

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Scout Sunday

February 5th, 2023



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
32 N. Front St.
Sunbury, PA 17801
570-286-7002

The Rev. Dina Carter Ishler, Deacon in Charge
Welcome The Rev. Frederic Stevenson

stmatthewsunbury@gmail.com (office email)
reverenddina@gmail.com (Deacon Dina's email)

Please visit us at stmatthew-episcopal.org

*A very warm welcome to our Scouts and their families.
We are so glad you are with us- you are always welcome!*

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:00 am

Prelude “Theme from Concerto No. 2”

H. Wieniawski

SCOUT OPENING CEREMONY FOR SCOUT SUNDAY

Processional Hymn

#7, The Hymnal 1982

THE WORD OF GOD

The people standing, the Officiant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Officiant and people say together

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.

The Song of Praise

S-280, The Hymnal 1982

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

The Officiant says the Collect.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lessons *The people sit.*

The Old Testament: Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12]

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

[If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.]

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response: Psalm 112:1-9, [10]

Beatus vir

1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!

- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last forever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.
- 6 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right;
they put their trust in the Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- 9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.
- [10 The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; *
the desires of the wicked will perish.]

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12, [13-16]

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed

to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived, what God has
prepared for those who love him”–

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

“For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.]

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

#126, The Hymnal 1982

The Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

Then, all standing, the Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Deacon Dina

A brief time of silence after the sermon is held for reflection.

Nicene Creed *all stand and say together*

BCP 358

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, Form II

BCP 385

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Justin, Archbishop; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; and Audrey, our Diocesan Bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Today in our Susquehanna Convocation Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Matthew's, Sunbury. In our Diocesan/Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Hollidaysburg St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Tioga, and The Anglican Church of Papua, New Guinea.

Pray for the Church. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations, especially: our President, Joe Biden; our Governor Josh Shapiro, and our Mayor, Josh Brosnious; our State Representative Lynda Schlegel-Culver; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, and for our homebound members: Anita and Carole.

Pray for those in any need or trouble. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God.

Pray that they may find and be found by God. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for Stephen, Frances (Fran), Angela, Stan, Alexis, Tanya, Steve K., Weston, Church of the Redeemer, Mike B., Noelle, Christian, Dennis, Sandy, Rich, Linda, Nathan K., Nancy S., Terry S., Emily, June, Nancy, to the Family and Friends of Ellen R., Christine P., Dave, Andrew and Family, Pam S., Chuck S., Atticus, and Kaitlyn and Justine R. Please pray for all healthcare workers, especially Dan D., Kara, Melissa, Janice and their co-workers.

I ask your prayers for all the departed, especially for Alverna, Ellen R., and Baby R.

Pray for those who have died. *Silence*

I ask your thanksgivings offered either silently or aloud. *Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession and Absolution of Sin

BCP 360

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Deacon and People

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.

The Priest alone stands and says

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

BCP 360

All stand. The Officiant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn

#517, The Hymnal 1982

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

The people may stand.

The Celebrant says 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 God 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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

S-129, The Hymnal 1982

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People **Christ has died.**
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace;

and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

People and Celebrant

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.

The Agnus Dei

S-151, The Hymnal 1982

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn

#488, The Hymnal 1982

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

The Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you**

with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Blessing *The Priest blesses the People*

Recessional Hymn

#436, The Hymnal 1982

The Dismissal *The Deacon dismisses the People*

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Trumpet Tune on Duke Street”

Van Denna Thompson

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**PARISH NOTES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5, 2023**

**COLE ALLEN DIAPER PANTRY:** The next Diaper Pantry will be Saturday, March 4, 2023 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. We're in need of volunteers to distribute diapers. Please contact Connie Kistler at [kistinpa@ptd.net](mailto:kistinpa@ptd.net). Monetary donations are very much welcomed. Please give to the Treasurer, Tom Culver, in an envelope labeled Diaper Pantry. **Donations of diaper wipes and pull-ups are appreciated.** We covered 30 baby bottoms in January.

**HIS DISCIPLES FOOD PANTRY:** Is the last Saturday of each month. Please contact Nancy Shipman at 570-286-0430 to volunteer. Donations of canned fruits & vegetables are welcome. The next Food Pantry will be held Saturday, February 25, 2023 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. **Any donations are greatly appreciated.**

**CHURCH SERVICE TIME is 10:00 AM.** Masks are now optional. Please follow any current COVID restrictions.

**CARLA'S OFFICE HOURS:** Office hours are Tuesday and Wednesday, 10AM to 2PM, and Thursday, 10AM to Noon.

**DEACON DINA'S OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAYS, 11AM-5PM, AND BY APPOINTMENT (PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL.)**

**CHILDREN MINISTRY:** Please consider your participation & role in this vital ministry. If interested in working to teach our children and guide them in faith, please contact Anissa, 570-898-2275

**ALTAR SERVERS:** St. Matthew's is looking for altar servers of all ages for lay ministries of: **Eucharistic Minister** (someone who helps

**PARISH NOTES** *(cont.)*

with communion from the altar and distributes the chalice), **Crucifer** (someone who carries the cross in procession) or **Lector** (someone who reads the lessons and the “prayers of the people”), and for the ministry of **Thurifer** (someone who dispenses incense with the thurible.) Please contact Anissa DeCaprio-Sanduta if interested.

**LAY MINISTRIES:** Anyone interested in participating with any of the Lay Ministries, please contact any Vestry member or speak with Mary Ann Loftus.

**CHOIR REHEARSAL:** Interested in singing with the Choir? Choir rehearsals are held every Sunday after the Service. All are welcomed!

**“ALLELUIA SUNDAY”:** “Families with children” are encouraged to join us for “Alleluia Sunday”, which will be the Last Sunday after the Epiphany, Feb. 19th. There will be a ‘pop-up’ kids’ musical activity where they can choose an instrument to accompany one of our hymns, they will carry Alleluia banners during our processional and recessional hymns on the 19th and they will help us all remember we “retire” our Alleluias for Lent and then bring them back joyfully at Easter. Please stay tuned for more info and invite all the young people you know to participate!”

**ECW DINNER MEETING:** ECW is holding a dinner meeting on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> at 5PM in the Parish Hall. **All women are welcomed to attend!** Clam Chowder and BBQ will be served.

**VESTRY MEETING:** The monthly Vestry Meeting will be held on February 15th at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall.

**BOY SCOUTS PAINT NIGHT FUNDRAISER:** The public is invited to join the Boy Scouts, Feb. 17, for Paint Night Fundraiser, 6:00PM in the Social Hall.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** Adult Bible Study starts at 9:00AM on Feb. 19th. Any questions, please contact Nathan Blanchard.

**PANCAKE DINNER:** “All You Can Eat”, Tuesday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023; 4:00PM - 6:30PM, FREE WILL OFFERING – Proceeds go to Episcopal Relief Fund

**YOGA CLASSES:** Yoga classes will be held in the Social Hall every Thursday starting at 7:00PM.

**UP-COMING MONTHLY EVENTS:** Details to follow closer to the time of the events. Please visit our website for more information

**PARISH NOTES** (*cont.*)

Tues., Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>: ECW Dinner Meeting, 5:00PM, Social Hall

Wed., Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>: Vestry Meeting, 6:00PM

Fri., Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>: Boy Scouts Paint Night Fundraiser

Sun., Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>: Adult Bible Study, 9:00AM

Tues., Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>: Pancake Dinner, 4:00PM-6:30PM

Serving today's liturgy

The Rev. Frederic Stevenson, *Celebrant*

The Rev. Dina Carter Ishler, *Deacon, Officiant and Preacher*

Tina Schlegel, *Organist*, and St. Matthew's Choir

Mary Ann Loftus, *Thurifer*

Roy Casey, *Eucharistic Minister*

Members of Pack 3309/Troop 309, *Lectors*

Barry Treon, *Greeter and Usher*, assisted today by our Scouts

VESTRY MEMBERS

Mary Ann Loftus - *Senior Warden*

Roy Casey - *Junior Warden*

Cyn Reid\* - *Clerk of the Vestry*

Nathan Blanchard; Martha Bohner

Anissa DeCapria-Sanduta; Carol Lamparter

Pam Schlegel; Lynda Schlegel-Culver

Fran Zartman\*

Charlie Schlegel - *Senior Warden Emeritus*

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION IN 2023

Lynda Schlegel-Culver

Pam Schlegel

Fran Zartman (Alternate)

(\* indicates that the person must wait one year before running for vestry again in the final year of election)

SEXTON Sharon Baney

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Stephen, Frances (Fran), Angela, Stan, Alexis, Tanya, Steve K., Weston, Church of the Redeemer, Mike B., Noelle, Christian, Dennis, Sandy, Rich, Linda, Nathan K., Nancy S., Terry S., Emily, June, Nancy, for the Family and Friends of Ellen R., Christine P., Dave, Andrew and Family, Pam S., Chuck S., Atticus, and for Kaitlyn and Justine R. Please pray for all healthcare workers, especially Dan D., Kara, Melissa, Janice and their co-workers. Also, please pray for all the departed, especially Alverna, Ellen R., and Baby R.

*(\* Please notify Elaine Schlegel, or the Parish Administrator, Carla Treon, of anyone who needs prayers so they can be added for the next upcoming Sunday.)*

## DONATIONS:

\*\*You can now donate to Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church "online" at the link listed: <https://diocesecpa.org/stewardship>

Or you may continue to mail your contributions to:

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

32 N. Front St.

Sunbury, PA 17801

**All tithes and offerings are greatly appreciated.**

*Mission statement: We are a community of welcoming Christian disciples worshipping in Sunbury and living the Gospel everywhere!*

*St. Matthew's is part of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania; the Rt. Rev. Audrey C. Scanlan, Bishop.*