



Saint Matthew Episcopal Church
 In the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia
 6800 Eastside Drive NE, Tacoma WA 98422
 Ph: 253-927-9808
 Office email: office@stmatthew.comcastbiz.net
 Fr. Haynes' email: fatherkendall@gmail.com
 Parish Website: www.neighborhoodparish.org



Caroling at 3:45 pm (all music is in the Hymnal)

- #89 It came upon a midnight clear
- #105 God rest ye merry gentlemen
- #109 The first Nowell
- #96 Angels we have heard on high
- #99 Go tell it on the mountain



The Nativity of Our Lord
December 24, 2014
 4:00 PM Service



The Liturgy of
The Holy Eucharist II

Procession to the Altar Hymn #83

O come all ye faithful

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.**

Christmas candle lighting *Gloria – S279*
(Printed on page 10 of the Worship Guide)

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Reading from Isaiah (9:2-7)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

Psalm 96
(Read in unison after the first asterisk)

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; * **sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.**
- 2 **Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; * proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**

- 3 **Declare his glory among the nations * and his wonders among all peoples.**
- 4 **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; * he is more to be feared than all gods.**
- 5 **As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; * but it is the LORD who made the heavens.**
- 6 **Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! * Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**
- 7 **Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; * ascribe to the LORD honor and power.**
- 8 **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; * bring offerings and come into his courts.**
- 9 **Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; * let the whole earth tremble before him.**
- 10 **Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! * he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."**
- 11 **Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; * let the field be joyful and all that is therein.**
- 12 **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, * when he comes to judge the earth.**
- 13 **He will judge the world with righteousness * and the peoples with his truth.**

A Reading from Titus (2:11-14)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and

Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

Pageant in place of reading the Gospel
Christmas Pageant

Reader 1:

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Reader 2:

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. And all went to pay the tax, everyone into his own city.

Enter Mary and Joseph

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

(Hymn 79, vss. 1 & 5)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
 The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
 Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
 We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
 O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Reader 3:

And Joseph also went up to Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea unto the city of David which is called Bethlehem.

He went to be taxed with Mary, his wife, who was great with child. Due to the busy tax season, the city was full of people. Mary and Joseph looked for a place to stay.

Joseph:

Do you have any room for us to stay?

Innkeeper:

No. The inn is full.

Joseph:

Please! My wife is going to have a baby soon!

Innkeeper:

Well, I do have fresh hay in the barn. Come, I will lead you there.

Innkeeper leads Mary and Joseph to the stable

Reader 3:

The innkeeper led them to a stable that was warm and dry. There Mary and Joseph settled down for the night. And so it was that while they were there, a child was born.

Mary takes the baby into her arms

Reader 1:

And she brought forth her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger.

Mary:

I shall name him Jesus!

AWAY IN A MANGER (Hymn 101, vss. 1 & 2)

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.

The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.

I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Reader 1:

And there in the same country, were shepherds in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Enter shepherds

THE FIRST NOWELL (Hymn 109, vss. 1 & 2)

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

Reader 2:

The angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them.

Enter angels

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

(Hymn 96, vs. 1)

Angels we have heard on high, singing
sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their
brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo

Reader 2:

And the angel of the Lord said unto them,

Head Angel:

Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you born this day is Christ the Lord.

Reader 3:

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying...

Everyone together:

Glory to God in the Highest, and peace on earth peace; good will towards all!

Lead King:

Shepherds were not the only worshippers at the cradle in Bethlehem. Great and wise kings also came bearing fine gifts!

Enter wise men

WE THREE KINGS (Hymn 128, vss. 1 & 5)

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to the perfect light!

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;

Heaven sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies.

Refrain

Reader:

As we approach this joyful and holy season where all will be calm and bright, take time to be a shepherd, a wise man, or an angel to someone in your life. Celebrate with others the birth of Jesus Christ our King. We hope

that our pageant has helped you remember once again the true meaning of Christmas. Please join us in singing "O Come All Ye Faithful" as our pageant concludes.

Pageant Exits

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL (Hymn 83, vs. 1)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

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

Let us pray.

For the holy Church of God, that we may boldly proclaim the good tidings of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. We pray especially for Bartholomew, Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, Francis, Bishop of Rome, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Katharine our presiding bishop, Gregory our bishop; for priests, deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.

O God who is with us, ***hear our prayer.***

For the Anglican Communion, especially for the Diocese of Kubwa - Abuja, Nigeria; our diocese, especially Our Savior, Monroe; St. John, Snohomish and our parish, especially for our parishioners Dan, Sandy, Sarah, Caitlin & Jonathan Dawes; David Dokter; Scott, Holly, Sydney & Chelsea Donnelly.

O God who is with us, ***hear our prayer.***

For the leaders of world, especially Barack, our president, that they may follow the example of the Prince of Peace by striving for peace and justice among the nations. We pray for our armed forces and for those who are deployed, especially Andrew, and Michael, and for those we now name....

O God who is with us, ***hear our prayer.***

We give thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially for the blessings we now name...

O God who is with us, ***hear our prayer.***

For those who travel, that their reunions may be occasions of celebration and that they return safely to their homes.

O God who is with us, ***hear our prayer.***

For the homeless, the unemployed, the hungry, and all who are alone and forgotten, that we, who have

received so abundantly, may give generously for their lives and needs.

O God who is with us, ***hear our prayer.***

For those who do not yet know the Light of Christ, that their hearts may be filled with hope, peace, joy and love.

O God who is with us, ***hear our prayer.***

For those who are sick, that they may be blessed by your healing grace. We pray for all those on our prayer list and those in our hearts, praying especially for Lyn, Areewa, Eloise, Carmen, Stephen, Dave, Sarah, Katrina, Mary, Corretta, Paulett, Heather, Justin, Ginny, Maryann, Lila, Bill, Brenda, Beth & Kendall, Ayrton, Jim, Wes, Shirley, Rose, Lorraine, Ashley and for those we now name....

O God who is with us, ***hear our prayer.***

For the departed, that they may have rest in that place where the angels sing gloriously for all eternity, remembering especially those we now name....

O God who is with us, ***hear our prayer.***

Celebrant

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Celebrant

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.**

Offertory Hymn #93 *Angels from realms of glory*

Tonight's offering will go to our Local Outreach fund which directly serves families and individuals in need within our community

The Great Thanksgiving – B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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

(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. **AMEN.**

Lord's Prayer

(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 are available upon request at the rail.

Communion Music

Emmanuel

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called
Emmanuel
God with us, revealed in us, His name is
called Emmanuel

Emmanuel, words and music by Jeff Bucha
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Hymn #115

What child is this

Hymn #101

Away in a manger

Hymn #89

It came upon a midnight clear

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray:

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Candle lighting

(The People light candles, symbolizing the light of Christ coming into the world. After the candles are lit the congregation sings Hymn#111 - Silent Night.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Blessing

May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Procession to the Neighborhood

Hymn #100

Joy to the World

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 in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Merry Christmas!!

Special Ministers Today

Priest	The Rev. Kendall Haynes
Worship Leader	Bob Witter
Eucharistic Minister	Frank Blacker
Lector	Danielle Hull
Acolytes	Zawadi Chege
Ushers	Terry Elofson Dan Dawes
Greeters	Marcie Neuman Lorina Goodjoint Janet Witter
Bread Maker	Marian Oberg
Altar Guild	Beth Latsis Cat Kuniyoshi Liz Latsis
Altar Guild Directress	Janet Witter

St Matthew Episcopal Church Vestry Officers

Treasurer	Art Ladley
Clerk of the Vestry	Sandy Goretti

December Outreach: Our annual “**PUT A SOCK IN IT**” drive ends on Sunday, December 28th. All the socks will be delivered to the Tacoma Examiner by December 30th. Thank you to all for your generosity!

Support for Our Local Community Food Bank:

Last week we delivered 47 lbs. of food to our local food bank. They were very grateful. During the summer the food bank was serving 20 to 22 families a week. They are now serving 34 so the need is great – and growing. Our final delivery of food will be on Friday, December 26 – the day after Christmas. If you would like to make one final donation this year please be sure you place your donated items in the Deacon’s Chest by 12:00 noon that day. Thanks to everyone that has supported this Outreach program throughout the year. Your generosity has made a real difference for our community. Your **Outreach Co-Mission**

Organ Dedication Evensong—On **Sunday, January 4th at 5PM**, we are all invited to a special Dedication Evensong celebrating the recent installation of a beautiful Paul Fritts organ at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church (7410 S. 12th St., Tacoma WA 98465). This will be a FREE event not to miss. Please RSVP to Ms. Margie Hoffman at 253-588-4589 or mteach65@runbox.com by December 28th.

Twelfth Night Celebration—Come and join in the fun as we celebrate the Eve of the Epiphany, the feast when the wise men (representing everyone outside of the people of Israel) follow a star to Bethlehem in order to pay homage to Jesus, on **Monday, January 5**. The evening will begin at **5:30 pm** with wine and appetizers in the Library followed by a pot-luck dinner at **6:15 pm**. The evening will conclude with Evening Prayer, dessert and singing. All are welcome as we celebrate the important fact that the Messiah didn’t come for a select group of people, but for everyone!!

“The Jesus I Never Knew”—This is a new teaching series which starts January 6, 2015 at 10AM. Come and see. Any questions, please contact Bud Nalder 253-927-2075.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the Date for the St. Matthew's January

Choir Retreat—The choir would like to invite any and all who are curious, interested and have always wanted to be part of a choir ensemble, to take part in the St. Matthew's January Choir Retreat. Come and enjoy a morning of singing and fellowship on Saturday, January 24th, 2015. Meet in the sanctuary from 9:30am-12:30pm and share your favorite "something" at the potluck following rehearsal.

St. Matthew's Choir sings during the first Sunday service each month. Any questions please contact Nan Clapp at 253-927-2827. Thank you!

Mark your calendar—

- Saturdays, 8AM, Men's Breakfast in the Parish Hall
- 2nd Saturday of each month, 9AM-Noon, Julia's Gulch
- 4th Friday of each month, 7PM JLS (Just Love Singing)
- Thursdays, 10AM, Bible Study in the library
- Thursdays, 7PM Adult Catechumenate in the library
- Sundays, 11:30AM, Choir rehearsal
- Sundays, 9:00AM Bridging the Gap
- Thursday, December 25, 9AM Holy Eucharist
- Friday, December 26, 7PM JLS (Just Love Singing)
- Sunday, January 4, 5PM Organ Dedication Evensong at St. Andrew's, Tacoma
- Monday, January 5, 5:30PM Twelfth Night Celebration
- Saturday, January 24, 9:30AM-12:30PM Choir Retreat @ St. Matthew