

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
Second Sunday after Christmas

January 3, 2021 – 8:00 AM
The Holy Eucharist – Rite II



919 Tennis Ave
Maple Glen, PA 19002
215-646-4092
saintmattsec.org
Rev. Rodney Roehner

1. The first Nowell, the angel did say
 was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
 in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
 on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
(Refrain) Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
 born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star
 shining in the east beyond them far,
 and to the earth it gave great light
 and so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

6. Then entered in those wisemen three
 full reverently upon their knee,
 and offered there in his presence
 their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Refrain

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.**

Glory to God – '82 Hymnal – S 280

**Glory to God in the highest,
 and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
 almighty God and Father,**

we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

The Lessons *Please be seated*

Old Testament

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them

back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84:1-8 (read responsively by whole verse)

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house

and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *

they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *

for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

**6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**

7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

**8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.**

New Testament

Ephesians 3:1-6, 15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

When Jesus Left His Father's Throne

'82 Hymnal – 480

1. When Jesus left his Father's throne, he chose an humble birth;
like us, unhonored and unknown, he came to dwell on earth.
Like him may we be found below in wisdom's path of peace;
like him in grace and knowledge grow as years and strength increase.
2. Sweet were his words and kind his look, when mothers round him pressed;
their infants in his arms he took, and on his bosom blessed.

Safe from the world's alluring harms, beneath his watchful eye,
thus in the circle of his arms may we for ever life.

3. When Jesus into Zion rode, the children sang around;
for joy they plucked the palms and strowed their garments on the ground.
Hosana our glad voices raise, hosanna to our King!
Should we forget our Savior's praise, the stones themselves would sing.

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

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

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon (*seated*)

The Nicene Creed (*all standing*)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Daniel our Bishop; for Rodney our priest; and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Donald our President, Joseph our President-elect, for Thomas our Governor, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this city of Maple Glen; for all of Montgomery and Bucks Counties, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering; especially Pam, Terry, Carol, Phil, Mary Lou, Edward, Dick, Karen, Lou, June, Margaret, Constance, Priscilla, Dorothea, Bob, Kathy, and all those with the coronavirus, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this parish of St. Matthew's and our school; that we may serve God faithfully, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those who serve our nation in the armed forces, and for their families, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives; especially for persecuted Christians, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace. **Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Matthew, our patron, and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. **To you, O Lord our God.**

General Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. 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

We Three Kings

'82 Hymnal – 128

1. We three kings of Orient are, bearing
gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain
moor and mountain, following yonder star.
(Refrain) O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright; westward leading,
still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I
bring to crown him again, King for ever
ceasing never over us all to reign.
(Refrain)

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a
life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing,
bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
(Refrain)

5. Glorious now behold him arise, King and
God and Sacrifice; heaven sings alleluia:
alleluia the earth replies.
(Refrain)

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 you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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 – '82 Hymnal – S 130

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

✠ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

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.**

Fraction Anthem – S 164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.

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

Spiritual Communion – for those watching online

In union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of the Church where your Blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot at this time receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my soul. I unite myself unto you, and embrace you with all the affections of my heart. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your Love. Amen.

Communion Hymn

Let All Mortal Flesh

'82 Hymnal – 324

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear

and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly
minded, for with blessing in his hand.
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

2. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on
earth he stood, Lord of lords in human
vesture, in the Body and the Blood
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.

3. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard
on the way, as the Light of Light
descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

4. At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with
with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the
Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!”

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Almighty and everliving God,**
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

**To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant says the following blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, ☩ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* **'82 Hymnal – 93**

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er
all the earth; ye, who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
(Refrain) come and worship,
come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

4. Saints before the altar bending, watching long in
hope and fear, suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear:
(Refrain)

Lifelong Learning

Sunday Morning Stories (Virtual Sunday School, K-5)

Join us on **Sunday, January 10 @ 8:45 a.m.** for our monthly live session on Zoom! For those who cannot attend, a recording of the session will be made available on our website (saintmattsec.org) for use at home.

We invite you to pick-up free materials for lessons which are available outside the church doors facing the lower parking lot. Each bag contains coloring pages, puzzles, sticker pages and a really fun craft to make for all ages. Please take one bag per family.

The materials will remain there while supplies last so that you may drop by to pick up your bag whenever it is convenient. Questions? Please contact Linda Baier, lindajbaier@gmail.com

Adult Forum:

The Adult Forum will be joining with many other Episcopal parishes during Epiphany, reading the Gospel of Mark. **We start today!** Organized by Forward Movement, the Gospel is divided into daily readings, which we will be discussing in our education hour on Sunday mornings. You can find more information @ www.goodbookclub.org. Please join us! <https://tinyurl.com/LLLForum>

Here is a listing of the dates and the verses covered:

- January 3 - Introduction and Mark 1
- January 10 - Mark 2 through Mark 4
- January 17- Mark 5:1-7:13
- January 24 - Mark 7:14-9:32
- January 31- Mark 9:33-11:33
- February 7 - Mark 12:1-14:11
- February 14 - Mark 14:12 - 16:20 (end)

2021 Pledge Envelopes

If you requested pledge envelopes, they are now available in a bin at the top of the steps outside the narthex double doors.



Help Father Rodney Get to Know You!

Given the current pandemic situation, it isn't safe to hold the kind of in-person gatherings that we would like with our new rector. Help Father Rodney put faces to names by sending him an email at rector@saintmattsec.org with photos of you and your family!