The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 24 October 26, 2025



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

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, Rector

"From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing." -2 Timothy 4:8

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 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost- Proper 25 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

"Adoro devote"

French church melody

Processional Hymn

#637, The Hymnal 1982

"How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord"

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, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us

love what you command; 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 Jeremiah: Jeremiah 14:7-10,19-22

Although our iniquities testify against us,

act, O LORD, for your name's sake;

our apostasies indeed are many,

and we have sinned against you.

O hope of Israel,

its savior in time of trouble,

why should you be like a stranger in the land,

like a traveler turning aside for the night?

Why should you be like someone confused, like a mighty warrior who cannot give help?

Yet you, O LORD, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name;

do not forsake us!

Thus says the LORD concerning this people:

Truly they have loved to wander,

they have not restrained their feet;

therefore the LORD does not accept them,

now he will remember their iniquity and punish their sins.

Have you completely rejected Judah?

Does your heart loathe Zion?

Why have you struck us down

so that there is no healing for us?

We look for peace, but find no good;

for a time of healing, but there is terror instead.

We acknowledge our wickedness, O LORD,

the iniquity of our ancestors,

for we have sinned against you.

Do not spurn us, for your name's sake; do not dishonor your glorious throne; remember and do not break your covenant with us.

Can any idols of the nation's bring rain?

Or can the heavens give showers?

Is it not you, O LORD our God?

We set our hope on you, for it is you who do all this.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

"How lovely is thy dwelling place" #517, The Hymnal 1982 We will sing this together- it is a sung version of today's Psalm (84: 1-6.)

A Reading from 2 Timothy: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

#558, The Hymnal 1982

"Faith of our fathers"

The Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

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 Church of the Good Shepherd, Hawk Run, and The Church of Wales. 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, Daya, Arabella, Derick, Noelle, Dean, Macy, Patrick, Nancy, Quentin, Abigail, Joyce 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 Desiree*, *and Vickie*, 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. Silence is held.

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.

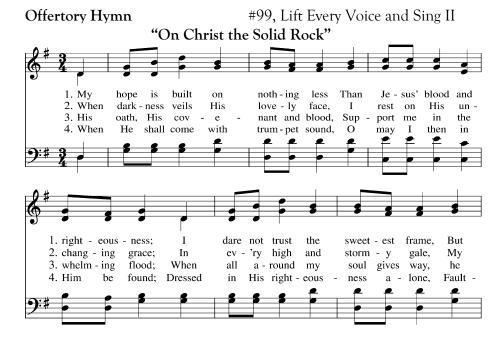
The Peace BCP 360

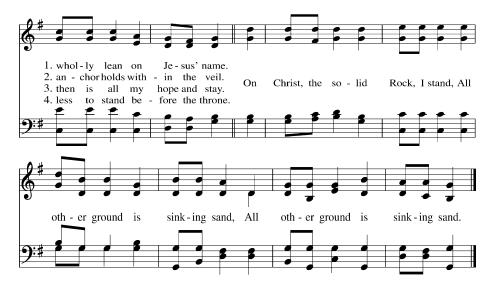
All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.





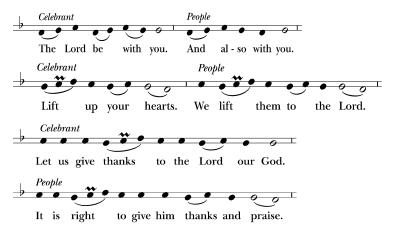
Words: Edward Mote (1797-1874). Music: William B. Bradbury (1816-1868).

The Presentation of the Offerings #380, v.3, The Hymnal 1982 "Praise God from whom all blessings flow"

THE HOLY COMMUNION



BCP 367 (S-120, The Hymnal 1982)



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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.**



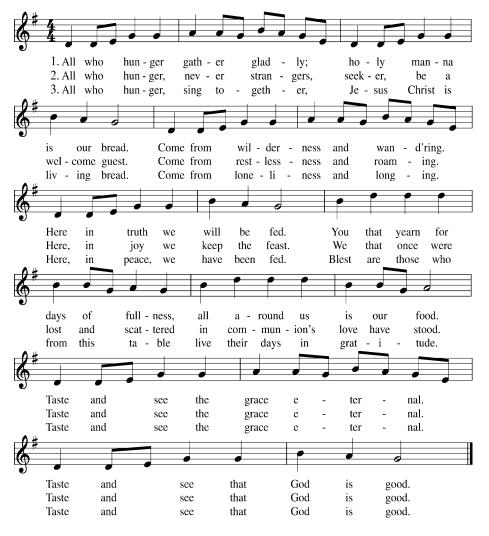
Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

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 Fraction Anthem #761, vs. 1, Wonder Love and Praise "All who hunger gather gladly"

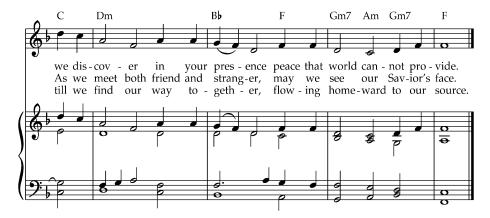


The Celebrant says

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 "Will you come and follow me?" (see insert) "Healing river of the Spirit" #96, Voices Found





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

#680, The Hymnal 1982

"O God, our help in ages past"

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 "Let us, with gladsome mind"

John Antes

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
David Hollabaugh, Subdeacon
Pay Cassy, Dana Kelly, Evaluation Ministers

Roy Casey, Dana Kelly, *Eucharistic Ministers*Amber Kuczynski, Danny and Jacob Renn, *Worship Assistants*Bill Bohner, *Lector*; Barry Treon, *Greeter and Usher*

PARISH NOTES FOR October 26, 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. 26th, Carol H. & Lori Nov. 2nd, Karen P. & Carol Nov. 9th, Krista/Don S. Nov. 16th, Jerry Y. & Martha B. Nov. 23rd, Rose/Kirk/Robert Nov. 30th, Stephanie S.

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!

COMPLINE SERVICE: Please join us for these evening services on Wednesdays, 8:00PM, in the Church, on Zoom, or Facebook live. Dave Hollabaugh will be officiating. Zoom link is listed here: https://us05web.zoom.us/j/88684946715?pwd=xvTfSYXhJjn6ce8ANK1pqbbG6ANEeX.1#success

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – St. Matthew's will be participating in Operation Christmas Child this year. Supplies will be in the parish hall. Please bring your shoebox on or before 11/16th, so they can be blessed by Mother Dina... any questions please contact Mary Ann Loftus.

MONTHLY MORNING BREAKFAST: The monthly morning breakfast will be held on November 2nd 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. 2nd. 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. 4th, 4:00pm – 6:30pm. Take-outs available. Dessert included.

DONATIONS FOR SPAGHETTI DINNER: There is a sign-up sheet in Choir Hall to donate supplies for the spaghetti dinner and will be needed by Monday morning, Nov. 3th. Desserts can be dropped off Tuesday, Nov. 4th.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER SIGN-UP is here. A Flyer for ordering Poinsettias along with sign-up sheets will be located in the Narthex, the Social Hall, and the Choir Hall. <u>DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 9th</u>. Please contact Mary Ann Loftus with any questions.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Adult Bible Study starts at 9:00AM on Nov. 16th. Any questions, please contact Nathan Blanchard.

VESTRY MEETING: The monthly Vestry Meeting will be held on Nov. 19th at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall.

UP-COMING MONTHLY EVENTS: Details to follow closer to the time of the events. Please visit our website for more info: Sun., **Nov.** 2nd: Monthly Breakfast Hour, 9:00AM

Sun., Nov. 2nd: All Saints' Day Worship, 10:00AM

Tues., Nov. 4th: 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: 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

<u>stmatthewsunbury@gmail.com</u> (office email) <u>reverenddina@gmail.com</u> (Mother Dina's email)

Please visit us at <u>stmatthew-episcopal.org</u> and follow us on Facebook: <u>St. Matthew's Episcopal Church</u>

To connect with our livestreamed services, please go to our YouTube channel: @St.MatthewsEpiscopalChurchSunB *All printed and performed music and lyrics are used with permission under our license agreements: Riteseries, copyright 2024 Church Publishing; One License #A-741634. All Rights Reserved.

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The Cole Allen Diaper Pantry

