

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

The First Sunday after the Epiphany

January 12, 2025 – 9:00 AM

Holy Eucharist – Contemporary Music



The Baptism of Jesus by James Tissot, 19th c.

919 Tennis Ave
Maple Glen, PA 19002
215-646-4092

saintmattsec.org

Rev. Rodney Roehner

Prelude *Lord I Lift Your Name on High* (instrumental) **by Rick Founds**

Gather *Lord I Lift Your Name on High* **by Rick Founds**

Verse 1

Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

Chorus

You came from heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

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

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

The Celebrant continues with the Collect of Purity

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.**

Praise *Praise the Lord (To God Be the Glory)* **by Matthew West**

O Praise the Lord
Let the earth hear His voice
O Praise the Lord
Let the people rejoice

Come to the Father
through Jesus His Son
And give Him the glory
great things He has done

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation

Holy Spirit

by Bryan and Kate Torwalt

Holy Spirit you are welcome here
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere.
Your glory God is what our hearts long for
To be overcome by Your Presence Lord
(repeat)

Gospel (*standing*)

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon (*seated*)

Rev. David Robinson

Faith Song

Because We Believe

by Jamie Harvill & Nancy Gordon

Verse 1

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Christ the Son
We believe in the Holy Spirit
We are the Church and we stand as one

Verse 2

We believe in the Holy Bible
We believe in the virgin birth
We believe in the resurrection
That Christ one day will return to earth

Chorus

Holy holy. Holy is our God
Worthy worthy. Worthy is our King

The Prayers of the People – Form III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Bp. Daniel, Fr. Rodney, Fr. Dave, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for Joseph our President, Donald our President-elect, Josh our Governor, and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially Betsy, Ava, Laura, Carol, Millie, Jane, Kathleen, Anthony, Steve, Fred, Christy, Tyler, Steve, Caleb, Patti, Virginia, Polly, Daniel, Roger, Erin, Giuliano, Brody, Dave, Sean, Tom, Constance, Ethan, Sue, Colleen, Lou, Lauren, Lyla, Liam, Michael, Dee, Angelica, and Pat. **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest. **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for the Ever-blessed Virgin Mary, St. Matthew, our patron, and all your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. We pray for our church family and preschool; for all those celebrating their birthdays and wedding anniversaries. We pray for all first responders and law enforcement, especially Jamie and Justin; for those who serve our nation in the armed forces, especially Steven, Jonathan, Kyle, Justin, Zack, William, and their families. We also pray for the protection of persecuted Christians throughout the world, and that all may come to the knowledge and love of Christ.

Celebrant Let us also pray for the forgiveness of our sins.

All **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 *(all stand)*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

Offertory Hymn

No Sweeter Name

by Kari Jobe

Verse 1

No sweeter name than
the Name of Jesus
No sweeter name have
I ever known
No sweeter name than
the Name of Jesus

heart and my soul
You are the light to the
darkness around me
You are the hope to the
hopeless and broken
You are the only
truth and the way

Chorus

You are the life to my

Ending

Jesus Jesus
Jesus Jesus

Eucharistic Prayer 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.**

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

Sanctus

Holy Holy Holy

by Larry Hampton

Holy holy holy
Is the Lamb of God
Honor praise and glory
Are Yours oh Lord forever

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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 the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Matthew, our patron, and 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,**

but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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.**

Anthem

He Is Exalted

by Twila Paris

He is exalted	He is the Lord,
The King is exalted on high	forever His truth shall reign
I will praise Him	Heaven and earth,
He is exalted forever exalted	rejoice in His Holy Name
And I will praise His Name	He is exalted, the King is exalted on high

The Celebrant then faces the People while elevating the Sacrament and says
✠ The Gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion Hymn *Be Thou My Vision* by Grant and Brook Norsworthy, Byrne

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.
All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you

**with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Celebrant says the following blessing

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Service Hymn

Take Us to the River

by Robin Mark

Verse 1

Take us to the river
Take us there in unity
A song of Your salvation
To win this generation for our King

A song of Your forgiveness
For it is with grace that river flows
Take us to the river
In the city of our God

Chorus

The Spirit of the Sovereign
Lord is upon us
This is the year of the Lord
The Spirit of the Sovereign
Lord is upon us
This is the year of the Lord

Verse 2

Take us to Your throne room
Give us ears to hear the cry of heaven
For that cry is mercy
Mercy to the fallen sons of man

Mercy it has triumphed
Triumphed over judgement by Your blood
Take us to the throne room
In the city of our God

Verse 3

Take us to the river
Take us there in unity to sing
A song of Your salvation
To win this generation for our King
A song of Your forgiveness
For it is with grace that river flows
(Take us to the river, in the city of our God)

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers | Would you like to remember a loved one, or commemorate a special occasion? Sponsoring our beautiful altar flower arrangements is a perfect way. The altar flower chart for 2025 is hanging directly outside the kitchen door, where you can choose that special date. Please note that there can be more than one sponsorship on any given Sunday. If there is not enough room on the chart, please email the office @ parishmanager@saintmattsec.org.

Epiphany House Blessings | Fr. Rodney is available throughout the season of Epiphany (Jan 5 to Mar 4) to bless homes. This unique service asks for God's blessing upon all who live in the home and involves a different prayer for each room. It is a wonderful opportunity to further welcome God into your daily life and home. To sign up, please indicate your interest by contacting Fr. Rodney directly at rector@saintmattsec.org.

EVENTS

Martin Luther King, Jr. Service of Remembrance | This memorial award service will be held on **Sunday, January 19, 2025 @ 4:00 p.m.**, and is preceded by a Solidarity Walk @ 3:00 p.m. starting at Wissahickon High School. This service honors those who exemplify the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and **Father Rodney is one of this year's recipients!** See the posted flyers for more details.

Chili Bingo | Chili Bingo is back! Join us on **February 1st @ 5:30 p.m.** for fellowship over a wonderful meal, and Bingo with prizes! There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please let us know if you will attend, and if you can bring a crockpot of your favorite chili, cornbread, or a dessert to share. St. Matthew's will provide prizes for the children. If you would like to donate a prize for adults, that would be great. Some suggestions might be: Wawa or Starbucks gift cards, fleece blanket, hat or gloves, sports merch, bottle of wine, or whatever strikes your fancy! Price limit: \$15.

OUTREACH

Little Pantry | Thank you so much for your Reverse Advent donations! Our current needs are: **spaghetti sauce, toilet paper, toothpaste, shampoo and deodorant.** Thank you so much for your generosity!

Mattie Dixon Community Cupboard | Thank you for all your generous donations for the annual Thanksgiving food drive! Of course, the needs of the community do not end with the holiday. Now that Thanksgiving is past, the Cupboard's greatest needs are for: **BBQ sauce, breadcrumbs, cookies, graham crackers, jello and pudding, Progresso soups, SPAM, teriyaki sauce, vinegar, cleaning sprays, Clorox wipes, diapers (size 4), dish soap, and laundry detergent.** Offerings can be placed in the bins located outside the kitchen or narthex doors.

Parish Calendar *for the week of* January 12th, 2025

Tuesday, January 14th	6:30 PM	Vestry Meeting <i>in the Parish Hall</i>
Wednesday, January 15th	10:00 AM	Knit Wits <i>in the former Conference Room</i>
	12:00 PM	Holy Eucharist <i>in the Sanctuary</i>
	7:30 PM	Tuesday Bible Study <i>on Zoom*</i>
Thursday, January 16th	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer <i>on Zoom*</i>
Sunday, January 19th <i>All services are held in the Sanctuary. 9 AM service is also accessible via Livestream.</i>	7:45 AM	Rite I Holy Eucharist
	9:00 AM	Rite II Holy Eucharist with Contemporary Music
	9:00 AM	CGS Sunday School
	9:00 AM	Weaving God's Promises <i>in the Rector's office</i>
	10:00 AM	Coffee Hour <i>in the Parish Hall</i>
	10:30 AM	Rite II Choral Eucharist

*Access Zoom meeting links by going to bit.ly/SMEC-Zoom-Gathering