

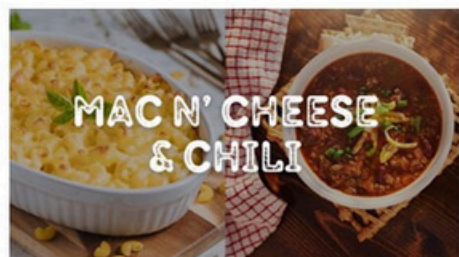
To Know and Share God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
Sunday, February 9, 2025



YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2025



CHILI & MAC N CHEESE—OH MY! SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 10:30AM

It's always a good time for Chili and Mac n Cheese, even 10:30 on a Sunday morning. Bring a crock pot of your favorite Chili or Mac n Cheese to share with all your St. Matt's friends.

Other helpful things to bring: an extension cord, serving spoon, and toppings that make your dish really pop (sour cream, onions, jalapenos, bacon, hot sauce, etc...) St. Matt's will supply tasting cups, bowls, spoons, napkins, and PRIZES! Can't wait to see you there!

2025 YOUTH MISSION TRIP STMTTS.ORG/YOUTHMISSION

Ages: Rising 6th - 12th graders
Dates: August 2 - 8, 2025

We're heading to Miami, 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 spend our last day making magical memories and having big fun!

Join Ben for an informational meeting on **Sunday, February 9th at 10:30 AM** to hear all the details, ask questions, and see how YOU can be part of this life-changing trip!

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:

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, Emmet, Cathleen, Ray, BMR, Asley, Robyn, Emma, Frances, Christy, Nick, Gus, Aldana, Clint, Chelsea, Edgar, Rusty, Anne, Shelby, Kiera, Marty, Candace, Kevin, John, Ome, Renee, Grace, Kristina, Fire and Hurricane Victims, 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, Bayan, Dima, Carter, Jean, Martha, Tony, Nancy, Clara, Elijah, Maria, Doug, and American Airlines flight 5342 passengers and their families.

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 • Isaiah 6:1-8	
Psalm • 138	
Second Reading • 1 Corinthians 15:1-11	
Gospel • Luke 5:1-11	
Sermon	Genevieve Davis
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 • You are So Good to Me

Song • Devotion

Lessons

Old Testament Reading • Isaiah 6:1-8

Gospel • Luke 5:1-11

Sermon

Genevieve Davis

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.stmtts.org/give)

Great Thanksgiving

Sanctus • It is You

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Song • Your Royal Blood

Closing Prayer (stand through dismissal)

Blessing

Closing Song • All the People Said Amen

Dismissal

11 AM SERVICE

The Word of God

Processional Hymn • #	
Opening Acclamation	299
Gloria • S280	
Collect of the Day (Contemporary)	Insert
Lessons	
First Reading • Isaiah 6:1-8	
Psalm • 138	
Second Reading • 1 Corinthians 15:1-11	
Gospel • Luke 5:1-11	
Sermon	Genevieve Davis
Nicene Creed	358
Prayers of the People, Form III	387
Confession of Sin and Absolution	359-360
Peace	360
Announcements & Welcome	

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem •	
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
Doxology • Hymn #380 • Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow (verse 3)	
Great Thanksgiving • Eucharistic Prayer A	361
Sanctus • Hymnal S130 • Holy, Holy, Holy Lord	
The Lord's Prayer	364
Breaking of the Bread	364
Invitation to Communion	
Communion of the People	
Communion Hymn • #	
Post-Communion Prayer	365
Blessing	
Procession into the World • #	
Dismissal	366



YOUTH GROUP

Activities, connection, conversation designed specifically for our middle and 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@stmnts.org.



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.

TREE OF LIFE DINNER PREP Sunday, Feb. 23, 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.



KIDS SUNDAY FAITH & FUN

This February, join us at 9:30 AM Faith Factory as kids explore God's Call—how He calls people for a special purpose! Through Bible stories like Jeremiah's calling and Jesus calling the disciples, kids will learn how God chooses, guides, and calls us to serve, use our talents, and live out our faith daily. Plus, a NEW preschool class for ages 2-4! Stay after service for fun and games at Kids Coffee Hour, 10:30 AM.

Learn more about Faith Factory and activities for kids by contacting our Faith Factory Director, Hilary at FaithFactory@stmnts.org



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 stmnts.org/VBS.



Ordination

of Kara Laughlin to the
Sacred Order of Deacons

ORDINATION OF KARA LAUGHLIN SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 10:30AM

God willing The Rt. Rev. Gayle Elizabeth Harris, Assistant Bishop of Virginia, will ordain Kara Laughlin to the Sacred Order of Deacons. This is the next step for Kara in her call to pursue a life of ordained ministry, and God willing she will be ordained as a priest in the summer of 2025. The ordination will take place at St. George's Episcopal Church in Arlington. Please contact Miriam in the church office if you are interested in carpooling.



**FEBRUARY
COFFEE HOUR**

SUNDAY FUN DAYS!

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

Sun, Feb. 9: Jersey Day

Wear your favorite sports jersey and bring a tailgate snack to share.

Sun, Feb. 16: Valentine's Treats

Join us for a variety of Valentine themed goodies.

Sun, Feb. 23: Chili & Mac n Cheese

Bring your favorite crock of chili or mac and cheese to share.



VOW RENEWALS SAT. FEBRUARY 15, 5PM

All married couples are invited to a special vow renewal ceremony. No sign-up needed—just come as you are and recommit to the love that brought you together! Whether you've been married one year or fifty, renew your commitment in a meaningful way. Friends & family are invited!



FEBRUARY MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. ROB

Join Fr. Rob on Wednesdays at 7PM or Thursdays at 12PM as we dive into the Book of Romans and explore the question, "How Shall We Then Live?"

Each week, we'll spend one hour taking a look at the book of Romans, and focusing on a deeply practical chapter that guides us in living out our faith.

We hope you'll join us on Wednesdays or Thursdays as we pause to take time to listen and discuss God's word.



BACKPACK BUDDIES STERLINGHELP.ORG

Backpack Buddies (HRTS) continues packing 280 bags of food each week to feed local school children. Pack with us on Tuesdays at 12pm in the Classrooms on the Hill, and the first Sunday of each month at 10:30am in the Parish Hall.

Learn more about feeding children in our community by visiting the link above or contact Hilary at Hilary.Hultman-Lee@hrtsterling.org.



CLOTHING DONATIONS NEEDED WOMENGIVINGBACK.ORG

Our Care Response Team refers many families to Women Giving Back. WGB is a vital resource in the community helping individuals and families who need clothing at no charge. Our help is needed to replenish women and children's fall and winter clothing.

Drop off clothing directly at WGB on Mon., February 17th 10 AM - 12 PM

Location: 20 Export Drive, Sterling, VA (do not drop off at church).



OUTREACH MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2PM

Outreach is one of the hallmarks of our shared life together at St. Matt's, and one of the many ways we share God's love. We have lots of ways to participate and lead. Will you prayerfully consider how you might be called to serve?

Please join us on Sunday, March 2 at 2PM at the home of Kristin Drummond to share ideas and make plans for an incredible year of loving our neighbors. For Kristin's address, email office@stmtts.org.



ROB RECOMMENDS STMTTS.ORG/ROBREADS

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

The list has been updated to include our upcoming Lenten book, *Cherished Belonging*. Order now to be ready for our Wednesday discussions and small groups that begin on March 12.



5 EPIPHANY

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany



Revised Common Lectionary

Sunday, February 9, 2025

COLLECT

Traditional

SET US FREE, O God, from the bondage of our sins and give us, we beseech thee, the liberty of that abundant life which thou hast manifested to us in thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Contemporary

SET US FREE, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8, [9-13]

IN THE YEAR that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with

it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" [And he said, "Go and say to this people: 'Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.' Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed." Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said: "Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate; until the Lord sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land. Even if a tenth part remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled." The holy seed is its stump.]

Refrain

O LORD, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

Psalm 138 *from the Book of Common Prayer*

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; * before the gods I will sing your praise. | 3 For you have glorified your Name * and your word above all things. |
| 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name, * because of your love and faithfulness; | 4 When I called, you answered me; * you increased my strength within me. |
| | 5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, |

O LORD, * when they
have heard the words of
your mouth.

6 They will sing of the
ways of the LORD, * that
great is the glory of the
LORD.

7 Though the LORD be
high, he cares for the
lowly; * he perceives the
haughty from afar.

8 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.

9 The LORD will make
good his purpose for
me; * O LORD, your love
endures for ever; do not
abandon the works of
your hands.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

NOW I WOULD REMIND YOU, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than

any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

GOSPEL: Luke 5:1-11

ONCE WHILE JESUS was standing beside the lake of Genesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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THIS WEEK AT ST. MATT'S

Sunday, February 9th

- 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 - Youth Mission Trip Parent Meeting
- 11:00 am - Classic Worship Service
- 12:15 pm - Gabe's Lay Support Team Meeting

Monday, February 10th

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

Tuesday, February 11th

- 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, February 12th

- 10:30 am - Outside Book Group
- 12:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
- 6:00 pm - Sterling Playmakers
- 7:00 pm - Bible Study with Rob
- 8:00 pm - Women's NA Group

Thursday, February 13th

- 9:00 am - All Ages Read Together
- 12:00 pm - Bible Study with Fr. Rob
- 6:15 pm - Girl Scouts
- 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 14th

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

Saturday, February 15th

- 8:00 am - Men's Group
- 9:00 am - Reverence Committee
- 5:00 pm - Vow Renewal Worship
- 6:30 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:00 pm - Choir Dinner at Clyde's
- 7:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous
- 8:30 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- February 9th: Abby Middleton
- February 10th: Adam Boone, Bella Deaso, Anselm Bruce
- February 11th: Malou Rennert, Joe Hart, Julia McCall, Graham McCall
- February 12th: Sandra Gentry, Andrew Wright
- February 14th: Andrew Lee
- February 15th: Dougalyn Guthrie

ATTENDANCE

January 26, 2025

Time or Place	Attendance Online	Attendance In-Person
8:00 AM	16	21
9:30 AM	39	182
11:00 AM	13	52
Faith Factory		22
Youth Group		11

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

Bookkeeper, Wendy Filler
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Ben Merola
Ben.Merola@stmtts.org

VESTRY

Robby Stevens, Senior Warden

Andrew Wright, Junior Warden

Craig Dubishar

Bob Henry

Julie Kane

Alexis Sather

Stephanie Zebrowski

Service Volunteers

Ushers | Fred Brittain, Maria Palmer, Dee Carter, Cheryl Gilligan, Regina McPhie

Lectors | Martha Olson, Carolyn Wright, Kevin Fletcher

Eucharistic Ministers/LEMS | Debbie Majewski, Pam Cooper

Tellers | Dan Robertson

Altar Guild | Ann Lowden, Linda Merola, Richard Henry