

The Twenty-First Sunday after
Pentecost - Proper 23
October 13, 2024



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

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, *Priest in Charge*

"Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."
-Hebrews: 4:16

We are so happy you are with 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 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. 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.

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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 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.

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



we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**The Lessons** *The people sit.*

**A Reading from the Book of Job 23:1-9, 16-17**

Job said:

"Today also my complaint is bitter;  
his hand is heavy despite my groaning.  
Oh, that I knew where I might find him,  
that I might come even to his dwelling!  
I would lay my case before him,  
and fill my mouth with arguments.  
I would learn what he would answer me,  
and understand what he would say to me.  
Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power?  
No; but he would give heed to me.  
There an upright person could reason with him,  
and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.  
"If I go forward, he is not there;  
or backward, I cannot perceive him;  
on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;  
I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.  
God has made my heart faint;  
the Almighty has terrified me;  
If only I could vanish in darkness,  
and thick darkness would cover my face!"  
The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 22:1-15** *Deus, Deus meus Said in unison.*

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? \*  
and are so far from my cry  
and from the words of my distress?

- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; \*  
by night as well, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, \*  
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; \*  
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered; \*  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, \*  
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; \*  
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- 8 "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; \*  
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
- 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, \*  
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; \*  
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, \*  
and there is none to help.
- 12 Many young bulls encircle me; \*  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- 13 They open wide their jaws at me, \*  
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water; \*  
all my bones are out of joint; \*  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- 15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherds; \*  
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; \*  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

### Hebrews 4:12-16

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And

before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The Word of the Lord.

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

**Sequence Hymn**

#574, The Hymnal 1982

**“Before thy throne, O God, we kneel”**

**The Gospel: Mark 10:17-31**

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

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

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to

them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

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. Paul's, Bloomsburg. In our Diocesan/ Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Harrisburg, and The Episcopal Church in the Philippines. 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, Angela, Tanya,



Weston, Mike, Richard, the Sterner family, Dawson, Ellen and family, Erika, Stan, Nancy, Frank, Tammy, Becky, Marley, Alexis, Tanner and family, Tyanne, Adam, Richard, Barry, Ariella, Easton, Angelia and family, Kevin, Orion, Layla, Patrick and family, Bill and family, Keith, Phil and family, and for those whose needs are known to God alone. Please pray for all healthcare workers, especially Dan, Kara, Melissa, Janice and their co-workers. Also, please pray for all serving in our military, including Logan, 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, *especially J. Meckly Jr., Michael, Bob, Kitty, Carole, and Anita*, 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**

#475, The Hymnal 1982

**“God himself is with us”**

**The Presentation of the Offerings**

#380, v.3, The Hymnal 1982

**“Praise God from whom all blessings flow”**

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Eucharistic Prayer B**

BCP 367

*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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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**

**“Holy, Holy, Holy”**

S-130, The Hymnal 1982

*Then 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 **St. Matthew** 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 forever.  
**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**

#711, The Hymnal 1982

**"Seek ye first the kingdom of God"**

This hymn is a longtime favorite of our community and we sing it often- and I love how we can sing it without needing our hymnals! Today, it is actually a 'recommended' hymn because of how well it connects with our readings.

### **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

#675, The Hymnal 1982

“Take up your cross, the Savior said”

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

“His eye is on the sparrow”

Charles H. Gabriel

This is a favorite of Mary Newcomb. Today it is an instrumental version, but soon we will sing it as a hymn!

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*

## PARISH NOTES FOR OCTOBER 13, 2024

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| <p><b>COLE ALLEN DIAPER PANTRY:</b> The next Diaper Pantry will be Saturday, Nov. 2nd, 2024 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. We're in need of volunteers to distribute diapers. Please contact Connie Kistler at <a href="mailto:kistinpa@ptd.net">kistinpa@ptd.net</a>. Monetary donations are very much welcomed, please give in an envelope labeled "Diaper Pantry." <b>Donations of diaper wipes and pull-ups are so appreciated and urgently needed- We covered 110 baby bottoms in October!</b></p> |
| <p><b>HIS DISCIPLES FOOD PANTRY:</b> Is the last Saturday of each month. Please contact John Blanchard, 570-286-5415, leave message to volunteer. Donations of canned soups, cereals, and canned fruit are welcome. <b>We fed 48 families in September!</b> The next Food Pantry will be held Saturday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. <b>Any donations are greatly appreciated!</b></p>                                                                                             |
| <p><b>CHURCH SERVICE TIME is 10:00 AM.</b> Masks are now optional. Please follow any current COVID restrictions.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p><b>CARLA'S OFFICE HOURS:</b> Office hours are Tuesday and Wednesday, 10AM to 2PM, and Thursday, 10AM to Noon.<br/><b>MOTHER DINA'S OFFICE/PASTORAL CALLING HOURS:</b> Wednesday, 11:30- 5:00pm (or text/call (717) 481-0708 to plan a time to share together.) <b>I LOVE</b> hearing from you!</p>                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <p><b>YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY:</b> 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.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p><b>ALTAR SERVERS:</b> St. Matthew's is looking for altar servers of all ages for the ministries of: <b>Eucharistic Minister, Crucifer, Torch Bearers, Lector, Thurifer, etc.</b> Please contact Mother Dina if interested in participating in these or ANY of our other ministries!</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>CHOIR REHEARSAL:</b> Rehearsals will continue to be Thursday evenings at 5:30pm. All are welcome to join us - <b>NO MUSICAL EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS:</b> Volunteers are needed each month to sign up for a weekly coffee hour session. Sign-up sheets</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

are posted in the Choir Room. Any questions, please contact Carol Hixson. This month's sign-ups are:

Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>- David Hollabaugh

Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>- Tina McGee

Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>- Lynda Culver

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

**OCTOBERFEST:** We will be having our Octoberfest Dinner, Tues., Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, 4PM-6:30PM. A wide variety menu is offered along with dessert. **\$15.00 a meal/adults; \$10.00 a meal/12yrs & under; under 3yrs/FREE.**

**VESTRY MEETING:** The monthly Vestry Meeting will be held on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** Adult Bible Study starts at 9:00AM on Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>. Any questions, please contact Nathan Blanchard.

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

Tues., Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>: Octoberfest Dinner, 4:00PM-6:30PM

Wed., Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>: Vestry Meeting, 6:00PM, Social Hall

Fri., Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>: Diocesan Convention

Sun., Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>: Adult Bible Study, 9:00AM

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

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## *The Cole Allen Diaper Pantry*

