

MORNING PRAYER

EPIPHANY 1: THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 10, 2021

PRELUDE

OPENING SENTENCE

From the rising of the sun to its setting my Name shall be great among the nations, and in every place incense shall be offered to my Name, and a pure offering: for my Name shall be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.

Malachi 1:11

CONFESSION OF SIN

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.***

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

V: Lord, open our lips.

R: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

Alleluia

VENITE PSALM 95:1-7

The Lord has shown forth his glory: Come let us adore him.

The Lord has shown forth his glory: Come let us adore him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
 let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
***Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
 and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.***

For the Lord is a great God, *
 and a great King above all gods.
***In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
 and the heights of the hills are his also.***

The sea is his, for he made it, *
 and his hands have molded the dry land.

***Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.***

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
 Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Lord has shown forth his glory: Come let us adore him.
The Lord has shown forth his glory: Come let us adore him.

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

THE PSALMS APPOINTED:

PSALM 146 *Lauda, anima mea*

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul! *
 I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- 2 ***Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
 for there is no help in them.***
- 3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
 and in that day their thoughts perish.
- 4 ***Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
 whose hope is in the LORD their God;***
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
 who keeps his promise for ever;
- 6 ***Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
 and food to those who hunger.***
- 7 The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; *
 the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 8 ***The LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares for the stranger; *
 he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.***
- 9 The LORD shall reign for ever, *
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

PSALM 147 *Laudate Dominum*

- 1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
 how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

² ***The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; ****
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

³ He heals the brokenhearted *
 and binds up their wounds.

⁴ ***He counts the number of the stars ****
and calls them all by their names.

⁵ Great is our LORD and mighty in power; *
 there is no limit to his wisdom.

⁶ ***The LORD lifts up the lowly, ****
but casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷ Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; *
 make music to our God upon the harp.

⁸ ***He covers the heavens with clouds ****
and prepares rain for the earth;

⁹ He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
 and green plants to serve mankind.

¹⁰ ***He provides food for flocks and herds ****
and for the young ravens when they cry.

¹¹ He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
 he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

¹² ***But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, ****
in those who await his gracious favor.

¹³ Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
 praise your God, O Zion;

¹⁴ ***For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; ****
he has blessed your children within you.

¹⁵ He has established peace on your borders; *
 he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁶ ***He sends out his command to the earth, ****
and his word runs very swiftly.

¹⁷ He gives snow like wool; *
 he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

¹⁸ ***He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; ****
who can stand against his cold?

¹⁹ He sends forth his word and melts them; *
 he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

²⁰ ***He declares his word to Jacob, ****
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

²¹ He has not done so to any other nation; *
 to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

A READING FROM GENESIS 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A SONG OF JERUSALEM OUR MOTHER; ISAIAH 66:10-14

Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her *
all you who love her,

Rejoice, rejoice with her, *
all you who mourn over her,

That you may drink deeply with delight *
from her comforting breast.

For thus says our God, *
"I will extend peace to her like a river, the wealth of nations like an overflowing stream.

"You shall nurse and be carried on her arm,*
and you shall nestle in her lap.

"As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; *
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

"You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice, *
you shall flourish like the grass of the fields."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A READING FROM ACTS 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN #121: CHRIST, WHEN FOR US YOU WERE BAPTIZED

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

Robert Fruehwirth+

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

V: The Lord be with you.

R: ***And also with you.***

Let us pray.

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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. We pray for Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sam and Anne our Bishops with all bishops, priests, and deacons. We pray for parishes in our Diocese, especially Good Shepherd, Asheboro; St. John's, Battleboro; and Church of the Holy Comforter, Burlington. We also pray for Pastor Holman and Dickerson Chapel AME and for the Hillsborough clergy group.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

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 for our President, our President-Elect, our Congress, and our State Government. We pray for all of our government officials at the Capitol, for law enforcement personnel, and for those who are trying to diffuse the events of this week peacefully. We pray for the work of Re-Entry House Plus in their ministry to inmates leaving prison.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

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. We pray for the work of the Eno River Association.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

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 for the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable in Orange County. We pray for inmates, first responders, and healthcare workers. We pray for educators, students, and parents of school-aged children.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

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. Comfort those who mourn, remembering the family of Katherine Nelson, especially her daughters, Margery and Diana, at Katherine's death and for the family of Dana McDonald at the death of her father, Joe McDonald. We pray for those in our parish family, especially: Jackie, Mildred, Lois, Tom, Molly, Jim, Rowen & Jan, Ann, Anne, Daisy, Tom, Champe, Keyon, Andy & Barrie, Patrick, Laura, Sandra, Bartow, Robert, Tricia & Don, Nell, Ludie, and Robert. We pray for those at Brookshire, both residents and staff.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Katherine and Joe, and Bobby Nofsinger Nancy Lou Irvine, friends of David & Robin Arcus, that your will for them may be fulfilled, and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY:

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. ***Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN #143 (LEVAS): WADE IN THE WATER

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

2 Corinthians 13:14

VIDEO FROM THE PRESIDING BISHOP THE REV. MICHAEL CURRY: 1,000 DAYS OF LOVE

Episcopal Relief and Development is in the midst of a grassroots fundraising campaign focused on development work and outreach to support children around the globe in the first three years of their lives, recognizing the especially critical development which happens during these early years. The campaign is called “1000 Days of Love” (for more details, click [here](#)). The Diocese of North Carolina has challenged each of its parishes to pledge at least \$15 per member to this campaign for the work of Episcopal Relief and Development. St. Matthew’s will have a few, very brief, presentations over the next few weeks that will highlight “1000 Days of Love” and encourage you to consider making a donation. Donations can be made at the Diocesan website, which can be accessed using this [link](#) (if using this option, please remember to note that you are from St. Matthew’s, Hillsborough in the memo line!). You may also send a check directly to St. Matthew’s, noting that the money is for “1000 Days of Love.” Thank you for your support!

VESTRY CAMEO

Jehanne Gheith

Today we continue our monthly “vestry cameos.” Senior Warden, Jehanne Gheith, introduces herself and speaks briefly about her work on the vestry.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW’S

Sunday (1/10): Epiphany One: The Baptism of Our Lord

Worship and Formation

- **Gathering** (Worship Zoom); 9:00am
- **Morning Prayer** (Worship Zoom); 9:15am
- **Faith Formation for the St. Matthew’s Family: The Feast of the Epiphany** (Formation Zoom); 10:15am. Join us as we resume our program year by celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany, or “Three Kings Day,” when we commemorate the visit of the Magi to the Christ child and the revelation of God with us in Christ. We will learn about how Christ appears to us in our own day, and how we can welcome him into our homes and lives with an Epiphany House Blessing.

Youth Group (Formation Zoom); 4:00pm

Epiphany Bon Fire (Parking Lot); 6:00pm

Well, it’s our traditional bonfire, but it’s not going to feel the same. No chili cook-off and no caroling. But it will be a big bonfire. If you come, remember to stay masked and remember to keep distanced from those not living in your household. Trees can be dropped off in the lower parking lot by the light pole.

Monday (1/11):

- **Compline** (Worship Zoom); 8:30pm

Tuesday (1/2):

- **Morning Silence** (Worship Zoom); 7:30am Gathering for Silent Meditation
- **RJR Book Discussion** (Meeting Zoom); 7:00pm
- **Compline** (Worship Zoom); 8:30pm

Wednesday (1/13):

- **Morning Prayer** (Worship Zoom); 8:00am
- **In-Person Eucharist** (Memorial Garden); Noon
- **For Those Who Live Alone** (Meeting Zoom); 5:00pm / Margaret Brill hosting
- **Choir** (Meeting Zoom); 7:00pm
- **Compline** (Worship Zoom); 8:30pm

Thursday (1/14)

- **Keeping Sabbath Book Discussion** (Meeting Zoom); 7:30pm
- **Compline** (Worship Zoom); 8:30pm

Friday (1/15)

- **Morning Prayer** (Worship Zoom); 8:00am
- **Awareness Through Movement** (Meeting Zoom); 9:15am
- **Compline** (Worship Zoom); 8:30pm

Sunday (1/17): Epiphany Two**Worship and Formation**

- **Gathering** (Worship Zoom); 9:00am
- **Morning Prayer** (Worship Zoom); 9:15am
- **Children's Programming** (Formation Zoom); 10:15am
- **Sunday Forum** (Worship Zoom); 10:15am

Youth Group (Formation Zoom); 4:00pm

PLEASE MASK UP IF YOU COME INTO ANY OF THE BUILDINGS ON THE CHURCH PROPERTY!!

IN-PERSON, OUTDOOR EUCHARISTS

Our next, in-person, outdoor Eucharists are scheduled for Wednesday, the 13th and 20th at Noon. They will be in the Memorial Garden where we can accommodate 24 easily. To sign up, first fill out [the health screening form here](#). Masks are required and physical distancing must be observed. We expect to continue having Wednesday Eucharists as long as the weather allows.

RACIAL JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION BOOK DISCUSSION ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

The RJRC will be hosting a discussion of "To Free a Family: The Journey of Mary Walker" by Sydney Nathans on Tuesday, January 12, at 7:00 pm on the meeting zoom channel. Margaret Brill will lead the discussion. As you will see below, there is a connection to St. Matthew's in this true story.

Prior to the Civil War, thousands of African Americans escaped from slavery, but because few recorded their experiences, little is known about their efforts to forge new lives in freedom. Mary Walker, the focus of this study, was a light-skinned fugitive who escaped from a North Carolina planter (Duncan Cameron, owner of Stagville) when she accompanied them to Philadelphia in 1848. Her history, though unique in many ways, is illustrative of the hardships and challenges such migrants faced and the support they sometimes received from abolitionist networks. Her efforts to preserve her freedom, gain economic independence, and locate and purchase the freedom of her children still held as slaves is pieced together here by Nathans from

the papers of Northern abolitionists and Southern slaveholders.

SABBATH AS RESISTANCE: LIVING FROM REST IN A CULTURE OF BUSYNESS BEGINNING JANUARY 14

Between the New Year and Lent St. Matthew's will be hosting a book study to explore the Biblical roots and modern meaning of Sabbath: Taking Rest to Live from God. Our text will be Walter Brueggemann's phenomenal book, *Sabbath as Resistance*. Through reading, questions, and discussion we will explore how to follow Christ in living an unhurried life that gives time to abide in God and care for others. "Good relationships are grown in the soil of good rest" - Alan Fadling. If you are interested, please contact the facilitator of this group, Nick Gallegly, at nick.gallegly@gmail.com. Classes will be on Thursday nights from 7:30-8:30 starting January 14. Places are limited.

AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® (January 15, 22, & 29 and February 12, 19, & 26) at 9:15am

on the Meeting Zoom Channel. Betty Wolfe plans to teach a few each of standing, sitting, and on the floor lessons movements. Please email her bettywolfe@gmail.com with questions. All are welcome to explore these enlivening opportunities. Come expand your neuromuscular bandwidth! May we enter 2021 gently!

SIGN UP FOR SECRET PALS!

Secret Pals is an annual tradition at St. Matthew's bringing all generations together for the three F's...food, fellowship, and FUN! If you like mystery, suspense, and happy endings...consider signing up for Secret Pals! Adults who sign up to be a secret pal send treats and clues to their younger pal the week of February 7th, and on February 14th their identity will be revealed at the Secret Pals Breakfast at 10:15am on the Formation Channel. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks! [Sign up here](#) by January 24th, and email Kim at kim@stmatthewshillsborough.org if you have any questions!

ST. MATTHEW'S PODCASTS ARE BACK: [HTTPS://STMATTHEWSHILLSBOROUGH.ORG/PODCAST/](https://stmatthewshillsborough.org/podcast/)

- THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY I: Acts 2:37-47.
Amy and David discuss the early church as described in Acts Chapter 2, shortly after the Pentecost event.
- THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY II: ACTS 4:32-5:11
We continue our look into the community in the early Church of Acts. This week I'm joined by Father Robert and we discuss the story of Ananias and Sapphira, who lie to Peter about the amount of their money they are giving to the fledgling Church. We discuss why the call to honesty and truthfulness in the church community is so critical and why this story unfolds the way that it does. We also talk about what possibilities might open up for the Church today if we took on a posture of extreme truthfulness and charity within the community.
- ST. MATTHEW'S COMMUNITY: AN INTERVIEW WITH JENNIFER PEAK
- ST. MATTHEW'S COMMUNITY: AN INTERVIEW WITH EDWARD WRIGHT
- THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY III: ACTS 6:1-7

ORANGE CONGREGATIONS IN MISSION

Providing Beef Stew to Orange Congregations in Mission Food's Pantry is a commitment St. Matthew's has made and kept for years now. Bring your donated items by the church anytime. Drop them in the basket under the alcove of the Hayden Building or leave them by one of the

doors. We have already collected 110 cans last Sunday toward our monthly goal of 175! The shopping cart is kept in the Fellowship Hall for additional donations.

SOME INFORMATION ABOUT REENTRY HOUSE FROM THEIR WEBSITE

The Alamance/Orange Prison Ministry has operated a weekly Yokefellows group on Tuesday evenings at the Orange Correctional Facility for years, although temporarily suspended now because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In late summer, 2019, a group of volunteers and supporters met to talk through residential options for our colleagues in prison (in Yokefellows terminology, volunteers and inmates are “yoked” together for mutual support and growth). Out of those early discussions, 10 volunteers or other interested partners (3 of whom are post incarcerated and who have become successful in the community), committed together to start a non-profit corporation for the purpose of providing housing and support in the most critical first 18 months after prison for those being released, until the point where they can become independent, self-supporting, contributing individuals in our community.

In September, 2019, we met as the founding Board of Reentry House Plus, Inc. voted to incorporate and are now a fully tax exempt organization.

COVID VACCINATION NEWS (FROM THE ORANGE COUNTY WEBSITE)

- COVID-19 vaccines will be available for you soon! Early vaccine shipments began arriving in Orange County in December 2020, and distribution will continue through 2021. Vaccines are safe and will be available for free. Getting vaccinated will be critical for ending the pandemic, so use this page to learn more, and make a plan to be vaccinated when it's your turn! Currently vaccination supply is very limited. Only institutions and individuals in Phase 1a (Health care workers caring for and working directly with patients with COVID-19, including staff responsible for cleaning and maintenance in those areas; Health care workers administering vaccine; and Long-term care staff and residents—people in skilled nursing facilities and in adult, family and group homes) are being enrolled at this time. Plus Phase 1b, just opened for people 75 and older. We will be asking the general public (Phases 1b and later) to sign up using the CVMS system. The portal is not ready yet.

PRAYER LIST

We pray for all who are sick, or in any need or trouble, remembering especially the following members of our parish family: Jackie Fredericks, Mildred Pruessing, Lois Horn, Tom Vail, Molly Zaragoza, Jim Fesperman, Rowen & Jan Grant, Ann Burdette, Anne Weaver, Daisy Huffman, Tom Sinn, Champe Davis, Keyon Hutson, Andy & Barrie Wallace, Patrick Craft, Laura Middlebrooks, Sandra Poffenbarger, Bartow Culp, Robert Fruehwirth, Tricia & Don Hill, Nell Schrader, Ludie White, and Robert Locke.

And these others for whom our prayers are desired: Melanie Maupin, Betsy Zaragoza, Derek Kendall, Harry Dula, Mathew Thomas, Arnold Thomas, Gail Clifford, Erin Vaughan, Bob Caldwell, Baylor Pisano, John Charton, Lucy Gradowski, Ken Foland, Savannah Fonvielle, Colleen Paisley, Ben Mueller, Richard Haase, Linda Saterfield, Chip Joyner, John Logan, the Spurlocks, the Tuckers, Anna Lawrence & Dan Bass, Fred Edoughs, Timothy, Gogi, Bob, Laura Merrill, Jeannine Beardslee, Brooke Harnisch & Dan Roberts, Amy, Evelyne Accad, Amalia, Maddie Powers, Pat McDonald, Allie, John & Rachel

Hougom, Richard Stevens, Mary Beth, Sam Hammond, Mary Armbruster, Karl & Janice Eicher, Knox Efland, Coleman Sale, Boardman Lloyd, the family of Chris Knotts.

We pray for all doctors and nurses, service workers, inmates, and the unemployed. We pray for educators, students, and parents of school-aged children.