

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 9
July 7, 2024



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

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, *Priest in Charge*

“Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end;
your right hand is full of justice.” -*Psalm 48:9*

By mission does the church live: “you will be my witnesses,” said the Risen Jesus as we hear in Acts 1:8, just before he ascended into heaven. As the Body of Christ alive and at work in our world, we are the church- gathered and fed in Word and Sacrament before the Spirit calls us to bear joyful witness as we learn together to be the hands and feet of Christ everywhere we go. We are to see Christ in all others- to share the life-giving narrative of salvation with those to whom the Spirit sends us.

Please know you are always completely welcome here at St. Matthew’s for everything we do- our fellowship, our mission and outreach activities, our regular Sunday worship at 10am, and our occasional evening 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. All our contact information is listed at the back of 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 written 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. At services with music, 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. 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*

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost- Proper 9 Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:00 am

(Directions to stand, kneel, etc., in our services should always be considered an invitation. If you find any of these to be challenging, please worship in whatever pose may work for you, knowing you are fully in God's presence.)

The Ringing of the Bells

We ring the sacristy bells five minutes before each service to invite us into the silence and reflection that helps to settle our souls for this time of Spirit-filled worship.

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude “God will take care of you” W. Stillman Martin

Processional Hymn #616, The Hymnal 1982
 “Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!”

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

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

The people and Celebrant 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 Gloria in Excelsis S-280, The Hymnal 1982
 “Glory to God in the highest”

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by

loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; 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 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, “Look, we are your bone and flesh. For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The LORD said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel.” So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inwards. And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 48 *Magnus Dominus* **Said in unison.**

1 Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised; *
in the city of our God is his holy hill.

2 Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, *
the very center of the world and the city of the great King.

3 God is in her citadels; *
he is known to be her sure refuge.

4 Behold, the kings of the earth assembled *
and marched forward together.

5 They looked and were astounded; *
they retreated and fled in terror.

6 Trembling seized them there; *
they writhed like a woman in childbirth,
like ships of the sea when the east wind shatters them.

7 As we have heard, so have we seen, in the city of the LORD of
hosts, in the city of our God; *
God has established her forever.

8 We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, *
in the midst of your temple.

9 Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end;
*your right hand is full of justice.

10 Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments.

11 Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about her; *
count the number of her towers.

12 Consider well her bulwarks; examine her strongholds; *
that you may tell those who come after.

13 This God is our God for ever and ever; *
he shall be our guide for evermore.

A Reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Church at Corinth 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the

exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

#541, The Hymnal 1982

“Come, labor on”

(Today’s sequence hymn is missional in character, using the images of harvest to challenge us to labor for the Kingdom of God. Often chosen as a recessional hymn to send us out into the world, it connects well with this week’s Gospel. It was chosen by Mary Newcomb, and Mary shares: “We had a small church in a small town called Edgley PA- this church was actually started by my grandmother in her dining room! She was originally from Ireland. Then, we built our church in Levittown PA- St. Paul’s Episcopal Church-and in 1953 we dedicated our new building. We sang this hymn at our first service and so I love it for sentimental reasons.”)

The Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

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

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

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of

power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily

Mother Dina

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 IV

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *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 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Lewisburg, and The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean. Silence is held.*

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray especially for our President Joe Biden; our Governor Josh Shapiro, our Mayor Josh Brosnious, and our Senator Lynda Schlegel-Culver. *Silence is held.*

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence is held.*

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray especially for those who have asked for our prayers: Mother Dina and family, Father Fred and family, Frances (Fran), Angela, Tanya, Weston, Mike B., Anita, Carole, Richard S., the Sterner family, Dawson, Ellen and family, Erika, Stan R., Nancy R., Carlos K., Frank L., Tammy R., Barbara and family, Becky, Robert, Marley, Millie and family, Mary, Cindy Y., Leonard N., and April B. Please pray for all healthcare workers, especially Dan D., Kara, Melissa, Janice and their co-workers. Also, please pray for all serving in our military and law enforcement. *Silence is held.*

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *Silence is held.*

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence is held.*

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

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.

Offertory Hymn

#671, The Hymnal 1982

“Amazing grace, how sweet the sound”

The Presentation of the Offerings

#380, v.3, The Hymnal 1982

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow”

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

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 God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and we betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant 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.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant 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

S-130, The Hymnal 1982

“Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might”

The Celebrant continues

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:

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

Celebrant 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.

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

Celebrant 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.**

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

#301, The Hymnal 1982

"Bread of the world, in mercy broken"

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

#304, The Hymnal 1982

“I come with joy to meet my Lord”

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

The people and Celebrant 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 Blessing *The Priest blesses the people.*

Recessional Hymn

#537, The Hymnal 1982

“Christ for the world we sing!”

The Dismissal *The Priest dismisses the People*

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

People Thanks be to God, and all God’s people say, Amen!

Postlude

“Shall we gather at the river?”

Robert Lowry

Serving today's liturgy

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, *Celebrant and Preacher*
Patrick Ishler, *Music Minister*; and St. Matthew's Choir
Mary Ann Loftus, *Thurifer*; Roy Casey, *Eucharistic Minister*
Bill Bohner, *Lector*; Barry Treon, *Greeter and Usher*

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PARISH NOTES FOR JULY 7, 2024

**COLE ALLEN DIAPER PANTRY:** The next Diaper Pantry will be Saturday, August 3, 2024 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 and urgently needed- we covered 86 baby bottoms in June!**

**HIS DISCIPLES FOOD PANTRY:** Is the last Saturday of each month. Please contact John Blanchard, 570-286-5415, leave message, to volunteer. Donations of canned soups and cereals are welcome. **We fed 53 families in June!** The next Food Pantry will be held Saturday, July 27th, 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.  
**MOTHER DINA'S OFFICE/PASTORAL CALLING HOURS:** Wednesday, 11:30- 5:00pm (or text/call (717) 481-0708 to plan a time to share together.) **I LOVE** hearing from you!

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY:** Please prayerfully consider participating in this vital ministry. If interested in guiding our young people in their faith, please contact Mother Dina or Anissa DeCapria-Sanduta, 570-898-2275.

**ALTAR SERVERS:** St. Matthew's is looking for altar servers of all ages for the ministries of: **Eucharistic Minister, Crucifer, Torch**

**Bearers, Lector, Thurifer, etc.** Please contact Mother Dina if interested in participating in these or ANY of our other ministries!

**CHOIR REHEARSAL FOR THE PARISH PICNIC:** Please consider joining us to sing a really fun piece of music for our parish picnic- it is called “Down by the river to pray.” Rehearsal Thursday, July 18 at 5:30 pm. All you need is to enjoy singing- come be with us for this fun experience! See Patrick Ishler if any questions.

**COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS:** Volunteers are needed each month to sign up for a weekly coffee hour session. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Choir Room. Any questions, please contact Carol Hixson. This month’s sign-ups are:

July 7<sup>th</sup>- Tina and Fran

July 14<sup>th</sup>- C. Blanchard

July 21<sup>st</sup>- Church Picnic

July 28<sup>th</sup>- Rain date for Picnic

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

**VESTRY MEETING:** The monthly Vestry Meeting will be held on July 17th at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall.

**ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC:** July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at Zartman’s Chermshire Pavilion, Kratzerville (print-out directions are available or if using GPS: use 1107 Scrubby Hill Road, Selinsgrove, this will get you close to the place). Service will start at 11:00 am, the meal to follow afterward. Meat will be provided, please bring a dish to share.

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

Sun., July 7<sup>th</sup>: **No monthly Breakfast/Children’s Activity**

Wed., July 17<sup>th</sup>: Vestry meeting, 6:00PM, Social Hall

Sun., July 21<sup>st</sup>: Parish Picnic/Outdoor Service is at Zartman’s Pavilion, **\*\*rain date July 28<sup>th</sup>**. Directions will be provided.

Sun., July 21<sup>st</sup>: **No Adult Bible Study**

Sat., July 27<sup>th</sup>: the Ordination of the Reverend Kevin Lowe to the Sacred Order of Priests, St. Andrew’s, State College (He will be Priest in Charge at St. Andrew’s, Lewisburg, beginning in August.)

**VESTRY MEMBERS:** Fran Zartman, *Senior Warden*; Roy Casey, *Junior Warden*; Mary Ann Loftus, *Clerk of the Vestry*; Nathan

Blanchard; Martha Bohner; Anissa DeCapria-Sanduta; Dana Kelly; Carol Lamparter; Pam Schlegel; Lynda Schlegel-Culver. Charlie Schlegel, *Senior Warden Emeritus*

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://diocesepa.org/stewardship>

Or you may continue to mail your contributions to:

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

[stmatthewsunbury@gmail.com](mailto:stmatthewsunbury@gmail.com) (office email)

[reverenddina@gmail.com](mailto:reverenddina@gmail.com) (Mother Dina's email)

Please visit us at [stmatthew-episcopal.org](http://stmatthew-episcopal.org) and follow us on Facebook: St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

To connect with our livestreamed services, please go to our YouTube channel: @St.MatthewsEpiscopalChurchSunB

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