



**From:** St. Matthew's Episcopal Church office@stmattsblm.org  
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PM

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This Week's Readings

**Rector's Ramblings**

This week, I was able to pay attention to some piles of paper that had grown over the summer, and I discovered a text I had wanted to read but had allowed to languish called "The Way to Divine Knowledge". It is by The Rev. William Law (1686-1761), a priest who served as a lecturer at Cambridge. As a person of integrity that position was lost to him when he could not take the oath of allegiance to the Hanoverian succession. "The Way" is presented as a dialogue between four characters: Theophilus, Humanus, Rusticus, and Academicus. In this quote it is Theophilus addressing Humanus.

"For be assured of this, as a certain truth, that corrupt, fallen, and earthly as human nature is, there is nevertheless in the soul of every man, the fire, and light, and love of God, though lodged in a state of hiddenness, inactivity, and death, till something or other, human or divine, Moses and the prophets, Christ or his apostles, discover its life within us.

For the soul of very man is the breath and life of the triune God, and as such a partaker of the divine nature; but all this divinity is unfelt, because overpowered by the workings of the flesh and blood, till such time as distress, or grace, or both, give flesh and blood a shock, open the long shut-

## The Good News

August 24, 2018



### Ina Rehtmeyer

Ina Rehtmeyer completed her earthly pilgrimage Tuesday night. Her funeral will be at Funk's Grove Chapel on Saturday, August 25, at 10:30. Visitation will begin at 9:30 AM.

Please keep Ina, and her family in your prayers.

May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of Christ, rest in peace.

### Temporary Parking Situation

BEGINNING THIS WEEK at St. Matthews-parking will be limited: all of the east side spaces (all the spaces facing the parish hall) will be reserved for the roofing work. Please park accordingly for your events and meetings.

### Pulpit Exchange

There will be no exchange this Sunday. Fr. Dave will be celebrant and preacher. We apologize for any inconvenience.

### Parish Mission Council

Meets this Sunday at 6PM.

### Christian Formation

Will resume on September 5th. We will meet for Eucharist at 5:30 with

up eyes, and force a man to find something in himself that sense and reason, whilst at quiet were not aware of. Wonder not therefore at this conflict in your soul, that you are eager after more light, and impatient to communicate that which you have. For you must be thus driven; and both these desires are only two witnesses to this truth, that a heaven born spirit is come to life in you.

Only remember this; look well to the ground on which you stand, keep a watchful eye upon every working of nature, and take care that nothing human, earthly, private, or selfish, mix with this heavenly fire; that is, see that your mind be free, universal, impartial, without regard to here or there, this or that, but loving all goodness, practicing every virtue, for itself, on its own account, because it is so much of God; neither coveting light, nor longing to communicate it to others, but merely and solely for this reason, that the will of God may be done, and the goodness of God brought to life in you and them. For there is no goodness but God's; and his goodness is not alive in you, or fruitful in you, but so far, and in such degree, as the good that you mean, and do, is done in and by that Spirit, by which God himself is good. For as there is but one that is good, so there is, and can be but one goodness, suitable to our selfish reason, and natural tempers, but to be perfect, as our Father in heaven is perfect."

In Christ,

Dave Halt, Rector  
309-660-8515



## Ministry Links



St. Matthew's Webpage

will resume on September 9th. We will meet for Eucharist at 8:00 with a service to follow. Our topic for the fall is "Paul's Greatest Hits". We will follow a seminar format that includes a study guide published before each session.

### **A New Year for Children's Formation**

Christian formation for children at St. Matthew's is growing! This year, not only will we offer Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) on Wednesday nights, but we are also offering Sunday School following our second service. Immediately after receiving Communion, the children will proceed to their classroom for a 50 minute session. Keep in mind, this is not your mother's Sunday School! Our curriculum will help the children explore the Mass readings more deeply, but we will play together and pray together too. In time, the older children will be able to coordinate their own prayer services-developing the habit of prayer, along with meditation and a lot of fun.

The Children's Sunday School will have its first session Sunday, September 9th, immediately after Communion. CGS will begin again on Wednesday, September 12th at 6pm!

### **Confirmation/Inquirers Class (Time change, by request)**

St. Matthew's is offering a Confirmation/Inquirers class for anyone interested in the Theology and History of the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church. Sessions will begin on Sunday, September 9 at 11:15AM and continue through the Fall Quarter.

### **Theology Uncorked**

Will meet at 6PM on 9 September.

### **Outreach Opportunities**

During the months of August and September, the Outreach Committee will be collecting school supplies for needy children at Oakland School. Items are needed for Grades K-5. Some examples of school supplies include:

- #2 pencils (sharpened)
- erasers
- regular sized crayons
- Elmer's glue (bottles or sticks)
- boxes of facial tissues
- backpacks without wheels

A list of many other items is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please put your school supplies in the baskets in the hallway between the Sanctuary and the parish hall.

In addition, we continue to collect "Boxtops for Education," The PTO newsletter for Oakland School reads: "Simply save the boxtops from General Mills products." Collection boxes are in the narthex and attached to the bulletin board outside the church office.

Thank you for helping the Outreach Committee with these important projects.

**The Daily Devotional Reading**

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

**Serving Schedule**

26-August

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Julie Bennett

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Christian Pitts

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Cris Embree

E.M.: Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Dianne Wunderle & Matt Matsuda

2-September

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Mark Gibson

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Valarie Jones

Thurifer: Emily Lavikoff

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Shelley Carter

Coffee Hour: Valerie & Rex Schaeffer

**St. Matthew's Schedule beginning August 26th**

*Coffee hour follows 10:00 worship in the Parish Hall*

Sunday-7:30 a.m.-Rite I

Sunday-10:00 a.m.-Rite II

Sunday-11:00 a.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary

Tuesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer and breakfast

Friday -7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

*If you have anything you would like added to the schedule announcements in the bulletin and news letter please send an email reply to the newsletter, or call the office.*

## Readings for August 26, 2018

Hymns: #383, #642, #610, #602, #525

### Old Testament

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel:

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

### The Response

Psalm 34:15-22

#### *Benedicam Dominum*

15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, \*  
and his ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, \*  
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

17 The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them \*  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted \*  
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

19 Many are the troubles of the righteous, \*  
but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.

20 He will keep safe all his bones; \*  
not one of them shall be broken.

21 Evil shall slay the wicked, \*  
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants. \*

and none will be punished who trust in him.

### The Epistle

Ephesians 6:10-20

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare boldly, as I must speak.

### The Gospel

John 6:56-69

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sends me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him.

believe, and who was the one that would betray him. . . he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

**Birthdays & Anniversaries August 26 - September 1**

*Anniversaries*

Sandy & Bob Kohlhasse

*Birthdays*

Valerie Schaeffer

Loren Dyson

Charlotte Casperson

Janet Hoffman

Bill Johns

**Lamp Dedications for this week:**

**Collect for Sunday, August 26th**

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful God, that thy Church, being gathered together in unity by thy Holy Spirit, may manifest thy power among all peoples, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

**Contact Information**

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