

## Contents

This Week's Readings

### Rector's Ramblings

A Special Thank You  
To our friends at St. Matthew's,

We would like to express our gratitude for the generous gift presented to us at Christmas. It was truly unexpected and we are overwhelmed by your generosity and support. Thank you for all you do for us, and for the love and joy we experience at St. Matthew's.

We are so thankful to be your clergy family to serve our Lord with you.

Amy, Dave, Sarah & Liam Halt

## Ministry Links

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

## The Good News

January 4, 2019



### Epiphany Celebration

We will hold an Epiphany Celebration Evensong at 5:30PM on January 6 at the Funk's Grove Chapel. All are invited to attend.

After the Evensong we will travel the short distance to the Nature Center to burn the Christmas greenery (the large wreaths) used in the Sanctuary. This is an old tradition and is appropriate for disposing of what has been blessed by holy use for the beauty of our worship. You are also invited to bring small greens to add to the fire. We will have hot beverages and treats.

### Help De-green the Church Building

This Sunday morning, following the 10 AM service, we could use your help removing the Christmas decorations from the Sanctuary. It won't take much time if several people jump in to assist!

### Blessing of Homes during Epiphany

There is a custom of blessing homes during the Epiphany season. If you would like to schedule a Home Blessing please see Fr. Dave and he will ensure that it takes place.

### 2019 Liturgical Calendars

There are still several copies left on the glass case by the office. Please take one, and if needed we can print more.

### 2019 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on 1/13. We will have just

one service next week at 8AM. The Annual Meeting will follow with a catered breakfast.

### **Mark Your Calendar**

Our next fellowship event will be held on 2/2! Details will follow, but let's just say we are planning for some Super Chili weather.

### **Bible Study and Midweek Eucharist**

The regularly scheduled Eucharist and Bible Study resumes this Wednesday. Eucharist at 5:30PM and Bible Study at 6PM. It is perfectly acceptable to bring your dinner with you to Bible Study.

### **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.

#### **Mitten Trees**

It is an annual tradition at St. Matthew's that Christmas trees be trimmed with hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for children in need in the community. "Mitten Trees" have been placed in the Narthex and hallway outside the Parish Hall. Please help decorate them with store bought or handmade items during Advent and through the season of Christmas.

### **The Daily Devotional Reading**

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

### **Worship Serving Schedule**

6-January 2019

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Bill Johns

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Sarah Halt

Thurifer: Brad Bauman

Crucifer: Shelley Carter

Lector: Brad Bauman

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Shelley Carter

Coffee Hour: Nona & Harlan Noel

13-January

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Mona Johnstone

E.M.: Bill Johns

9:30

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Ann Sokan

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Roy Laws

Coffee Hour: Julie & Jim Cooper

### **St. Matthew's Weekly Activities as of January 6th**

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

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

10:00 a.m.-Rite II

10:45 a.m.-Sunday School

11:00 a.m.-Rosary

1:00 p.m.-Green Scouts

5:30 p.m.-Evensong

Monday-5:00 p.m.-WMFY classes

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

10:00 a.m.--Quilters

6:00 p.m.-Zumba

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

5:30 p.m.-Holy Eucharist

6:00 p.m.-Adult Bible Study

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Holy Eucharist & breakfast

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

Saturday-7:30 a.m.-Zumba

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 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 January 6, 2019

Hymns: #119, #135, #128, #126, #118

Old Testament

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Psalm 72:1-7,10-14

*Deus, iudicium*

1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;  
2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice;  
3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.  
4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.  
5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.  
6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth.  
7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no  
more.  
10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.  
11 All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.  
12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*  
and the oppressed who has no helper.  
13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*

he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power.

Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that



they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries January 6 - 12**

### *Anniversaries*

### *Birthdays*

Mona Johnstone

## **Dedications for this week:**

### **Collect for Epiphany, January 6th**

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know thee now by faith, to thy presence, where we may behold thy glory face to face; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **Contact Information**

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

