



**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](mailto:office@stmatthew.comcastbiz.net)  
 Fr. Haynes' email: [fatherkendall@gmail.com](mailto:fatherkendall@gmail.com)  
 Parish Website: [www.neighborhoodparish.org](http://www.neighborhoodparish.org)



## The Nativity of Our Lord

### December 25, 2013

9:00 AM Service



## The Liturgy of The Holy Eucharist II

### Procession to the Altar Hymn #87

*Hark! the herald angels sing*

*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.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom

with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### A Reading from Isaiah (52:7-10)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 98

*(Read in unison after the first asterisk)*

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, \* **for he has done marvelous things.**
- 2 **With his right hand and his holy arm \* has he won for himself the victory.**
- 3 **The LORD has made known his victory; \* his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.**
- 4 **He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \* and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**
- 5 **Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; \* lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

- 6 **Sing to the LORD with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.**
- 7 **With trumpets and the sound of the  
horn\* shout with joy before the King, the  
LORD.**
- 8 **Let the sea make a noise and all that is in  
it, \* the lands and those who dwell  
therein.**
- 9 **Let the rivers clap their hands, \* and let  
the hills ring out with joy before the  
LORD, when he comes to judge the earth.**
- 10 **In righteousness shall he judge the  
world\* and the peoples with equity.**

**A Reading from Hebrews** (1:1-12)

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and

like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

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

**Gradual Hymn 84 vss. 1, 2**

*Love came down at Christmas*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
According to John** (1:1-14)

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

**Gradual Hymn 84 vs. 3**

**The Homily**

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

for Our Savior, Monroe; St. John, Snohomish; and our parish, especially for our parishioners Saray Yourn; Mary Saray; Chuck & Lynn Zimmerman.

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 #81** *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

## 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**

**Hymn #101** *Away in a manger*

**Hymn #115** *What child is this*

## 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.**

## 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 #99**

*Go tell it on the mountain*

## 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.**

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## Special Ministers Today

<b>Priest</b>	The Rev. Kendall Haynes
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Bob Witter
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Kitty Walker
<b>Lector</b>	Bob Witter
<b>Acolytes</b>	Moses Chege Zawadi Chege Caitlin Dawes
<b>Ushers</b>	Dick Collins Bob Wright
<b>Greeters</b>	Dick & Linda Collins

**Bread Maker**  
**Altar Guild**  
**Altar Guild Directress**

Marian Oberg  
Volunteers  
Janet Witter

## St Matthew Episcopal Church Staff

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

## St Matthew Episcopal Church Vestry

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

## St Matthew Episcopal Church Vestry Officers

<b>Treasurer</b>	Art Ladley
<b>Clerk of the Vestry</b>	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 Abbingtion) – 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](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup>)**. 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 of 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](mailto:jgwhorton@msn.com) or John Kennedy at 927-9254, [johnakennedy@harboret.com](mailto:johnakennedy@harboret.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**)
- 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