

# SAINT MATTHEW

*Welcoming All - Growing in God - Serving Our Neighbor*

**God is good! All the time! - All the time! God is Good!**

The Fourteenth Sunday

after Pentecost

September 3, 2023

8:00 am and 10:30 am

Welcome to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

**Greeting**

**Processional** #675 Take Up Your Cross

*The Blue Hymnal (10:30am only)*

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*Bishop* Blessed be God Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

*Bishop* 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.**

**Gloria** "Glory to God" (8:00 spoken; 10:30 sung)  
Hymn # S-280, The Blue Hymnal 1982

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen.**

**The Prayer of the Day**

*Bishop* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Bishop* Let us pray.

*Bishop* Holy One, the author and giver of all good things. Increase in our hearts the compassion of Jesus, grant us awareness of your presence, nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

**First Lesson** **1 Samuel 25:14-19, 23-25, 32-34, 42-43**

*Lector* (A reading from the first book of the prophet Samuel.)

To Abigail, wife of Nabal, one of the boys reported "Look! David sent messengers out of the wilderness to greet our lord; and he screamed at them. Yet the men were very good to us, and we were not put to shame, and we never missed anything all the days we were with them when we were in the field. They were a wall to us even by night and also every day; we were with them, keeping the sheep. Now know this and see what you can do; for evil against our master and against all his house has been resolved; he is worthless, no one can speak to him."

*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 25: 4-12** *The Psalm appointed today is Psalm 25.*

*We will read the Psalm responsively by whole verse.*

*The congregations part is printed in bold.*

4. Make known to me your ways, Ageless God; teach me your paths.

**5. Guide me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.**

6. Remember your maternal love, O Womb of Life, and your faithful love, for they have been from of old.

**7. The sins of my youth and my transgressions remember not; according to your faithful love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, Gracious One.**

8. Good and upright is the Fount of Wisdom, therefore she instructs sinners in the way.

**9. She guides the humble in what is just, and teaches the humble her way.**

10. All the paths of the Wisdom of The Ages are faithful and true for those who keep her covenant and her decrees.

**11. For your Name's sake, Loving God, pardon my guilt, for it is great.**

12. Who are they that fear the Holy One of Old? She will teach them the way that they should choose.

## Second Lesson

## 1 Corinthians 7:1-8

*Lector* (A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians)

Now, about what you have written It is good for a man not to take hold of a woman. But because of sexual immorality, each man should have his own woman and each woman her own man. For the wife, the husband should do his duty and likewise the wife for her husband. For the wife does not have authority over her own body, rather the husband does; likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, yet the wife does. Do not ever defraud each another except by agreement for a time to devote yourselves to prayer, and then come together again so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. This I say as a concession not a command. I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has their own gift from God, indeed one to one and another to another. To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain so. But if they are not showing self-control, they should marry; for it is better to marry than to burn.

*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**People Thanks be to God.**

Gradual #848 WLP Alleluia (sung twice before the Gospel) (10:30am only)

## The Gospel Matthew 5:38—42

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "You all have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye' and 'a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you Do not set yourself against the wicked. But when someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other to them also. And when someone wants you to be judged and take your coat, let your other clothing go as well. And when someone forces you to go one mile, go the second mile too. Give to those who ask from you, and those who want to borrow from you, do not refuse."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Homily The Right Rev. Jennifer A. Reddall  
Sixth Episcopal Bishop of Arizona

(8:00am continues with the Nicene Creed)

(10:30am now uses the insert for Confirmation and Reception into the Anglican Communion)

## The 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

*Intercessor* Let us offer our prayers to God, who calls us to seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly in God's footsteps, responding, "Hear us, God of Mercy."

*Intercessor* For the grace to balance worldly life with divine wisdom, seeing in holy foolishness the strength and conviction that overpowers our attachments to false treasures, let us pray. **Hear us, God of Mercy.**

*Intercessor* For those who are prisoners throughout the world, especially in our community; those whom society has spurned; those in the darkness of despair; and those who are unable to share burdens too deep to reveal, that God's love may be found by all who wait in hope; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Mercy.**

*Intercessor* For the sick and elderly, especially those who are incarcerated, that they may receive swift and proper attention to their medical needs and be treated respectfully and humanely; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Mercy.**

*Intercessor* For those struggling with mental illness, including those in our jails and prisons, that they may receive respectful and loving care from those who attend

to their needs; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Mercy.**

*Intercessor* That we will open our hands and hearts to do God's work, reaching out to others so that God's love is revealed throughout ministry and devotion; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Mercy.**

*Intercessor* For our President, those who serve in our national and local legislative bodies, and those who sit on courts of justice, that they may be given godly wisdom and insight for those decisions which fall into shadows of uncertainty; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Mercy.**

*Intercessor* In thanksgiving for the new life that awaits all who engage in the daily reality of death and resurrection, remembering especially all who have died; let us pray. **Hear us, God of Mercy.**

*Intercessor and People together* **We rejoice that we are created in your image. Free us from racism and any other prejudice that defiles us. May the church at all time reveal your glory and lead many to the glorious liberty that is for the children of God.**

*Intercessor* May the Name of God be grafted on our hearts as we continue to offer our prayers.

*(People offer their prayers silently or aloud.)*

*Bishop* Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbor and encouraged us not to forget those who are vulnerable. Be with us as we seek to make changes to systems that violate the dignity of others so that they will foster restoration rather than retribution. Help us to be compassionate toward all of your people that they may experience your peace.

*People* **Amen.**

### The Confession

*Deacon* We gather together in search of wholeness; yet our brokenness separates us from God and from one another. Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor. *(moment of silence)*

*People* **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

*Bishop* 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.**

*People* **Amen.**

### The Peace

*Bishop* God makes peace within us.

*People* **Let us claim it.**

*Bishop* God makes peace between us.

*People* **Let us share it.**

**(10:30am Liturgy resumes here)**

### Offertory Sentence

*Bishop* Walk in love as Christ loves us and gives himself for us.

### HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn As We Gather In Your Presence - Kristopher Lindquist *(see insert-10:30am only)*

Presentation Hymn *(Spoken 8:00am; Sung 10:30am)*

*All* **Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below,  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father Son, and Holy Ghost**

### The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer C

*Bishop* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Bishop* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Bishop* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Bishop* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*People* **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*Bishop* 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.

*People* **By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Bishop* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Bishop* 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.

*People* **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Bishop* 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** "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord" (8am spoken, 10:30am sung) Hymn # S-124, The Hymnal 1982

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

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,

**People We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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.

**People 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.**

*Bishop* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray Jesus's prayer in whatever language or words we are most comfortable.

**All 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 forever. Amen.**

### The Breaking of the Bread

*Bishop* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**People** Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

### Fraction Anthem

#874 WLP "Principal Canon Only" (8:00am spoken, 10:30am sung, see below)

**All** *Whoever eats this bread will live forever.  
Whoever eats this bread will live forever.*

*Bishop* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn Native American Flute  
by Gale Quackenbush  
(10:30am only)

### Post-Communion Prayer

*Bishop* Let us pray.

**All** **Creator, have mercy on us, your children, especially those who are and have been incarcerated. Let your light shine upon us that we may know who you are and recognize your mercies towards us no matter what we have done. Give us the strength and grace to manage the challenges of life and help us to become the people that you created us to be. Amen.**

### The Blessing

*Bishop* May God bless us, including those in jail or prison, and keep us safe from all harm.

May God's face shine upon us, especially those living and working in prisons, and be gracious to us.

May God look upon us and those affected by incarceration and give us peace in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn #450 verses 1,2,3, & 6

"All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name" (10:30am only)  
*Blue Hymnal*

### The Dismissal

*Deacon* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**People** Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!