



Saint Matthew Episcopal Church
 In the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia
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 Parish Website: www.neighborhoodparish.org



Caroling at 10:30(all music is in the Hymnal)

- #105 God rest ye merry gentlemen
- #107 Good Christian Friends rejoice
- #110 The snow lay on the ground
- #81 Lo how a rose e'er blooming
- #96 Angels we have heard on high
- #89 It came upon a midnight clear
- #79 O little town of Bethlehem
- #84 Love came down at Christmas



The Nativity of Our Lord
December 24, 2013
 11:00 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 *Christ be our light*
(Printed on page 8 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 have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A Reading from Isaiah

(62:6-12)

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 97

(Read in unison after the first asterisk)

- 1 The LORD is King; let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 **Clouds and darkness are round about him, * righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.**
- 3 **A fire goes before him * and burns up his enemies on every side.**
- 4 **His lightnings light up the world; * the earth sees it and is afraid.**
- 5 **The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, * at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.**
- 6 **The heavens declare his righteousness, * and all the peoples see his glory.**
- 7 **Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! * Bow down before him, all you gods.**
- 8 **Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, * because of your judgments, O LORD.**
- 9 **For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth; * you are exalted far above all gods.**
- 10 **The LORD loves those who hate evil; * he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**
- 11 **Light has sprung up for the righteous, * and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.**
- 12 **Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, * and give thanks to his holy Name.**

A Reading from Titus

(3:4-7)

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of

rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn 109 vss. 1-3

The first Nowell

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke

(2:1-20)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us

go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

Gradual Hymn 109 vss. 4-6

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 the Diocese of York - England; our diocese, especially Our Savior, Monroe; St. John, Snohomish; and our parish, especially for our parishioners Jim & Jackie Whorton; Bob & Janet Witter; Bob Wright.

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, Josh, Michael, Sarah, 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, Lynn, Areewa, Eloise, Chris, Justo, Rita, Alex, Carmen, Stephen, Dave, Lisa, Barbara, Ryan, Sue, Sarah, Ted, Cal, Mary 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*

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 9 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 10 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 baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. Those who have yet to

be baptized are invited to come forward for a blessing and are encouraged to speak with one of 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*

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.)

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.**

Special Ministers Today

Priest The Rev. Kendall Haynes
Worship Leader Dick Elofson
Eucharistic Minister TBA
Lector Art Ladley
Acolytes Moses Chege
Zawadi Chege
Caitlin Dawes
Terry Elofson
TBA
Ushers Art & Pam Ladley
Greeters Marian Oberg
Bread Maker Sandy Goretti
Altar Guild Janet Witter
Danielle Hull
Linda Pomeroy-Hull
Janet Witter
Altar Guild Directress Janet Witter

St Matthew Episcopal Church Staff

Head of the Church Jesus Christ our Lord
Bishop of Olympia The Rt. Rev. Gregory Rickel
Priest in Charge The Rev. Kendall Haynes
Administrator Agueda Fernández-Webster
Church Sexton Saray Yuorn
Pianist Maria McKanzie
Church Photographer John Hibben

St Matthew Episcopal Church Vestry

Sr. Warden Tom Peterson
Jr. Warden Terry Elofson
Fellowship Liaison Alex Ringstand
Stewardship Liaison John Kennedy
Liturgy & Arts Liaison Kitty Walker
Outreach Liaison Kate Gould
Marketing & Evangelism Liaison Sueann Goretti
Christian Education Liaison Jackie Whorton
Building & Grounds Liaison Terry Elofson

St Matthew Episcopal Church Vestry Officers

Treasurer Art Ladley
Clerk of the Vestry Sandy Goretti

Today's Prayer List

Lyn Zimmerman – Myotonic Dystrophy
Lynn Tanner – kidney disease
Areewa Saray – imprisonment
Eloise Page (friend of Tom & Elaine Taylor) – hospice
Chris Quinn-Britnall – cancer
Justo Fernandez (brother of Agueda Fernandez-Webster) –
Muscular Dystrophy and bitterness
Rita Fernandez (sister of Agueda Fernandez-Webster) –
Muscular Dystrophy and heart condition
Alex Candoo – Parkinson's Disease
Carmen Planas (aunt of Agueda Fernandez-Webster) – broken
leg and dementia
Stephen Peterson (son of Tom & Judy Peterson) – back pain
Dave Hopkins – pain management and balance
Lisa Arnold (niece of Kerry & Deborah Abbington) – breast
cancer
Barbara Cashman – general health (sodium levels)
Sue Ayers (friend of several parishioners) – pancreatic cancer
Sarah (sister of Lydia Nabawanga) – recovery after heart
surgery and grief following the death of her husband
Ted Swanson (uncle of Sueann and Sandy Goretti) – lung and
brain cancer
Cal Scarff – complications related to gall bladder surgery
Mary Saray – health and discernment

To add someone or take someone off the prayer list,
email saintmatthewpastoralcare@gmail.com . Thanks!

Announcements

Bridging the Gap: We will be taking a break during the holiday season. Bridging the Gap will return on Sunday, January 5th when we will view and discuss Lecture 26, “Conrad – Incomprehensible Terror”. We wish you all a glorious Christmas season and look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

Thank you to all who have shared of your abundance and committed to 2014 St Matthew—If you have been meaning to turn in a pledge card but haven't done so yet, now is a great time. 2014 is right around the corner and there are amazing activities St Matthew has in its future.

Outreach: The “Put a Sock in It” Christmas tree is getting full of socks you have generously donated to our communities homeless. Your donations have been supplemented with socks purchased by the Outreach Co-Mission from **Fred Meyer** who generously sold them to us for half price.* There is still room for more socks and the tree will remain up and donations accepted until **Epiphany (January 6th)**

So don't forget to make your donation to Tacoma's homeless during this holiday season and do your part to load the tree until it falls over.

If you would like to show your appreciation to Fred Meyer for their support of **Put a Sock In It please a) shop at Fred Meyer and b) thank the cashier when you check out.*

St Matthew Community Winter Book Sale, Saturday, January 18th: Donations of books, CDs DVDs and magazines are off to a great start. You, your friends & neighbors as well as book clubs you have contacted have all made generous donations. This is a great start but we still need the following:

Books: We need as many as we can get of all kinds but we particularly need more children's books.

Bags: We need bags to put the sold books in. All kinds are acceptable—paper or plastic but the best ones are the large ones with handles such as from Trader Joe's or major department stores. Place them next to the book bin in the Narthex.

Volunteers: We will need everyone's help to make this a successful community event. Volunteers will be needed a) for set up and take down, b) provide cookies, c) for the kitchen crew, d) table staffers and greeters and e) cashiers. Signup sheets will be on the table in the Narthex after Christmas. So please volunteer for something you enjoy doing. Remember you don't have to be a member of St Matthew to be a part of this event. If you have friends or neighbors that may enjoy participating or are looking for ways to connect with the neighborhood sign them up as well. Everyone is welcome.

To arrange pick-up, volunteer to work at the sale or if you have a great idea for the sale, contact Jackie Whorton at 927-3415, jgwhorton@msn.com or John Kennedy at 927-9254, johnakennedy@harbornet.com. Thanks in advance for helping make our book sale a success

Mark your calendar—

- Men's Breakfast, every Saturday 8-9AM in the Parish Hall
- Adult Catechumenate, every Thursday at 7PM and every Friday at 9AM (**Except 12/26 & 12/27**)
- Wednesday, December 25, 9AM Christmas Day Mass
- Friday, December 27, 7PM JLS (Just Love Singing)
- Sunday, January 5 at 5:30pm Twelfth Night party in the Parish Hall
- Saturday, January 11, 9AM-Noon Work Party at Julia's Gulch
- Saturday, January 18 St Matthew Community Winter Book Sale