

Contents

This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

I hope that each of you enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving Day spent with family and friends. I also hope that you were able to give thanks for not only the material blessings of life, but for the blessings of the many relationships you have.

I know that my family and I are thankful for each of you and what you mean to us personally and to our Parish. I do regularly give thanks to God for each of you and for St. Matthew's Church.

If you are traveling this weekend, I pray that God will grant you traveling mercies and safety. This Sunday is the last Sunday before Advent begins, and is known as Christ the King. If you cannot make it to your home parish, please find a place to celebrate with brothers and sisters in Christ.

May God bless you all.

Dave Halt, Rector
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield
Rector's Blog

The Good News

November 23, 2018



Stewardship Pledges

Sincere thanks to all those who have turned 2019 pledge sheets to the church office. This information is vital to planning the budget for the coming year.

If you still plan to fill a sheet out, but can't find it, you will find extra gold colored sheets available at the sanctuary doors.

Christmas Schedule

We are in the process of finalizing the schedule for Christmas services. The final schedule will be announced in this space next week.

Our aspirational schedule is to have a Christmas Eve Day Eucharist that ends before nightfall for those who prefer to not drive after dark, a later Candlelight Eucharist, and a quiet Christmas Day Eucharist.

We are also working to schedule a special Epiphany Evensong at Funk's Grove Chapel with a "Twelfth-Night" celebration including burning of the greens at the Nature Center. Details will be provided as they are finalized.

Annual Meeting

Hold the date: January 13, 2019

Reports are due by January 6.

There are currently three seats open for Mission Leadership Team. Anyone interested in serving in this ministry is invited to submit a brief bio to the office by January 6. This shall constitute a nomination for office.

Upcoming Meetings

Parish Mission Council meets on December 2 at 4PM.

Youth Group

Will meet on December 2 for Evensong at 5:30 and pizza fellowship at 6. We will work together to form a schedule for the next year.

Watch this Space.

For an announcement from the Parish Mission Council. Mark your calendars for December 16th.

Outreach Opportunities

Warm Clothing

As the weather cools, The Outreach Committee is again urging you to think about the need for warm coats, hats, gloves, and scarves in our community. Please bring your gently used coats, etc., to church and place them in the big white box in the hallway across from the office. The Committee will take them to The Salvation Army, which will distribute them to the needy through January 16, 2019. Thank you for helping us keep people warm.

Advent Evensong

Evensong is offered each Sunday at 5:30PM. This is a service of scripture readings and reflective music. All are invited to this restful service in the midst of a busy Advent.

Children's Formation

Children's Sunday School will not meet on November 18 or 25. Please watch for further details in December.

New Email

Fr. Dave is closing out his GMail account. His new email is **frhalt (at) protonmail.com**.

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Worship Serving Schedule

25-November

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Mona Johnstone

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Shelley Carter

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Cris Embree

E.M.: Robin Levine

Monday Counter: Shelley Carter

Coffee Hour: Susan & Eric Teoro

2-December

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Chris Bennett

E.M.: Bill Johns

9:30

Acolyte:

Crucifer:

Thurifer:

Lector: Valarie Jones

E.M.:

Monday Counter: Roy Laws

Coffee Hour: Kia, Donna, Georgia Griffin

St. Matthew's Weekly Activities as of November 25th

Thanksgiving potluck follows worship in the Parish Hall

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

10:00 a.m.-Rite II

1:00 p.m.-Green Scouts

5:30 p.m.-Evensong

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

Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-Holy Eucharist followed by Adult Formation

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

Friday -7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer

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

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

Readings for November 25, 2018

Hymns: #494, #450, #324, #555

Old Testament

Daniel 7:9-14

As I watched,
thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One took his throne,
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels were burning fire.
A stream of fire issued
and flowed out from his presence.
A thousand thousands served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.
The court sat in judgment,
and the books were opened.

I watched then because of the noise of the arrogant words that the horn was speaking. And as I watched, the beast was put to death, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

As I watched in the night visions,
I saw one like a human being
coming with the clouds of heaven.
And he came to the Ancient One
and was presented before him.
To him was given dominion
and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one
that shall never be destroyed.

Psalm 93

Dominus regnavit

1 The Lord is King;
he has put on splendid apparel; *
the Lord has put on his apparel
and girded himself with strength.
2 He has made the whole world so sure *
that it cannot be moved;
3 Ever since the world began, your throne has been established;
*
you are from everlasting.
4 The waters have lifted up, O Lord,
the waters have lifted up their voice; *
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.
5 Mightier than the sound of many waters,
mightier than the breakers of the sea, *

mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.
6 Your testimonies are very sure, *
and holiness adorns your house, O Lord,
for ever and for evermore.

The Epistle

Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Gospel

John 18:33-37

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Birthdays & Anniversaries November 25 - December 1

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Jim Messer

Jack Pitts

Dedications for this week:

*The Sanctuary lamp is lit to honor Jeremy Long
by Susan Long.*

Collect for Sunday, November 25th

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in thy well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

