

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

7:30AM
ST. MARY'S CHAPEL

9:00AM
LAKEFRONT



ST. MATTHEW'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church sits on the traditional homelands of the people of the Council of Three Fires: the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa nations. This land was also a place of travel and trade to many other tribes, including the Menominee, Ho-Chunk, and Miami tribes. These Native Peoples were forced off their lands with the Second Treaty of Prairie du Chien in 1829. After a series of land transfers, St. Matthew's acquired its current site within this territory in 1906. Today, Cook County is home to tens of thousands of Native Americans from many tribes. We acknowledge and respect our Indigenous neighbors, as we strive to be good stewards of this Native land.

COVID GUIDELINES

Our Covid protocols have eased, but the number of cases has begun to rise again. Please be attentive to the following:

- Vaccines are recommended when gathering with others.
- Masks are optional in the building and at our services. Please respect the choices others make in this regard.
- In the Church and the Chapel
 - Air purifiers continuously clean the air.
 - Before services begin, the windows are opened and fans run, creating substantial air flow.
- Medical grade N95 masks are available upon request from our ushers.
- At Communion
 - Before beginning the Eucharistic Prayer, the clergy sanitize their hands.
 - Wine at communion: Communion ministers will be off to the side offering a chalice and an intinction bowl. We ask you decide either to drink from the chalice, instinct the wafer (dip the wafer into the wine) using the bowl, or forgo the wine.
- Please follow any further communion guidelines as given.
- During Beach Church Season (now through September 17), our livestream operation is on hiatus. If you are interested in a livestream, we recommend the services at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC: go online to <https://cathedral.org/worship/> for their schedule and for links to individual services.

Worship Schedule and Events

- Sept. 17* **Final Beach Church Service of the Season**
Sunday services: 7:30am chapel; 9am lakefront at Grosse Point Lighthouse Park (weather permitting; rain plan: gather in the church).
- Sept. 24* **Celebrating St. Matthew's Day**
St. Matthew's hosts St. Andrew's Pentecost Episcopal Church as we celebrate our patron saint. One service only this Sunday at 10:30am for this our "homecoming" return to church and the start of the program year. Food and fellowship to follow.
- Oct. 1* **Full Program-Year Worship Schedule resumes:** 8am spoken Eucharist in the Chapel; 10:30am Eucharist in the Church with choir, livestreamed.
- Oct. 8* **Celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day and More!**
Sunday worship: one service at 10:30.
St. Francis Day Pet Blessing 3pm Hartrey Lawn
2023 Vision Keeper Dinner, Doubletree Skokie, 5:30pm, see p. 13 for details.

WELCOME TO ST. MATTHEW'S

Whoever you are and wherever you find yourself in your journey of faith,
you are welcome at God's table to receive the bread and the wine made holy.

THE WORD OF GOD

All stand as able.

THE OPENING HYMN (9:00AM)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**

All say together:

Canticle B: A Song of Pilgrimage

Priusquam errarem

Ecclesiasticus 51:13-16,20b-22

Before I ventured forth, even while I was very young, *

I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.

In the forecourts of the temple I asked for her, *

and I will seek her to the end.

From first blossom to early fruit, *

she has been the delight of my heart.

My foot has kept firmly to the true path, *

diligently from my youth have I pursued her.

I inclined my ear a little and received her; *

I found for myself much wisdom and became adept in her.

To the one who gives me wisdom will I give glory, *

for I have resolved to live according to her way.

From the beginning I gained courage from her, *

therefore I will not be forsaken.

In my inmost being I have been stirred to seek her, *

therefore have I gained a good possession.

As my reward the Almighty has given me the gift of language, *

and with it will I offer praise to God.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray, saying together

People **God of debts forgiven,
you call to account
our hunger for power;
you disturb hierarchies
which crush the weak:
break the vicious cycles
of revenge and domination
that we might look to him
whose mercy never ends,
Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.**

The people sit.

A READING FROM PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS (14:1-12).

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 103:1-13 *Benedic, anima mea*

We read the appointed verses of the Psalm alternately by half verse; the congregation reads the second half of each, which is printed in bold.

- ¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- ² Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.
- ³ He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
- ⁴ He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- ⁵ He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- ⁶ The LORD executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- ⁷ He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- ⁸ The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- ⁹ He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- ¹⁰ He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- ¹² As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- ¹³ As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (18:21-35).

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold,

together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

"But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

"When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

"Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of our Savior.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Terri J. Morrissey

After a time of silent reflection, all are invited to stand and say together:

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Source: Church of England, adapted)

Presider Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Creator,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Creator, Savior, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Form III, adapted)

Leader Gracious God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that our wardens and vestry, all St. Matthew's leaders, the leaders of St. Andrew's Pentecost Episcopal Church, and every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader Watch over all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially for Michael, our presiding bishop as he prepares for surgery September 20; Paula, our bishop; Charlie, Terri, and Sam, here at St. Matthew's; and Emeka and Lee at St. Andrew's Pentecost;

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader Guide all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, especially for Joseph, our President; J.B., our governor; Daniel, our mayor; for the leaders of our neighboring communities, and for all those in uniform, risking their lives daily on our behalf;

People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader We pray for equal opportunity and equal treatment under the law for all people; and for the will to enact common-sense gun-safety laws. Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake, that we may be agents of God's kingdom, offering radical welcome and committed to dismantling systems of injustice;

People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Look favorably upon all those suffering from acts of violence – including warfare, gun violence and sexual violence – as well as those suffering from natural disasters and a changing climate.

People **That they may have hope to greet the coming days.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, we pray especially for Andrew, Paige, David, Curt, Ted, Kate, Bob, Joan, Maria and family, Benjamin, Bob, Ralph, Sam, Phil, Cindy, Bionce, Brigitte, Clemence, Betty, Jessica, Maeve, Fame, Mike, Cathy, Maggie, Mark, Corky, Donna, Angela, Sharon, Will, Don, Manuel, for the Westerfield family, and for the Congolese family with whom we have been matched by RefugeeOne;

People **That they may be delivered from any distress.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Members of the congregation are encouraged to offer their intercessions, either silently or aloud.

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest.

People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Presider O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

BLESSING AND FAREWELL PRAYERS (9:00AM ONLY)

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
(*Silence may be kept.*)

All Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name.
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.

All **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet each other in the name of Christ.

The people sit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

The people stand.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C (adapted)

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give our thanks to Almighty God.

It is right to give our 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 the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, 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, Jesus 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:

**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.

The people stand or kneel, as able.

Presider And so, we who have been redeemed by Jesus, 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 Jesus 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, Jesus 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 Ancestors: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, 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 Jesus's name.

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

Accept these prayers and praises, 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.

Presider and People

AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People **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

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God. Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself in your journey of faith, you are welcome at God's table to receive the bread and the wine made holy.

At the 9am Lakefront Service: The Good Shepherd chalice and paten were given in memory of Susan Taylor, a long-time altar guild member who died in 2019.

THE COMMUNION HYMN (9:00AM)

After who wish to receive communion or a blessing have come forward, all stand.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

People **Eternal God,
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.**

A CELEBRATION OF SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

Presider What we choose changes us.
Who we love transforms us.
How we create remakes us.
Where we live reshapes us.
So in all our choosing, O God, make us wise;
In all our loving, O Christ, make us bold;
In all our creating, O Spirit, give us courage;
in all our living, may we become whole.
And the blessing of God almighty:
Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit,
be upon you, and those you love,
and those for whom you pray
this day and forever more.

People **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN (9:00AM)

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Leading Our Worship This Morning

7:30AM

Presider: The Rev. Charles A. de Kay

Preacher: The Rev. Terri J. Morrissey

Lector: Volunteer

Prayer Leader: Volunteer

Chalice Bearer: Volunteer

9:00AM

Presider: The Rev. Charles A. de Kay

Preacher: The Rev. Terri J. Morrissey

Lector: Kristin Jacobsen

Prayer Leader: Tim Patenode

Chalice Bearer: Samuel Love

Usher: Volunteer

Concierge: Andy Miles

Welcome Time Treats: Judy Royal

BOTH SERVICES

Altar Guild: Kathy Riley, Susan Rundle, Roberta Buchanan, Deborah Williams

Green Team: Christina Padilla

ST. MATTHEW'S DAY

Sunday, September 24 | 10:30am

Celebrate St. Matthew's Day! We will host St. Andrew's Pentecost Episcopal Church as we celebrate our patron saint. One service only this Sunday at 10:30am for our "homecoming" return to church and the start of the program year. Food and fellowship to follow. See you there!

Help Us Welcome St. Andrew's Pentecost!

Let us set a welcoming table for the parishioners of St. Andrew's Pentecost. Many hands make light work, so if you can lend a hand, please do. The Welcoming Team is in search of folks who can help set up tables and chairs around 9:45 a.m. and clean up after the event. Take one or both shifts by emailing melissa.warden@yahoo.com. Thanks for helping our mission come to life!



Please join us for 2023 IAE's
Annual Fundraising Dinner honoring

Vision Keepers

This year St. Matthew's is proud to honor
Roberta Buchanan

Sunday, October 8, 2023 | 5:30 p.m.
DoubleTree, Versailles Ballroom
9599 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie, IL 60077

Proceeds from the Vision Keepers Dinner support Interfaith Action's programs at the Hospitality Center for the Homeless, local soup kitchens, Producemobile, winter overnight shelter; and warming centers.

RSVP by Friday, September 22, 2023

\$80.00 per person ~ All reservations must be accompanied by payment ~

Send or drop off your reservation to: Gregory Peebles, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church,
2120 Lincoln Street, Evanston, IL 60201.

Reason to be Cheerful:

There are many innovative solutions to environmental problems. There are many new technologies and approaches that are being developed to address environmental problems. For example, there are new ways to capture and store carbon dioxide, new ways to desalinate seawater, and new ways to grow food sustainably.

Anti-Racism Opportunities

Tragic and invisible lines: Sometimes it takes someone a new perspective to see the absurdity of a situation, and many aspects of racism and discrimination are certainly baffling when examined closely. Marian Wright Edelman, founder of the Children's Defense League, wrote a recent article on an outsider's view of the divide between Protestants and Catholics in Belfast (<https://www.childrensdefense.org/child-watch-columns/health/2023/draw-the-circle-wide/>). Similarly, a teacher's controversial exercise in 1968 gave her students an eye-opening and challenging insight into racism by treating blue-eyed children and brown-eyed children different for a day (<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/lesson-of-a-lifetime-72754306/>). Both article and exercise show that invisible lines really are tragic and absurd, as Edelman writes. Thank you to Ginger Carr for the tip about Marian Wright Edelman's article.

Care for the refugee on a smaller scale: We have a chance to help refugees, this time from Haiti, by donating money for transit passes and a Target gift card. Judy Royal met these refugees through her work at the Moran Center. The family, consisting of a father, his two children (grade school and junior high), and his high-school-aged nephew, have temporary shelter, meals, and clothing. They don't have much else, however. We would like to make travel easier by providing them with transit passes and give them the chance to pick out something new with a Target gift card. If you are interested, give cash or check to Judy Royal or Kristin Jacobsen. You can also send money via Venmo (@kejcat) or Zelle (kejcat@gmail.com). Thank you!

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. Matthew 25:35-36

Wednesday Lunch Volunteer Opportunity

Are you available on any given Wednesday between 10am and 12:30pm? Do you enjoy the camaraderie of working with others toward a short-term, important, and satisfying goal? Come join us at St. Mark's in Cunningham Hall (and kitchen) as we set up, make sandwiches, slice tomatoes, arrange fruit and cookie trays, make coffee, etc., and serve 40-60 guests each week at the St. Mark's / St. Matthew's joint Wednesday lunch ministry.

We need 6 individuals to sign up for food preparation, service, and cleanup from 10am to 12:30pm every Wednesday. In addition, we need two doorkeepers, one upstairs and one downstairs from 11am-12:30pm. To volunteer: <https://tinyurl.com/wedsack>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Kati Olsen at kati2219@gmail.com.



We need help at the Hospitality Center for September!

Please sign up below if possible! We really need volunteers at these times. If we don't have a volunteer, we can't open the area where our guests can sleep. Thank you for checking!

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ySup-faBkYRsjorZspmSIg_uFmUdmbi_2Z3fLrBc20/edit?usp=sharing

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

You are encouraged to include these names in your daily prayers.

During Sunday worship, you are encouraged to offer silently or aloud your prayers to God. If you wish to add a name to the prayer list, email info@stmatthewsevanston.org. Names are listed for 4 weeks.

The Prayer List is prayed for weekly by the St. Matthew's Prayer Group and the Rector.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: *Diocesan Agencies:* Bishop & Trustees; Diocesan Council, Diocesan Foundation, Episcopal Charities & Community Services; and Standing Committee.

For the congregation at St. Matthew's as we embrace our mission to be welcoming all in community; joyfully doing God's work in the world: welcoming our neighbors near and far.

We pray for all those who celebrate birthdays in September: Louis Allred, Alysia Austin, Fame Brooks, Roberta Buchanan, Stephen Carr, Daisy Chaudruc, Don Churchill, Matthew Cornyn, Hannah Davies, Donald Draganski, Jackson Hamrick, Sophie Hamrick, Samantha Kujovich, Jamie Lauderbaugh, Jason McDermott, Sarah Muyres, Harper Olsen, Gina Purse, Ashley Raab, Karin Anne Ruetzel, Susan Sprowl, Brooke Viner, Terra Westhaus, Jay Wilson and Jessica Wilson.

We pray for those who celebrate wedding anniversaries in September: Kathy & Jack Riley, Mary Jo Deysach & Francis Lynch, Christina Padilla & The Rev. Charles de Kay and Janie & Bob Stevens.

We pray for equal opportunity and equal treatment under the law for all people; that we may be agents of God's kingdom, dismantling systems of injustice wherever and whenever we can, and for the will to enact common sense gun control laws.

We pray for those in uniform, risking their lives daily on our behalf: Jeremy Garrett, Aaron Grant, Thomas Greenwich, Lee Henderson, Tyler Howland, Peter Marks, Ian McGuffin, Molly Robinson, Joseph Sanford, Emma Seckinger, Dan Teska, Thomas Garbee, and the members of our city's fire and police departments, and for their families.

We pray for those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit or who have asked for our prayers: Andrew Pickens McMillan, Paige D, David Crummy, Curt Nilsson, Ted Weiss, Kate Martin, Bob Baker, Joan Sanford, Maria G and family, Benjamin Ticobay, Bob Teska, Ralph Motogawa, Sam, Phil Costa, Cindy Bass, Uwase Bionce, Brigitte, Clemence, Betty Stafford, Jessica Mueller, Maeve Champine, Fame Brooks, Mike Wagner, Cathy Fiala, Maggie, Mark Jacobsen, Corky Siegfriedt, Donna Wagner, Angela Escobar, Sharon Filipisik, Will Widmer, Don Gabouser, Manuel Aleman-Padilla, for the Hunt, Brennen, Crayton/Wagner, and Westerfield families, and for the Congolese family we've been matched with in partnership with RefugeeOne.

We pray for all in need: those struggling with the Coronavirus, all victims of this pandemic, organ donors and those awaiting transplant, the lonely and isolated, our nation, especially those oppressed by our current systems, those protesting racial injustice, all elected officials seeking to lead communities in this challenging time, the unemployed and under-employed.

We pray for those suffering from acts of violence – including warfare, gun violence and sexual violence – as well as from natural disasters, and their aftermaths.

We pray for all who have died, and for all who mourn their passing.

ABOUT THIS MORNING'S SERVICE

While the shape and format of our service is from the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer* (revisions authorized by the Episcopal Church, March 17, 2020), St. Matthew's strives to offer worship that is relevant, inclusive, and hospitable: worship which is in keeping with our mission to be "welcoming all in community; joyfully doing God's work in the world." Therefore, we draw upon a variety of authorized sources, adapting them as necessary.

In today's service, the Opening Acclamation, the Song of Praise, and other responses come from *Enriching Our Worship I*. The Collect of the Day comes from a collection of prayers written to match the lessons appointed in the Revised Common Lectionary: *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* by Steven Shakespeare. Scripture readings follow the Revised Common Lectionary using the *New Revised Standard Version* of the Bible. The Affirmation of Faith comes from the website of the Church of England. The Blessing comes from the Episcopal Church website: [Prayers and Blessings \(episcopalchurch.org\)](http://Prayers and Blessings (episcopalchurch.org)).