

Yesterday, I participated in a Deanery Zoom meeting with Bishop Daniel and most of the clergy of the Northern and Northeastern Deaneries. It was a good and wide-ranging discussion about our current circumstances and the Executive Order that announced that churches are essential.

At this time, Bishop Daniel and the Canon to the Ordinary are studying materials relevant to making any change to the last directive from the Diocese regarding holding public worship and meetings.

Until that new guidance is issued the previous Pastoral Guidance remains in effect. I will promulgate any new information as it is received.

So, until anything changes we will keep on keeping on with what we are doing. This week we should have the new camera working so that my old phone is taken out of service for anything other than the Daily Office. Maybe we can stay focused, now!

That said, if you are interested in being a camera operator, or a lector, please let me know and we can find a way for you to serve.

Hopefully, I will "see" you on Sunday.

Dave+  
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage  
The Episcopal Diocese of  
Springfield  
[Rector's Blog \(new\)](#)  
Find us on Instagram--stmatbsblm  
Twitter--@BloomingtonSt



**This Sunday is the Fifth Sunday after Easter.**

**Sunday Eucharist Outline is [here](#).**

**Full Service is [here](#).**

**Both bulletins have the music included.**

You are invited to stream the service from the comfort of your home prayer corner or the parking lot. For those who wish to receive, Holy Communion will continue to be offered after the Liturgy using the drive-way for reception. It is distributed in as sanitary and safe method as receiving a meal from a "curbside" pickup restaurant (gloves, mask, etc.). Holy Communion will remain available for 30 minutes after the end of the service. If you do not wish to receive, I commend the practice of Spiritual Communion, which can be found in the links below.

**Other streamed services this week.**

**Tuesday: 8:30AM Morning Prayer  
5:30PM Evening Prayer**

**Wednesday: 8:30AM Morning Prayer  
Noon Holy Eucharist  
5:30PM Evening Prayer**

**Thursday: 8:30AM Morning Prayer  
5:30PM Evening Prayer**

**Friday: 8:30AM Morning Prayer  
Noon Holy Eucharist  
5:30 PM Evening Prayer**

**Service times may change as each day presents its own challenges. Facebook will be updated if a service will not happen at, or near, the time scheduled.**

NB--As the governmental authorities continue to update policies, all plans are subject to change.

As always, you remain in our prayers, and I ask that you let us know if you need anything at this time. St. Matthew's stands ready to help as we can.

Dave+

**A Couple of Links**

[St. Bede's Breviary](#) (Daily Offices)

[Book of Common Prayer](#)

[Spiritual Communion \(Update\)](#) (An Anglican Rite).

[Prayer of Elder Paisios for the World](#) (I have found this quite helpful at the current time).

**From the Jr. Warden**

The work of the church goes on through plagues, pestilence, and disasters. Those of you who are practicing social distancing and staying home can still contribute your tithing to keep St. Matthew's providing worship and other services to the parish. Weekday morning Mass at 7:30 a.m., Evening Offices at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday Mass at 10 a.m. are being streamed on St. Matthew's Facebook page. You can contact your bank to have a direct check mailed at whatever interval you choose. You can mail in checks to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 1920 E. Oakland Ave, Bloomington, IL 61701.

Please remember that Outreach is not able to hold the book sale this spring and will not have money to support Advent Chakupewa's medical education expenses or any of their other causes. Donations to them can also be made, be sure to note those special funds in the memo line of your check.

Yours in Christ,

Gary Ploense  
Jr. Warden

**Outreach Opportunities  
ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH**

**Advent Time**

Advent is enrolled in year 3 of a 5 year course to become a doctor. He is the son of Bishop Elias in Tanzania. In US dollars, his tuition would be \$2,273 per year. Room & Board is an additional \$1826 annually. Anyone wishing to help Advent with his education can make checks to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church; putting Outreach-Education in the memo line. God Bless, and we thank you

*P.S. With Shelter-in-place restrictions, Outreach has extended their collection of support for Advent's Education to the end of next month. Your Office Staff*

UPDATE: Your faithful support of this Education-Mission project has been much appreciated! The Outreach committee extends its sincere thanks to all who have participated. Watch for new opportunities from your committee next month.

**Meals**

Thank you for the generous outpouring of support for this ministry. The freezer is quite full at this time.

We also have packages of Tender Mercies meals from Midwest Food Bank.

If you, or someone you know, need(s) a meal at this time please let us know, or stop by the office when it is open.

**The Daily Devotional Reading**

is available by clicking of the link below:  
[Good News Daily](#)

**Worship Serving Schedule**

Thank you to all of you who faithfully serve in the ministry of the Altar. At this time we are suspending the scheduling of servers to keep you safe and to reflect the changing circumstances we face.

A service will always be held on Sunday, but the numbers allowed to be present will necessarily be limited. If you wish to serve at any service where you will be present, you are invited to do so.

We will resume scheduling as events allow.

Thank you again, and may God bless you.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries May 10 - 16**

*Anniversaries*  
Liz & Ron Gordon

*Birthdays*  
Alex Davingman

**Dedications for this week:**

**5th Sunday of Easter, May 10th**

O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

**Contact Information**

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church