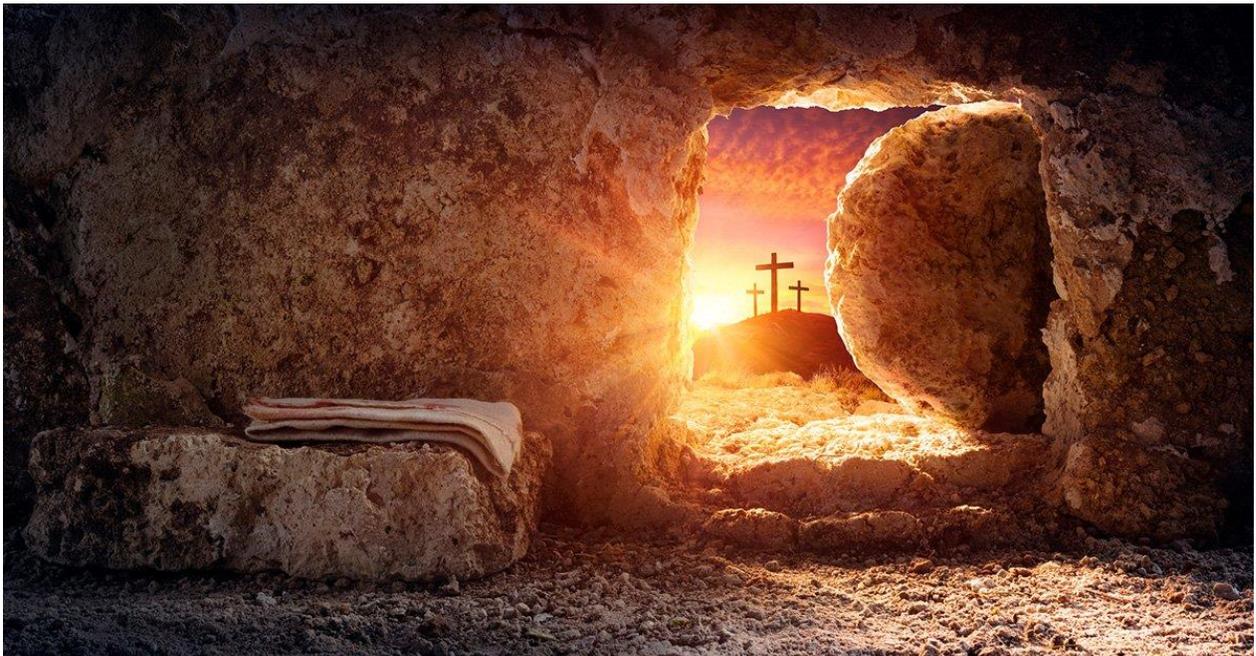


# St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

## Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021 – 9:00 AM  
The Holy Eucharist – Contemporary Service



919 Tennis Ave  
Maple Glen, PA 19002  
215-646-4092  
[saintmattsec.org](http://saintmattsec.org)  
Rev. Rodney Roehner

**Prelude**

*Christ Is Risen*

**by Matt Maher & Mia Fields**

**Gather** *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* **by Charles Wesley, Davidica & Chapman**

*Celebrant* ✠ Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*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.**

**Praise**

*King of Kings*

**by Brooke, Ligertwood, & Ingram**

### **The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

**The Lessons** *Please be seated*

**First Reading**

**Acts 10:34-43**

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God

anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (read responsively by whole verse)**

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.

**2 Let Israel now proclaim, \***  
**"His mercy endures for ever."**

14 The Lord is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.

**15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \***  
**in the tents of the righteous:**

16 "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!  
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"

**17 I shall not die, but live, \***  
**and declare the works of the Lord.**

18 The Lord has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.

**19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.**

20 "This is the gate of the Lord; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."

**21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.**

22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.

**23 This is the Lord's doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

24 On this day the Lord has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

## **Second Reading**

## **I Corinthians 15:1-11**

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you--unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them--though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

John 20:1-18

✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People*      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

**The Sermon** (*seated*)

Rev. Rodney Roehner

## **Nicene Creed**

**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**

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for Daniel our bishop, Rodney our priest, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for Joseph our President, Thomas our Governor, and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially Terry, Carol, Edward, Dick, Karen, Lou, June, Margaret, Constance, Priscilla, Bob, Kathy, Nancy, Doris, Joe, Ava, Greg, Jeryl and all those with the coronavirus;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed in whose memory the flowers are given, eternal rest.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for the Ever-blessed Virgin Mary, St. Matthew, our patron, and all your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. We pray for our church family and preschool, for all who serve our nation in the armed forces and their families, for first responders and health care workers, for those celebrating their birthdays and wedding anniversaries. We also pray for the protection of persecuted Christians

throughout the world, and that all may come to the knowledge and love of Christ.  
I invite your own prayers and intercessions.

## **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**

*For All You've Done*

**by Reuben Morgan**

## 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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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**

*Holy Holy Holy*

**by Larry Hampton**

*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.**

**Anthem** *Hallelujah Our God Reigns* by **Marty Sampson & Matthew Tennikoff**

*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** *The Wonder of the Cross* by **Robin Mark**

### **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 the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among, and remain with you always **Amen**.

**Service Hymn**

*Sing to the King*

**by Billy J. Foote**

**Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the Name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### **Announcements**

**SAVE THE DATE! May 2, 2021:** Did you know that May 2, 2021 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the groundbreaking for the original sanctuary (now the Parish Hall)? This calls for a celebration! An outdoor event is being planned with activities for children and fellowship for the adults of our church and nursery school communities. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks!

## Lifelong Learning

### Sundays, 11:45 a.m. (new time!), Adult Lifelong Learning Forum

**There is no Adult Forum today, Easter Sunday.** Next week we return to our study of the Gospel of Mark. Please join us Sundays at 11:45 a.m. via [Zoom](#) for conversation and fellowship!

Jon Clark & Karen Randall, Adult LLL Leaders

### Journey to Holy Week Sunday School and Resurrection Garden

Our **flexible** and vibrant **pre-recorded Holy Week lesson** and activity are still available. Families with children aged 16 months through Grade 5 can:

- Watch and wonder with our CGS teachers as they tell the story of Jesus at Holy Week.
- Learn how to **create your very own Resurrection Garden!**
- Pick-Up free materials in the lower parking lot entrance to help you get started. Going fast, pick them up soon!

You can watch our lesson and view the step-by-step instructions by heading to: <https://tinyurl.com/saintmattscgs>

We know Sunday School is not the same without physically gathering together in the atria. It is our hope to gather outdoors sometime soon. For now, we pray our pre-recorded lessons help you and your child continue on the journey of faith while we remain separated.

## Communion Under Special Circumstances

Fr. Rodney will now be offering "Communion under Special Circumstances," which is based on the version found on pgs. 396-399 of the BCP. It is a brief service that enables those who are not ready to return to in-person worship to still come to church and receive Holy Communion. Things to know: this service is only between you and Fr. Rodney, all are masked, you will take the host as Fr. Rodney says the appropriate words, and it takes no longer than five minutes. Please contact Fr. Rodney at [rector@saintmattsec.org](mailto:rector@saintmattsec.org) to make an

appointment or ask further questions. If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, please click this [link](#) for more information and a video.

## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

### **Youth Group Schedule: Mondays**

Youth Group is our program offering for both middle school and high school students. Join us on scheduled Monday evenings of each month for games, fun, fellowship, projects, and lively discussions about our faith. **Our next meeting will be in April, and will take place outside at St. Matthew's!** We are hoping to make Youth Group a bimonthly offering. Stay tuned for updates regarding dates.

### **The Teenage Prayer Experiment**

What do you already know about prayer? Has the practice ever been helpful for you? I wonder . . . might there be different ways for us to connect with God than we're used to? Join the members of our Youth Group as we work through a series of ongoing *experiments* titled, **The Teenage Prayer Experiment**. Each chapter of the book introduces a prayer practice (using labyrinths, Lego Bible modelling, prayer beads, prayer walking) and includes comments by youth who have tried out the experiments for themselves. Of course there is space for you to record your own thoughts. Email Anthony at [anthony@saintmattsec.org](mailto:anthony@saintmattsec.org) to reserve your free copy for personal use, and for discussion in monthly Youth Group meetings.

### **Feed The Hungry**

Many thanks to all who have responded to our calls for food to feed those in need over the past year. You may recall that we also monetarily support the Saint John's Norristown Feeding Ministry, Cecil and Grace Bean's Soup Kitchen. The envelopes you will find in the pews **on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday** of each month are for contributions toward supporting this ministry. If you would like credit for your

donation on your contribution statements, please put your name and or pledge number on the envelope. Thank you!

### **Church Office**

Please note that the church office is **CLOSED** on **Mondays**. On the other weekdays, you can reach someone by phone (215.646.4092, press #1 for the Parish Manager) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. If you need to stop by the church for any reason, please call first to arrange a time, or to make sure that someone is on site to let you in. Thank you!

## **2021 EASTER FLOWERS TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN THANKSGIVING FOR HIS VICTORY OVER SIN AND DEATH THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

### **IN THANKSGIVING:**

1. For Derek, Yuka, Julia & Alyssa by Jane Baker
2. For Susan Ricciardi and Jill Merrill by Jane Baker

### **IN MEMORY OF:**

1. Philip Collice, by Lois Collice
2. Lois & William Heginbothom, by The Piotrowski Family
3. Leonard Rollhauser, by The Piotrowski Family
4. Lucy & Al Piotrowski, by The Piotrowski Family
5. Our parents, by Carole Sable & David Brock
6. Jim & Nancy Dornan, Pam Davis & all the loved ones of the Dornan Family, by Jill & Jamie
7. Rhoda & Oliver Rhydderch, by Bill & Barb Rhydderch
8. George & Bertha Collins, Sr, by Bill & Barb Rhydderch
9. G. James Dunlap & Sandra M. Dunlap, by Pam & Anne Dunlap
10. Charlie, Joe, Bill & Family, by Barbara McKinney
11. Tim John, by Pat John & Family

## MINISTRY LEADERS

Rector	The Rev. Rodney Roehner	215-855-4723
Church Office Hours	8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Tuesday thru Friday)	
Parish Manager	Carolyn Bedics	215-646-4092
Youth Ministry Coordinator	Anthony Carrella	732-599-8114
Life Long Learning	Anthony Carrella	732-599-8114
Nursery School Director	Jackie Anderson	215-646-4466
Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Daniel G. P. Gutierrez	215-627-6434
Sunday School Administrator	Linda Baier	215-672-3976
Altar Guild	Susan Ricciardi	215-917-6670
	Jane Baker	215-661-0155
Acolytes	The Rev. Rodney Roehner	215-855-4723
Ushers	Trent Coombs	215-706-0572
	Bill Reynolds	215-646-1483
Worship Leaders	Pam Lang	215-872-9686
	Melissa Brown	215-542-0529
Contemporary Music	Martha Reynolds	215-646-1483
	Anne Flood	215-641-4536
Traditional Music	Philip LeFevre	
Neighborhood Shepherds	Connie Dee	215-997-5538
Prayer Chain	Chris Strittmatter	215-412-3321
Pastoral Care Visitation	George Bishop	215-441-8056
	Treva McLaughlin	215-643-5609
Newcomers	Karen Becker	215-855-6473

## MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Rector's Warden	Chris Suhy
People's Warden	Bill Reynolds
People's Warden	Tim Walsh
Treasurer	Karen Randall
	Nancy Austin
	Marie Clark
	John Gill
	Mary Anne Noon
	Karen Sawyer