



Saint Matthew Episcopal Church

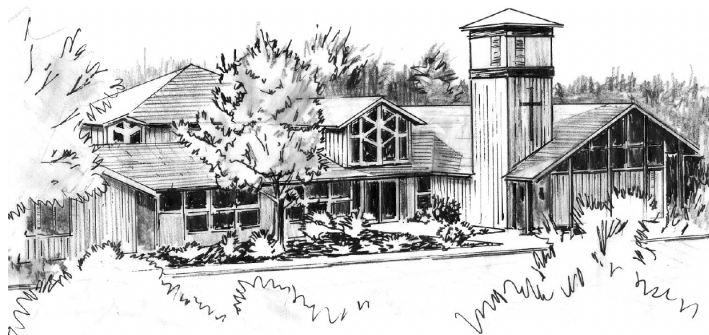
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The Feast of Mary and Martha of Bethany and The Sending of a Seminarian: Elizabeth Holland July 29, 2023

The Liturgy of The Holy Eucharist II

Procession to the Altar

Here I Am, Lord

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry,
All who dwell in dark and sin,
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me;
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain;

I have wept for love of them,
they turn away.
I will bear their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest wheat I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied;
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

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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.**

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.

O God, heavenly Father, your Son Jesus Christ enjoyed rest and refreshment in the home of Mary and Martha of Bethany: Give us the will to love you, open our hearts to hear you, and strengthen our hands to serve you in others for his sake; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from 1 Samuel (25:18-38)

Abigail hurried and took two hundred loaves, two skins of wine, five sheep ready dressed, five measures of parched grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs. She loaded them on donkeys and said to her young men, "Go on ahead of me; I am coming after you." But she did not tell her husband Nabal. As she rode on the donkey and came down under cover of the mountain, David and his men came down toward her; and she met them. Now David had said, "Surely it was in vain that I protected all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belonged to him; but he has returned me evil for good. God do so to David and more also, if by morning I leave so much as one male of all who belong to him." When Abigail saw David, she hurried and alighted from the donkey, fell before David on her face, bowing to the ground. She fell at his feet and said, "Upon me alone, my lord, be the guilt; please let your servant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your servant. My lord, do not take seriously this ill-natured fellow, Nabal; for as his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him; but I, your servant, did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent. Now then, my lord, as the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, since the Lord has restrained you from bloodguilt and from taking vengeance with your own hand, now let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be like Nabal. And now let this present that your servant has brought to my lord be given to the young men who follow my lord. Please forgive the trespass of your servant; for the Lord will certainly make my lord a sure house, because my lord is fighting the battles of the Lord; and evil shall not be found in you so long as you live. If anyone should rise up to pursue you and to seek your life, the life

of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living under the care of the Lord your God; but the lives of your enemies he shall sling out as from the hollow of a sling. When the Lord has done to my lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you, and has appointed you prince over Israel, my lord shall have no cause of grief, or pangs of conscience, for having shed blood without cause or for having saved himself. And when the Lord has dealt well with my lord, then remember your servant." David said to Abigail, "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who sent you to meet me today! Blessed be your good sense, and blessed be you, who have kept me today from bloodguilt and from avenging myself by my own hand! For as surely as the Lord the God of Israel lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there would not have been left to Nabal so much as one male." Then David received from her hand what she had brought him; he said to her, "Go up to your house in peace; see, I have heeded your voice, and I have granted your petition." Abigail came to Nabal; he was holding a feast in his house, like the feast of a king. Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunk; so she told him nothing at all until the morning light. In the morning, when the wine had gone out of Nabal, his wife told him these things, and his heart died within him; he became like a stone. About ten days later the Lord struck Nabal, and he died.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 36:1-5

- 1 There is a voice of rebellion deep in the heart of the wicked; there is no fear of God before his eyes.
- 2 **He flatters himself in his own eyes that his hateful sin will not be found out.**
- 3 The words of his mouth are wicked and deceitful, he has left off acting wisely and doing good.
- 4 **He thinks up wickedness upon his bed and has set himself in no good way; he does not abhor that which is evil.**

5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

Gradual

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you;
Allelu, Alleluia!

Refrain: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia,
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia!

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (10:38-42)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus and his disciples went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gradual

Seek Ye First

Ask, and it shall be given unto you,
Seek, and ye shall find,
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you;
Allelu, Alleluia!

Refrain: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia,
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia!

The Homily

Silence for reflection

The Apostles' Creed (Standing, as able.)
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of
heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy
Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered**

**under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and
was buried. He descended to the dead. On the
third day he rose again. He ascended into
heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the
Father. He will come again to judge the living
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic
Church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the
body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Celebrant

Almighty God, you promised through your Son
Jesus Christ to hear the prayers of those who ask in
faith.

Leader

Lord of your people: strengthen your Church in all
the world; renew the life of this diocese; bless
Melissa, our Bishop Provisional, and Brian, our
Assisting Bishop, and build us up in faith and love.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Lord of creation: look with favor on the world you
have made, guide the nations in the ways of justice
and peace, and direct and bless all in authority.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Lord of our relationships: protect those who travel;
comfort and sustain the communities in which we
live, work, and recreate; help us to love our
neighbors as ourselves, and to love one another as
you love us. Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Lord of all healing: relieve and protect those who
are sick or suffering; be with those who have any
special need, and deliver all who know danger,
violence, or oppression. Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Lord of eternity: bind us together by your Holy
Spirit, in communion with all who have died in the
peace of Christ, that we may come with them and
all your saints to the joys of your eternal kingdom.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

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 Sending (The people are seated.)

Celebrant My help comes from the Lord;

People **the maker of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant The Lord shall watch over your going out and coming in,
People **from this time forth and forever more.**

Celebrant

Almighty and everlasting God, we offer thanks and praise for Elizabeth, who through her preaching, teaching, and ministry among us has given us new glimpses of the Divine; may the love and care of this community continually enfold her; bless and strengthen her as she travels and settles into a new home, establishes new routines, and makes new friends; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offertory

Today's offertory will go to our Seminarian Fund for the care and support of our parish's seminarians.



Servant Song

1. Won't you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are travelers on the road.
We are here to help each other,
walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you,
in the night-time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the words you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow
'til we've seen this
journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony.
Born of all we've known together,
of Christ's love and agony.
6. Won't you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.

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Presentation of the Gifts

Hymn #380 vs. 3

Doxology

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. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving – C

The Celebrant faces the people and says

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.**

The Celebrant proceeds

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, Lord, 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, he 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:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus

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. The Celebrant continues
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,

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.

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.**

Lord's Prayer

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.

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

All persons are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion in one or both of the elements or receive a blessing. Gluten-free hosts and alcohol-free wine are available upon request at the rail. If you have yet to be baptized and are interested in learning more about this sacrament, please see one of the clergy following the liturgy.

If you do not wish to come forward for Communion or a blessing, or if you are attending the liturgy virtually, you are invited to pray the prayer from The St. Augustine's Prayer Book following the Communion Music..

Communion Music

One Bread, One Body

Refrain:

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
One cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many throughout the earth,
We are one body in this one Lord.

1. Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man
no more. *Refrain*
2. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord
of all. *Refrain*
3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all. *Refrain*

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Holy Ground

This is holy ground, we're standing on holy ground,
For the Lord is present, and where he is, is holy,
(repeat)

These are holy hands, he's given us holy hands;
He works through these hands, and so these hands
are holy, (repeat)

These are holy lips, he's given us holy lips;
He speaks through these lips, and so these lips are
holy, (repeat)

This is holy ground, we're standing on holy ground,
For the Lord is present, and where he is, is holy,
(repeat)

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Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered
at every altar of your Church where your blessed
Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer
praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the
blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us
by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means
of grace and the hope of glory. I believe that you
are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since
I cannot at this time receive Communion, I pray
you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you
and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and
my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me
serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to
your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

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 for ever.
Amen.**

The Blessing

The Peace of God, which passes all understanding
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and
love of God, and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord;
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

They'll know we are Christians By Our Love

1. We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity
may one day be restored.

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love

2. We will walk with each other.
We will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other.
We will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news
that God is in our land. *Refrain*
3. We will work with each other.
We will work side by side.
We will work with each other.
We will work side by side.
And we'll guard each one's dignity
and save each one's pride. *Refrain*
4. All praise to the Father,
from whom all things came.
And all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love

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St. Matthew Mission Statement

**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.**

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<p>You are invited to continue this afternoon's celebration with a reception in the parish hall.</p>

Special Ministers Today

Celebrant	The Rev. Dick Mahaffy
Homilist	The Rev. Kendall Haynes
Lector	Anna Lynn
Musician	Alex Flannigan
ASL Interpreters	Rebecca Kindblade Diane Lynch
Altar Guild Director	Linda Pomeroy-Hull