Rite II Worship Service
- 9:30 am - Festival Worship Service
- 9:30 am - Faith Factory
- 9:30 am - Middle & High School Student
- 10:30 am - Christmas Nativity Play Auditions
- 11:00 am - Classic Worship Service
- 2:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
- 5:30 pm - Youth Group

Monday, November 25th

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

Tuesday, November 26th

- 9:00 am - All Ages Read Together
- 9:00 am - Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm - HRTS/Backpack Buddies Packing
- 6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:00 pm - Education for Ministry
- 7:00 pm - Band Rehearsal
- 8:00 pm - Compline (on line)

Wednesday, November 27th

- 12:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
- 1:00 pm - Youth: Tree of Life Thanksgiving
- 8:00 pm - Women's NA Group
- 8:00 pm - Mindful Ministry with Zorana

Thursday, November 28th

Happy Thanksgiving!

Friday, November 29th

- 6:00 pm - Game Night
- 7:00 pm - Old Dominion Dancers
- 8:00 pm - Compline (on line)

Saturday, November 30th

- 8:00 am - Men's Group
- 6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous
- 8:30 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- November 24th: Mandy Mirda
- November 25th: Darrell Breed, Nikolaos Alexiou
- November 26th: Dee Carter
- November 27th: Caden Lesser
- November 28th: Sarah O'Connell
- November 29th: Mattise Tresca
- November 30th: John Nixon, Michael Mirda

ATTENDANCE November 17, 2024

Time or Place	Attendance Online	Attendance In-Person
8:00 AM	13	27
9:30 AM	31	131
11:00 AM	15	42
Faith Factory		15
Youth Group		10

HELP SUPPORT ST. MATTHEW'S MINISTRIES



GIVE ONLINE



stmmts.org/give



venmo



@stmmtssterling



CASH OR
CHECK

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

For more ways to give and information on automatic giving:

stmmts.org/give

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

In-Person & Online

8:00AM | This is a traditional communion service using Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer.

9:30AM | This is a vibrant communion service with our very own live band. If you are looking for a joyous family service with some of the best music around, this is the service for you.

11:00AM | A classic communion service with our fabulous choir. We use Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer.

Compline (evening prayer) Tuesday & Friday at 8pm on Facebook

Online Worship
stmtts.org/live

Sunday services are broadcast on Facebook and YouTube.

St. Matthew's Staff & Vestry

Rector, Rev. C. Robert Merola, Jr.
Rob@stmtts.org

General Manager, Miriam Turner
Office@stmtts.org

Audio, Livestream Coordinators,
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Christian Turner

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VESTRY

Robby Stevens, Senior Warden

Andrew Wright, Junior Warden

Craig Dubishar

Bob Henry

Julie Kane

Sharon Muniz

Stephanie Zebrowski

Service Volunteers

Ushers | Fred Brittain, Emory Henderson, Maria Palmer, Sharon Ferguson, Cheryl Gilligan

Lectors | Debbie Majewski, John Druva

Eucharistic Ministers/LEMs | Richard Henry, Cindy Steinman, Haley Elliott, Alexis Sather

Tellers | Dan Robertson

Altar Guild | Ann Lowden, Sue Reier