



Saint Matthew Episcopal Church

In the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia
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ONE WHO IS
MORE
POWERFUL
THAN I
IS COMING

The Third Sunday of Advent December 13, 2015



The Liturgy of The Holy Eucharist II

Procession to the Altar Hymn #68

Rejoice! rejoice, believers

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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, said at 8am;

Benedictus es, Domine, sung at 10am
(printed on page 10 of the Worship Guide)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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 Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from Zephaniah

(3:14-20)

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.
The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,
 he will renew you in his love;
 he will exult over you with loud singing
 as on a day of festival.
 I will remove disaster from you,
 so that you will not bear reproach for it.
 I will deal with all your oppressors
 at that time.
 And I will save the lame
 and gather the outcast,
 and I will change their shame into praise
 and renown in all the earth.
 At that time I will bring you home,
 at the time when I gather you;
 for I will make you renowned and praised
 among all the peoples of the earth,
 when I restore your fortunes
 before your eyes, says the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 9

(Read in unison after the first asterisk)

Surely, it is God who saves me; ***I will trust in him
 and not be afraid.**
**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure
 defense, *and he will be my Savior.**
**Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
 from the springs of salvation.**
**And on that day you shall say, *Give thanks to
 the Lord and call upon his Name;**
**Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
 see that they remember that his Name is
 exalted.**
**Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done
 great things, *and this is known in all the
 world.**
**Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
 *for the great one in the midst of you is the
 Holy One of Israel.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the
 Holy Spirit: *as it was in the beginning, is
 now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

A Reading from Philippians (4:4-7)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The
 Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but
 in everything by prayer and supplication with
 thanksgiving let your requests be made known
 to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses
 all understanding, will guard your hearts and
 your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn #56 vs. 5

O come, o come, Emmanuel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (3:7-18)

John said to the crowds that came out to be
 baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned
 you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits
 worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to
 yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for
 I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up
 children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at
 the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does
 not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the
 fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we
 do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two
 coats must share with anyone who has none; and
 whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax
 collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him,
 "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them,
 "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for
 you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should
 we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money
 from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be
 satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all
 were questioning in their hearts concerning John,
 whether he might be the Messiah, John answered
 all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but

one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

Gradual Hymn #56 vs. 6

O come, o come Emmanuel

The Sermon

Fr. Haynes

Silence for reflection

The Nicene Creed (Standing, as able.)

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

As a people in darkness waiting for the coming of the light of Christ, let us pray to the Lord,
Lord hear our prayer.

For the Unity of Christ's One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, let us pray to the Lord,
Lord hear our prayer.

For Bartholomew, Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, Francis, Bishop of Rome, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our presiding bishop, Greg our bishop; for priests, deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God, let us pray to the Lord,
Lord hear our prayer

For the Anglican Communion, especially Windward Islands – (West Indies); our diocese, especially Trinity, Everett; St. Philip, Marysville; St. Hilda-St. Patrick, Edmonds; and our parish, especially for our parishioners (The Rev.) Pete & Barb Stanton; Bea Stensrud; Tom & Elaine Taylor, let us pray to the Lord,
Lord hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, especially Barack our President in the ways of justice and peace; for our armed forces and those who are deployed especially for those we now name..., let us pray to the Lord,
Lord hear our prayer.

For the poor, the hungry, the oppressed, the unemployed, those in prison, and for the sick and suffering; praying for all those on our prayer list and those in our hearts, especially especially Lyn, Areewa, Eloise, Dave, Brenda, Rose, Shirley, Elsie, Scott, Alisande, Ted, Crystal, Elliott, Don, Marisa, Laura, Adam, Cesar, Cherie, Alice, James, Sandy, Lloyd, Julie, Justin, Parker, Edith, Martha and for those we now name..., let us pray to the Lord,
Lord hear our prayer.

For those anticipating the birth of a child, a move, a change in employment or any new beginning, let us pray to the Lord,
Lord hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all the blessings of this life,
especially for the blessings we now name..., let us
pray to the Lord,
Lord hear our prayer.

For those who have died and now abide in Christ's
presence, and others we now name..., let us pray to
the Lord,
Lord hear our prayer.

Confession of Sin

We pray also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People

**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.**

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**

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with
you.

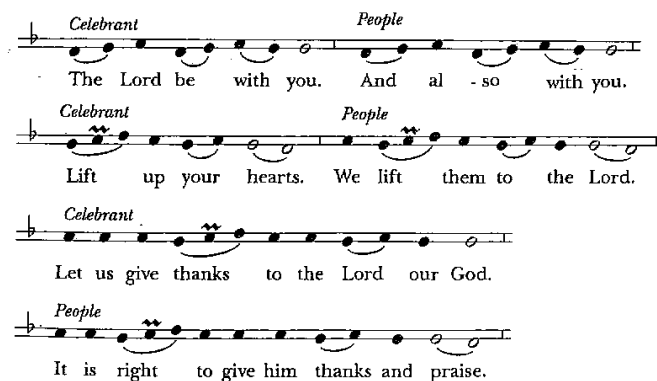
People And also with you.

Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Celebrations and Healing Prayers

Offertory Hymn #76

On Jordan's bank

The Great Thanksgiving – B



Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and
every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is said as appointed.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with
Angels and Archangels and with all the company of
heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the
glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus

8:00 am (spoken), 10:00 am Sanctus (sung)

(Printed on page 11 of the Worship Guide)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and
love which you have made known to us in creation;
in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your
Word spoken through the prophets; and above all
in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in
these last days you sent him to be incarnate from
the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of
the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you. In him,
you have brought us out of error into truth, out of
sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

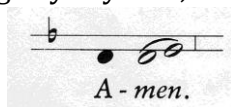
**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified + by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



Lord's Prayer *said at 8 am & sung at 10 am*
(Printed on page 12 of the Worship Guide)

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

**Our father in heaven
hallowed be your Name,**

**your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day 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 and Holy Communion

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

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

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

This is our Lord's Table, and He is our host. All persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. Those who have yet to be baptized are encouraged to speak with the clergy after the service about becoming baptized into Christ's Body.

Gluten-free hosts and alcohol-free wine are available upon request at the rail.

Communion Music

He is Exalted

He is exalted the King is exalted on high; I will praise Him.

He is exalted forever exalted and I will praise His name!

He is the Lord forever His truth shall reign;
Heaven and earth rejoice in His Holy name.

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

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Be Not Afraid

1. You shall cross the barren desert,
But shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety,
Though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands,
And all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Refrain: Be not afraid. I go before you always.
Come follow me and I will give you rest.

2. If you pass through raging waters in the sea,
You shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames,
You shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the pow'r of hell
And death is at your side,
Know that I am with you through it all.

Refrain: Be not afraid. I go before you always.
Come follow me and I will give you rest.

3. Blessed are the poor,
For the Kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn,
For one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked men insult and hate you
All because of Me,
Blessed, blessed are you.

Refrain: Be not afraid. I go before you always.
Come follow me and I will give you rest.

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COMMISSIONING OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

Celebrant and People: ***We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.***

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray:

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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.

The Blessing

May the sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Procession to the Neighborhood

Hymn #490 *I want to walk as a child of the light*

St. Matthew Mission Statement

St. Matthew Church: **To be a church that passionately embraces and values all people, growing in the love of Christ through word and action.**

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Special Ministers Today

Priest	The Rev. Kendall Haynes
Worship Leader	Mary Blacker
Worship Leader in Training	
Eucharistic Minister	Dick Elofson, Nancy Newkirk
Lector	Karena Teves
Acolytes	Nicholas Yun Zawadi Chege
Ushers	Dick Collins Bob Witter
Greeters	Elaine Taylor Janet Witter
Eucharistic Visitor	Chuck & Lyn Zimmerman
Bread Maker	Marian Oberg
Altar Guild	Jill Little Sue Inglis Lorina Goodjoint

Counters	Dick Collins Fred Vogel
Nursery	Micaela Detrick
Coffee Hour	Cat Kuniyoshi Jon Kuniyoshi Art Ladley Pam Ladley
Altar Guild Director	Linda Pomeroy-Hull

St Matthew Episcopal Church Staff

Head of the Church	Jesus Christ our Lord
Bishop of Olympia	The Rt. Rev. Gregory Rickel
Priest	The Rev. Kendall Haynes
Parish Administrator	Dave Noll
Bookkeeper	Beth Rich
Church Sexton	Saray Yourn
Pianist	Maria McKanzie
Nursery Care Attendant	Micaela Detrick
Church Photographer	John Hibben

St Matthew Episcopal Church Vestry

Sr. Warden	Terry Elofson
Jr. Warden	Sueann Goretti
PLC Chairperson	Marcie Neuman
Marketing & Evangelism Liaison	Sueann Goretti Sherry Mees Hartley
Stewardship Liaison	Jon Kuniyoshi
Liturgy & Arts Liaison	Fred Vogel
Outreach Liaison	Samuel Kamau

Christian Education Liaison

Mark Lepkowski

Pastoral Care Liaison

Liz Latsis

St Matthew Episcopal Church Vestry Officers

Treasurer	Frank Blacker
Clerk of the Vestry	Sandy Goretti

Today's Prayer List

Lyn Zimmerman – Myotonic Dystrophy
Areewa Saray – imprisonment
Eloise Page (friend of Tom & Elaine Taylor) – hospice
Dave Hopkins – pain management and balance
Brenda Gilbert – fighting severe health problems
Rose Barg – recovery from surgery
Shirley Ryan Rose – (neighbor of Linda Pomeroy-Hull) – continued recovery from a vascular stroke
Elsie Forrest – Macular Degeneration, tremors, and hernia
Scott Candoo – undiagnosed medical issues
Alisande Watterson – tests for a health issue
Ted Blattenbauer – (friend of Dan & Linda Pomeroy-Hull) – grieving and diagnosed with multiple myeloma
Crystal Rose – kidney issues
Elliott Feit – (friend of Abby Smith) – for complete healing from pain (pancreatic cancer)
Don Barg – holding the family together
Marisa La Rue – (friend of Kathleen Manning) – struggle with Parkinson's disease
Laura O'Donnell – (mother of Alex and Savannah Sloan) for recovery and healing from heart surgery
Adam – (friend of Liz Latsis brother) – who is very sick with acute Leukemia, spine, lung and fungal infections.
Cesar Gatbunton – (Agueda Fernandez-Webster's sisters husband) – for recovery and healing from heart surgery
Cherie Peterson – (sister of Bud Nalder) – suffering from dementia
Alice Medin – (cousin of Kitty Walker) – complications following knee replacement surgery
James Sloan – (son of Jim & Ginny Sloan) – incarcerated for a past DUI
Sandy Green – (brother-in-law) of Alex Ringstad) – just entered into Hospice care
Lloyd Wood – (brother of Sue & Sandy Goretti's uncle) – Incarcerated for a DUI offense)
Julie – (friend of Fred & Sherry Vogel) – who is facing breast cancer treatment
Justin Smith – (husband of Abby Smith) – continued health
Parker and his family and pets – (friend of Abby Smith)
Edith – (friend of Abby Smith) –
Martha Dolores Gatbunton – (sister of Agueda Fernandez-Webster) – placed on Hospice care at home
To add someone or take someone off the prayer list, email saintmatthewpastoralcare@gmail.com .
Thanks!

Announcements

South Sound Classical Choir at St

Matthew – Sunday, December 13th, at 3:00pm, you are invited to this free concert at St Matthew. Featuring the works of Schalk, Handel, Mozart, Billings, Rutter, Lauridsen, Bruckner, Biebl, and other music of Christmas. Dr. David LaBerge, Director.

Help with Cookies for December 13th Concert -

Sunday, Dec. 13th, The South Sound Classical Choir is presenting their annual Christmas concert at St. Matthew at 3pm. In the interest of displaying our parish hospitality, we will have refreshments available after the concert. If anyone would like to drop off a dozen of their holiday cookies, it would be greatly appreciated. If you aren't able to attend the concert, you could drop the cookies with me after the 10 a.m. service. Thanks much, Marcie Neuman, 253 447 7424

December Outreach - our annual “PUT A SOCK IN IT” drive to provide clean new socks to Tacoma’s homeless. The “sock tree” is up in the Narthex and we are off to a good start filling it with socks. After the Christmas season ends we will deliver the socks to Nativity House who will distribute them over the winter to homeless members of our community. Providing clean new socks to the homeless to insure their feet stay warm and dry is one of the best ways to help them stay healthy over the winter. The best socks to donate are those that wick water away so that feet stay dry. These are usually a blend with some acrylic yarn. We hope you will join us in filling the tree (our goal is to have so many socks that it falls over) and making this winter a little more comfortable and healthy for the homeless in our community.

This year our sock tree also contains the names of children in a family in need of help over the holidays. The children’s names are on an ornament that also has their age and what they would like for Christmas. You may either select the gift they have requested or a \$25.00 gift card. Only two of the children have been selected so far, so if you are able

please help us bring a joyful Christmas to the whole family. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday School Update - We are coming up on preparing for our Christmas Pageant and looking for leaders and helpers. We need a pageant coordinator but also helpers for prepping the costumes (washing and mending) as well as assisting with dressing the kids on Christmas Eve. If anyone is interested in being part of this special group or committee please email Anne Hartwig at or hartwia@comcast.net or call 253-227-7290. Our pageant is always a sweet and special celebration of Jesus birth and a wonderful way for our children to see a visual and participate in the story of Christmas! Blessings from Anne Hartwig, Jackie Whortan, Liz Latsis, Kitty Walker

Star Wars Movie Series Continues - Parker and Addison Haynes kindly invite you to a Super Sunday Star Wars Movie Series at St. Matthew, Sundays @ 5:30 PM. Each movie is approximately 2.5 hours long and lots of fun. Come see the ultimate intergalactic saga of good vs. evil in preparation for the upcoming *Episode VII: The Force Awakens*, which is set to be released in theaters everywhere on December 18th. Bring your own snacks and maybe some to share!

Dec. 13th – Episode VI: Return of the Jedi

Dec. 18th – *Opening in Theaters Everywhere!*

Episode VII: The Force Awakens

Mark your calendar—

- Saturdays, 8AM, Men's Breakfast in the Parish Hall
- Fridays, 7:00PM, Bell choir practice
- 2nd Saturday of each month, 9AM-Noon, Julia's Gulch
- Sundays, 11:45AM, Choir rehearsal (first Sunday only at 9:15am)
- Sundays, 9AM Bridging the Gap
- Bible Class, 11AM Thursdays
- 4th Friday of each month, 7PM JLS (Just Love Singing)
- Sunday, December 13th, 3:00PM, South Sound Classical Choir at St Matthew
- Thursday, December 24th, 4PM, Holy Eucharist
- Thursday, December 24th, 11PM, Holy Eucharist (Midnight Mass)
- Thursday, December 24th, 10:30PM, Carols before the Midnight Mass
- Friday, December 25th, 9AM, Holy Eucharist
- Tuesday, January 5th, 5:30PM, (Epiphany Eve) Twelfth Night Celebration Party
-