## The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 24 October 19, 2025



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

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, Rector

"Wisdom comes to those who know thee, all the best we have we owe thee." -From today's sequence hymn, #631, The Hymnal 1982 We are so glad you are here to worship with us! Please know you are always completely welcome at St. Matthew's for <u>everything</u> we doour fellowship, our mission and outreach activities, our regular Sunday worship at 10am, and other services we offer. 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 pews. 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!

During the long green season after Pentecost, there are two 'tracks' each week for Old Testament readings. Within each track, there is a Psalm chosen to accompany the particular lesson. We're using Track 2 this year, which thematically pairing the Old Testament reading with the Gospel reading- a sort of foretelling of Jesus Christ's life and ministry, if you will. This second track is almost identical to our previous Book of Common Prayer lectionary. (credit to The Reverend Dr. J. Barrington Bates.)

<u>All</u> 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 bread in the chalice) is not allowed.** 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 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost- Proper 24 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 a respectful silence that settles our souls for this time of Spirit-filled worship.

#### THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude "Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ" Carl Flentge Schalk

Processional Hymn

#48, The Hymnal 1982

"O day of radiant gladness"

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.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that

your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; 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 Genesis: Genesis 32:22-31

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 121 Said in unison.

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; \* from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, \*

the maker of heaven and earth.

- 3 He will not let your foot be moved \* and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \* shall neither slumber nor sleep;

- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; \* the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \* nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \* it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*

from this time forth for evermore.

## A Reading from 2 Timothy: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

#631, The Hymnal 1982

"Book of books, our people's strength"

The Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, `Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, `Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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 All Saints, Selinsgrove. In our Diocesan/Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral, Harrisburg, and The Episcopal Church. 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 Donald Trump; our Governor Josh Shapiro, our State Representative Mike Stender, our Mayor Josh Broscious, 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, the Sterner family, Dawson, Erika, Stan, Nancy, Becky, Easton, Ariella, Ereda, Junior, and Brendaly, AmberLynn, Bena, Daya, Arabella, Derick, Noelle, Dean, Monte, Fred, the Stark family, Bill, Christina, Tara, Macy, Patrick, Nancy, Quentin, Abigail, 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, 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, law enforcement, and first responders. 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 Officer Mark B., Officer Cody B., Officer Isaiah E., Desiree,* 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.

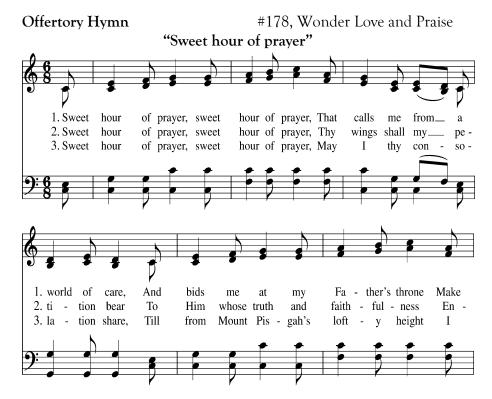
People Amen.

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.





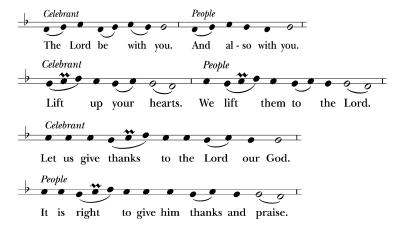
Words: William Walford (1772-1850). Music: William B. Bradbury (1816-1868).

# 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 (S-120, The Hymnal 1982)



Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

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 you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in 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 "Holy Holy" S-129, 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.** 

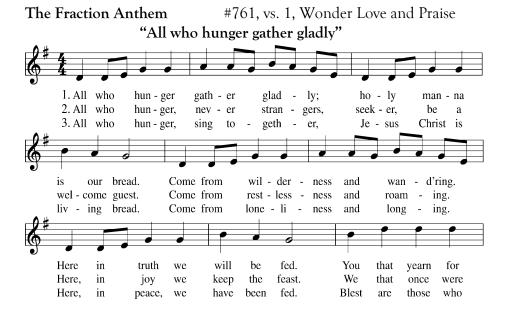


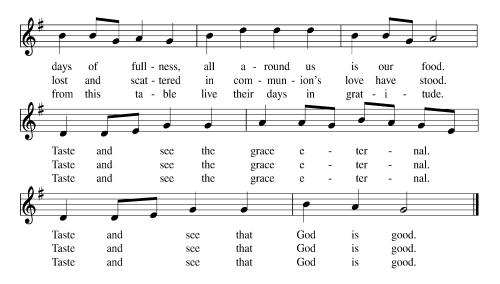
Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

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 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

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God" #711, The Hymnal 1982 "Will you come and follow me?" (see insert)

## 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

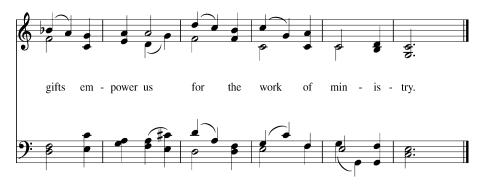
graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing The Celebrant blesses the people.

Recessional Hymn #780, Wonder Love and Praise "Lord, you give the great commission"







Words: Jeffery Rowthorn (b. 1934). Music: Abbot's Leigh, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991).

The Dismissal The Priest dismisses the People

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude

"It's me, it's me, O Lord"

Leonora Hardy

#### Serving today's liturgy

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, Celebrant and Preacher
Patrick Ishler, Music Minister; and St. Matthew's Choir
Fran Zartman, Flute; Mary Ann Loftus, Thurifer
Roy Casey, David Hollabaugh, Dana Kelly, Eucharistic Ministers
Amber Kuczynski, Danny and Jacob Renn, Worship Assistants
Patrick Ishler and David Hollabaugh, Lectors;
Barry Treon, Greeter and Usher

#### PARISH NOTES FOR October 19, 2025

COLE ALLEN DIAPER PANTRY: The next Diaper Pantry will be Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025 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 to the Treasurer, Tom Culver, in an envelope labeled "Diaper Pantry." Donations of sizes 5, 6, 7 diapers, diaper wipes and pull-ups are appreciated and urgently needed-we covered 100 baby bottoms in October!

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 42 families in September! The next Food Pantry will be held Saturday, Oct. 25th, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Any donations are greatly appreciated!

**CHURCH SERVICE TIME is 10:00 AM**. Masks are 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 HOURS: Tuesdays, 11:30am until 5pm or so. Call, text, or email me <u>any time</u> to plan a conversation, pastoral visit, or to share any other need you may have. I love hearing from you!

**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 REHEARSALS:** Choir rehearsals will be on Thursdays at 5:30PM. All are welcome to sing with us- no musical experience necessary!

**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:

Oct. 19-Kistlers Oct. 26- Carol H. & Lori

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:** Please notify Elaine Schlegel and the Parish Administrator, Carla Treon, of anyone who needs prayers so they may be added for next upcoming Sunday.

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

**WEEKDAY SERVICE:** For the month of October, our weekday service will be held on Wednesdays at noon. All are welcome!

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

**POLISH DINNER:** Tues., Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, 4:00PM-6:30PM, \$15 adults; \$7 for 12 yrs and under; FREE for under 3 yrs old.

**MONTHLY MORNING BREAKFAST:** The monthly morning breakfast will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00AM.

ALL SAINTS' DAY REMEMBRANCE OF LOVE ONES: There is a sign-up sheet on the table near the piano in the sanctuary to write the names of those we love who have died- we will be reading them aloud during our observance on All Saints' Day, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>. You may also email them to Mother Dina at reverenddina@gmail.com and she will add them.

**ELECTION DAY SPAGHETTI DINNER:** We will be having a Spaghetti Dinner on Election Day, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm – 6:30pm. Take-outs available. Dessert included.

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

Sun., Oct. 19th: Adult Bible Study, 9:00AM

Tues., Oct. 21st: Polish Dinner, 4:00PM-6:30PM

Sun., Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Monthly Breakfast Hour, 9:00AM

Sun., Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>: All Saints' Day Worship, 10:00AM

Tues., Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>: Election Night Spaghetti Supper, 4-:00-6:30PM, Social Hall.

Sun., Nov. 16th: Adult Bible Study, 9:00AM

Wed., Nov. 19th: Vestry Meeting, 6:00PM

Wed., Nov. 26th: Pie Sale, pre-sale orders, more info to follow

VESTRY MEMBERS: Fran Zartman, Senior Warden and vestry member, Martha Bohner, Junior Warden, Mary Ann Loftus, Clerk of the Vestry, Ric Haines, Carter Ishler, Dana Kelly, Carol Lamparter; Tina McGee, Lynda Schlegel-Culver.

Charlie Schlegel, Senior Warden Emeritus Sharon Baney, Sexton

#### **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: <a href="https://diocesecpa.org/stewardship">https://diocesecpa.org/stewardship</a>
Or you may continue to mail your contributions to:
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 32 N. Front St.
Sunbury, PA 17801
<a href="mailto:stmatthewsunbury@gmail.com">stmatthewsunbury@gmail.com</a> (office email)
<a href="mailto:reverenddina@gmail.com">reverenddina@gmail.com</a> (Mother Dina's email)
Please visit us at stmatthew-episcopal.org and follow us on

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

Facebook: St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

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

## The Cole Allen Diaper Pantry

