

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after
Pentecost - Proper 27
November 10, 2024



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

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, *Priest in Charge*

*"Unless the LORD builds the house, their labor is in vain
who build it. Unless the LORD watches over the city,
in vain the watchman keeps his vigil." Psalm 127:1-2*

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*



destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he 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 Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17**

Naomi her mother-in-law said to Ruth, “My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do.” She said to her, “All that you tell me I will do.”

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the LORD made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.” Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 127** *Said in unison.*

- 1 Unless the LORD builds the house, \*  
their labor is in vain who build it.
- 2 Unless the LORD watches over the city, \*  
in vain the watchman keeps his vigil.
- 3 It is in vain that you rise so early and go to bed so late; \*  
vain, too, to eat the bread of toil,  
for he gives to his beloved sleep.
- 4 Children are a heritage from the LORD, \*  
and the fruit of the womb is a gift.
- 5 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior \*  
are the children of one's youth.
- 6 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them! \*  
he shall not be put to shame  
when he contends with his enemies in the gate.

**A Reading from the Book of Hebrews 9:24-28**

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

The Word of the Lord.

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

**Sequence Hymn**

#665, The Hymnal 1982

**“All my hope on God is founded”**

**The Gospel: Mark 12:38-44**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according

to Mark.

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

As Jesus taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

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 Christ Church, Milton. In our Diocesan/Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. John's Episcopal Church, Huntingdon, and the Church of South India (United). 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 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, Richard, the Sterner family, Dawson, Ellen and family, Erika, Stan, Nancy, Frank, Tammy, Becky, Marley, Alexis, Tanner and family, Tyanne, Adam, Richard, Easton, Joan, Barry, Ariella, Phil and family, George and family, Caitlin, Kevin, and baby Oliver, Greg and family, Ereda Garcia and Junior Jimenez, 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 Anita, Patricia, Deacon Alex, and Tony*, 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**

#490, The Hymnal 1982

**“I want to walk as a child of the light”**

**The Presentation of the Offerings**

#380, v.3, The Hymnal 1982

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

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Eucharistic Prayer D**

BCP 367

*Celebrant* 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.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and forever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your

presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:

**The Sanctus**

S-130, The Hymnal 1982

**“Holy, holy, holy”**

*The Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

**We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ.

Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone;

bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs,

with **St. Matthew** and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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**

#707, The Hymnal 1982

**"Take my life, and let it be"**

### **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

#594, The Hymnal 1982

“God of grace, and God of glory”

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

“Great is the Lord!”

Michael W. Smith

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*; Martha Bohner, *Eucharistic Minister*

Dan Davis, *Lector*; Barry Treon, *Greeter and Usher*

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PARISH NOTES FOR NOVEMBER 10, 2024

COLE ALLEN DIAPER PANTRY: The next Diaper Pantry will be Saturday, Dec. 7th, 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. Monetary donations are very much welcomed, please give in an envelope labeled "Diaper Pantry." **Donations of diaper wipes, pull-ups, and sizes 5 and 6 are so appreciated and urgently needed- We covered 140 baby bottoms in November!**

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, cereals, and canned fruit are welcome. **We fed 52 families in October!** The next Food Pantry will be held Saturday, November 30th, 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: Rehearsals will continue to be Thursday evenings at 5:30pm. All are welcome to join 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:

Nov. 10th - Daiana Ramirez Nov. 17th - Martha/Bill Bohner
Nov. 24th - Kistlers Dec. 1st

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

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. **DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 10th.** Please contact Mary Ann Loftus with any questions.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – St. Matthew's will be participating in Operation Christmas Child this year, and our scout troops will be joining us in this wonderful ministry! Supplies are in the parish hall. **Please bring your shoebox on or before Nov. 24th**, so they can be blessed by Mother Dina on Nov. 24^h... any questions please contact Mary Newcomb or Mary Ann Loftus.

WALK IN LOVE: On 11/10, 11/24, and 12/1 we will be gathering after church: coffee hour goodies first, then we gather for some formation centered around the excellent book “Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices”, by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. Our goal is not to learn certain things before Bishop Scanlan visits us on 12/8, but hopefully to nurture a hunger for lifelong learning and spiritual growth about our tradition, the Sacraments which shape us ever more deeply into God’s people, how to be God’s people in this world, and so much more. If you want a copy of the book PLEASE let Mother Dina know- copies are available!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Adult Bible Study starts at 9:00AM on Nov. 17th. Any questions, please contact Nathan Blanchard.

BRASS CLEANING: Please join in helping with the brass cleaning on November 17th after the Service and Coffee Hour. All are welcome to help!

VESTRY MEETING: The monthly Vestry Meeting will be held on November 20th at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall.

PIE SALE: A Pie Sale will be held Nov. 27th. All pies are 9”. **Must Pre-Order.** Pick-up after 4pm. Choices are: Pecan, \$15.00; Pumpkin, \$10.00; Apple Pie, \$10.00, and Praline, \$2.00. Sign-up Pie forms available.

ST. NICK'S FESTIVAL: Our Annual St Nicholas Festival will be Sat., Dec. 7th from 10am-2pm. Auction baskets, sticky buns, baked goods, Lunch, Soups: Italian wedding, Chicken corn, Ham & Bean - can be preordered by calling the church. *Any donations to the auction baskets, baked goods, etc. are appreciated! Please speak with Anissa, Justina, Connie or Cynthia with questions.*

UP-COMING MONTHLY EVENTS: Details to follow closer to the time of the events. Please visit our website for more info:
Sun., Nov. 10th: Deadline for Christmas Flower Orders
Sun., Nov. 17th: Adult Bible Study, 9:00AM
Sun., Nov. 17th: Brass cleaning after Coffee Hour
Wed., Nov. 20th: Vestry Meeting, 6:00PM
Sun., Nov. 24th: Deadline for Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Blessing, 10:00 AM
Wed., Nov. 27th: Pie Sale, pre-sale orders, more info to follow

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 (office email)
reverenddina@gmail.com (Mother Dina's email)

Please visit us at stmatthew-episcopal.org and follow us on
Facebook: [St. Matthew's Episcopal Church](https://www.facebook.com/St.MatthewsEpiscopalChurch)
To connect with our livestreamed services, please go to our
YouTube channel: [@St.MatthewsEpiscopalChurchSunB](https://www.youtube.com/@St.MatthewsEpiscopalChurchSunB)

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Pennsylvania; The Rt. Rev. Audrey C. Scanlan, Bishop*

The Cole Allen Diaper Pantry

**WITH YOUR HELP
WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

