

Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

32 N. Front St.

Sunbury, PA 17801

570-286-7002

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, *Rector*

*"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
-John 20: 21*

Eastertide, 2026

God's peace be to you all, especially to any guests worshipping with us at St. Matthew's today! We are so glad that you are here with us during this season of Eastertide. We rejoice in our identity as Resurrection people, called to proclaim the Risen Christ to a world hungry for compassion and grace, for healing and hope, that death has been destroyed forever and new life is ours for always.

Please know you are always completely welcome here for everything we do- our fellowship, our mission and outreach activities, our regular Sunday worship at 10am, and our Wednesday services. We hope and pray you will find this to be one of your spiritual homes. Please do not hesitate to let us know what your needs are, so that we may continue to welcome you into our community. All our contact information is listed in this bulletin.

Our Worship follows the Episcopal tradition using the 1979 Book of Common Prayer and the Hymnal 1982, both of which you will find in the pew racks. We create a comprehensive bulletin for each service with the intention of making it easier to follow along and participate; if you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to ask someone near you. You will need your Hymnal to sing the hymns and service music- **both are intended to be sung by everyone!**

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. If you wish to receive communion, place your hands together to receive the bread and you may take a sip of wine directly from the chalice. We also have individual cups available that contain a small amount of wine and a wafer (the consecrated bread); please put your hands in front of you as if you were praying if you'd like this option. **Intinction (dipping the wafer in the chalice) is not permitted.** Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you wish to receive a blessing, please come forward to the altar and cross your arms.

*Blessings and love to you on this holy day and always-
Mother Dina*

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons *The people sit.*

A Reading from the Book of Acts **Acts 2:14a,22-32**

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

 'I saw the Lord always before me,
 for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
 moreover my flesh will live in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
 or let your Holy One experience corruption.
You have made known to me the ways of life;
 you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

 'He was not abandoned to Hades,
 nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 16 *Said in unison.*

- 1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3 But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- 4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- 5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 I have set the LORD always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life; *
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

A Reading from First Peter

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for

a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

#209, The Hymnal 1982

“We walk by faith, and not by sight”

The Gospel: John 20:19-31

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

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily

Patrick Ishler, Homilist

A time of silence after the homily is held for reflection.

The 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; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; +Audrey and +Sean, our Bishops; Dina, our Rector; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Today, in the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for and with St. Paul's, Bloomsburg. In our Diocesan/Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Trinity, Easton; St. James, Exchange; and Clergy Widows and Widowers. For the Diocese of Kajo Keji, we pray for St. John Limi Parish. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations, especially: our President Donald Trump, our Governor Josh Shapiro, our Senator Lynda Schlegel Culver, our State Representative Mike Stender, and our Mayor Josh Broscius; 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.

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 Pastor Beth and the congregation of Zion Lutheran Church, Sunbury, Mother Dina and family, Father Fred and family, Frances, Angela, Tanya, Weston, Mike, the Sterner family, Dawson, Erika, Nancy, Becky, Easton, Ariella, Ereda and family, AmberLynn, Daya, Arabella, Derick, Noelle, Dean, Fred, Barb, Carol, Baby Ruby and family, Cheryl, Ian, Steve, Celeste, Sheila, Joe, Dick, Theresa, Ryan, Shirley, Natalie, Hayley, and for those whose needs are known to God alone. Please pray for all

healthcare workers, especially Dan D., Kara, Melissa, Janice and their co-workers, all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. Also, please pray for all serving in our military, especially **Ann, and Jayden** and law enforcement. I ask your prayers for all the departed, especially Tatum, Terry, Mike, and Danny.

Pray for those who have died. *Silence*

I ask your thanksgivings 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.

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

People **Amen.**

The Peace

BCP 360

All stand. The Celebrant 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.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The Sanctus

#858, Wonder Love and Praise

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

The first system of musical notation for 'The Sanctus' consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a 6/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a half note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a half note Bb4, a quarter note A4, a half note G4, and a quarter rest. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

The second system continues the melody from the first system. The treble staff features a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a half note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a half note Bb4, a quarter note A4, a half note G4, and a quarter rest. The bass staff continues with accompaniment.

san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes

The third system concludes the phrase. The treble staff starts with a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a half note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a half note Bb4, a quarter note A4, a half note G4, and a quarter rest. The bass staff provides accompaniment.

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

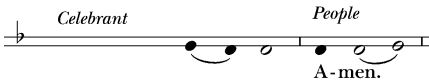
Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your

hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

Then the Celebrant continues



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The Lord's Prayer

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 Fraction Anthem

S-161, The Hymnal 1982

"Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us"

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 Hymns

#318, #328, The Hymnal 1982

“Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face”

“Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord”

Prayer for Spiritual Communion *All pray together*

Dearest Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we all cannot receive communion in the consecrated bread and wine, we pray you to come into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with our hearts, souls, and minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

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 Easter Blessing

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us children through the resurrection of God’s Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of God’s blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ forever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal

inheritance. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

Recessional Hymn #539, The Hymnal 1982
“O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling”

The Dismissal *The Priest dismisses the People.*

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the Risen Christ and the power of the Spirit, Alleluia, Alleluia!!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!!

Postlude “Alleluia, Amen!” Chester Nordman

Serving today’s liturgy

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, *Celebrant*

Patrick Ishler, *Homilist*; Tina McGee, *Lector*

Tina Schlegel, *Music Minister*; St. Matthew’s Choir

Fran Zartman, *Flute*; Mary Ann Loftus, *Thurifer*

Roy Casey, Dana Kelly, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Amber Kuczynski, Daniel and Jacob Renn, *Worship Assistants*

Carter Ishler, *Livestream*; Barry Treon, *Greeter and Usher*

We welcome Patrick Ishler to the pulpit today as our guest homilist- Patrick is taking Homiletics (which means the art of preaching) this semester as a Stevenson School for Ministry Student and preaching two homilies is a requirement for this course. Prior to this, Patrick enjoyed preaching as part of his involvement in a Shaped by Faith grant that explored music ministry in the Lancaster Convocation in 2021-2023.

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PARISH NOTES FOR - April 12, 2026

COLE ALLEN DIAPER PANTRY: The next Diaper Pantry will be Saturday, May 2, 2026 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. We’re in need of volunteers to distribute diapers. Please contact Connie Kistler at kistinpa@ptd.net. Monetary donations are very much welcomed, please give in an envelope labeled “Diaper Pantry.” **Donations of**

David Hollabaugh will be officiating. Zoom link is listed here: https://us05web.zoom.us/j/88684946715?pwd=xvTfSYXhJjn6ce8ANK1pqbbG6ANeE.1#success .
ITALIAN DINNER BUFFET: An Italian Dinner Buffet is on April 14 th , 4PM-6:30PM, Social Hall. \$15 adults; \$8 4yrs to 12 yrs; and under 3 FREE. Fliers are posted throughout the Church.
VESTRY MEETING: The monthly Vestry Meeting will be Wed., Apr. 15 th at 6:00PM.
ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Adult Bible Study starts at 9:00AM on Apr. 19th. Any questions, please contact Nathan Blanchard.
SPRING AUCTION: Bring a friend and relax! May 2 nd , 2026, Social Hour, 6PM - 7PM, hors d'oeuvres & refreshments will be served and the Auction will begin at 7PM. A \$10.00 donation per person at the door will be deducted from your auction purchase. Any donations for the Auction are greatly appreciated, please contact Cynthia Reid.
CHANGE IN MONTHLY MORNING BREAKFAST: The breakfast for May will be Mother's Day, May 10th- Note the change!
UP-COMING MONTHLY EVENTS: Details to follow closer to the time of the events. Please visit our website for more information Turs., Apr. 14: Italian Dinner Buffet, 4:30PM-6:00PM, Social Hall Wed., Apr. 15: Weekday Eucharist, Noon Wed., Apr. 15: Vestry, 6:00PM Wed., Apr. 15: Compline, 8:00PM Sun., Apr. 19: Adult Bible Study, 9:00AM Wed., Apr. 22: <u>NO</u> Weekday Eucharist (Mother Dina at clergy conference) Wed., Apr. 22: Compline, 8:00PM Wed., Apr. 29: Weekday Eucharist, Noon Wed., Apr. 29: Compline, 8:00PM Sat., May 2: Spring Auction, social hour @ 6:00PM, bidding @7:00PM Sun., May 3: <u>NO</u> monthly breakfast- moved to Mother's Day Sun., May 10: Mother's Day Breakfast, 9:00AM Sun., May 17: Adult Bible Study, 9:00AM Wed., May 20: Vestry meeting, 6:00PM

VESTRY MEMBERS: Fran Zartman, *Senior Warden*; Anissa DeCapria-Sanduta, Matthew Strauser, *Junior Wardens*; Mary Ann Loftus, *Clerk of the Vestry*; Nate Blanchard, Ric Haines, Carter Ishler, Dana Kelly, Pete Kistler, Tina McGee.

SEXTON: Sharon Baney

DONATIONS:

All tithes and offerings are most greatly appreciated, as we rely on your prayerful generosity to care lovingly for our physical space and to keep ourselves vital and active in our community through our worship, our witness, our outreach, and our presence.

You may now donate to Saint Matthew’s Episcopal Church “online” at the link listed: <https://diosusquehanna.org/donate/>

Or you may continue to mail your contributions to:

St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 32 N. Front St., Sunbury 17801

stmatthewsunbury@gmail.com (office email)

reverenddina@gmail.com (Mother Dina’s email)

Please visit us at stmatthew-episcopal.org and follow us on

Facebook: [St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church](https://www.facebook.com/St.MatthewsEpiscopalChurch)

To connect with our livestreamed services, please go to our

YouTube channel: [@St.MatthewsEpiscopalChurchSunB](https://www.youtube.com/@St.MatthewsEpiscopalChurchSunB)

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*St. Matthew’s is part of the Diocese of the Susquehanna;
The Rt. Rev. Audrey C. Scanlan, Bishop Diocesan; The Rt. Rev.
Kevin Nichols, Assistant Bishop.*

