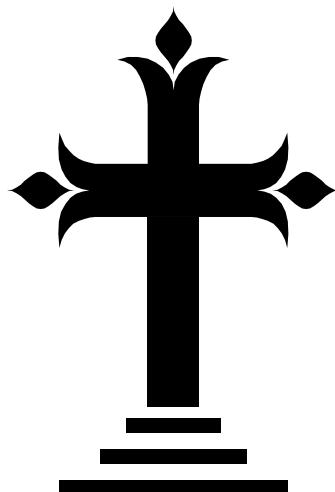


Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church



101 Saint Matthew's Lane
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29301
(864) 576-0424
www.stmatthewsepiscopal.org

Our mission is to preach, teach, heal and make disciples.

**Sunday Service – 10:00 A.M.
Preceded by Christian Formation 9:00 A.M
Wednesday Evening Prayer & Healing Service – 6:30 P.M.**

**The Right Reverend Daniel P. Richards, Bishop
The Reverend Paul R. Abernathy, Resident Priest
Donna Simpson, Organist/Choir Director
Caitlin Roberts, Preschool Director
Michelle Pierce, Director of Communications
Jane Bird, Church Administrator
Anna Channavong & Melissa Pellin, Nursery**

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
The Word of God

Please talk to God in silence before the service; after the service talk to friends

Prelude

Processional *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing!”* Hymnal 686

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

The Celebrant says the Collect for Purity

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.*

Gloria

BCP 356

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,

almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The formula is simple, though perhaps not easy: as it was in the time of Ezekiel, so it is today — acknowledge the truth of the Lord our God and we shall be saved.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel:

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 25:1-8 (In Unison)

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

The Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

Christians in Philippi are encouraged by the creed of Jesus Christ which the Apostle Paul shares in the body of his letter to them.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians:

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ

*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.*

Silence

Prayers of the People, Form III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Prayer for the Calling of Our New Rector

Gracious Father, whose Word declares there is a season for everything and a time for every matter under heaven, we humbly ask Your Holy Spirit to guide the minds and hearts of our family of Saint Matthew's as we seek and choose a new rector. We pray You will help us receive a faithful pastor who will care for Your people and equip us in our ministries, such that we may continue to preach, teach, heal, and make disciples with joy and thanksgiving for the glory of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

The Confession

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Minister and People

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.

The Absolution

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.
Amen.

Peace

All stand.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

"The Lord is My Shepherd"
by Allen Pote (1991, Choristers Guild)

Offertory Hymn

The Doxology

Hymnal 380 (vs. 3)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The people remain standing.

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 him thanks and praise.*

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

David Dubay 1990, www.palmettopastor.com

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power
and might.

Heaven and earth are full of Your Glory.

Lord we sing Your praise.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the
highest. Lord we sing Your praise.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord. God of power
and might.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the
highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Lord we sing your praise. Lord we sing
your praise. Lord we sing your praise.

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 for ever. *AMEN.*

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

BCP 364

People and Celebrant

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.*

Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S-154

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion Hymns

“O God, Unseen Yet Ever Near”

Hymnal 332

“Shepherd of Souls”

Hymnal 343

“What Wondrous Love is This”

Hymnal 439

“Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing”

Hymnal 344

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, saying

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do his will; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Hymn for Going Forth

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah!”

Hymnal 690

Announcements

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Servers

Guest Organist:	Thea Jackman
Eucharistic Minister (Vested):	Henry Roberts
Eucharistic Minister:	Debbie Rutledge
Lector:	Delia Roberts
Crucifer:	Pierce Roberts
Torchbearers:	Debbie Richardson, Werth Roberts
Greeter:	Atha McBride
Ushers:	Robin File, Zach Pretulak
Streaming and Sound Tech Team:	Carol & Doug Wishard, Ted Lucktenberg
Vestry of the Month:	Rob Rhoden

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week

27	Brett Reese	30	Jeremy Soto
	Katie Soto	October:	
28	Jim Guerrant	1	Sara Arnold
	Nicholas Bankhead	2	Jane Bracken
	Anahita Ghorbani		Stephanie McCullough
29	Sherrie & Michael Foster (A)		David & Sam Elliott (A)
	Isaac Soto		

For a Birthday

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant as *he/she* begins another year. Grant that *he/she* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his/her* trust in your goodness all the days of *his/her* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For a Wedding Anniversary

O God, You have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church; Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants N. and N., that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

St. Michael's, Easley; St. Michael's & All Angels, Columbia

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Church of Bangladesh

SAVE THE DATE

September 27, 2026

- Sept 27 Sunday 9:00–9:45 Christian Formation: Preschool • Elementary • Teens • Adults**
10:00 One Sunday Service
EYC at 5:30pm in the Youth Room.
Bible, Bread & Wine w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm in the Kelly Room.
- Sept 29 Tuesday Women's Bible Studies**, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 11am & 6:30pm, Library.
- Sept 30 Wednesday Evening Holy Eucharist w/Healing**, 6:30 pm.
- Oct 2 Watch for the online CAT Survey** from Holy Cow Consultants
- Oct 4 Sunday 9:00–9:45 Christian Formation: Preschool • Elementary • Teens • Adults**
10:00 One Sunday Service
11:30 Acolyte Training Sunday. A light lunch will be served!
EYC at 5:30pm in the Youth Room.
Bible, Bread & Wine w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm in the Kelly Room.
- Oct 7 Wednesday Holy Eucharist w/Healing**, 6:30 pm.
- Oct 11 Sunday 9:00–9:45 Christian Formation: Preschool • Elementary • Teens • Adults**
10:00 One Sunday Service
EYC at 5:30pm in the Youth Room.
Bible, Bread & Wine w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm in the Kelly Room.
- Oct 14 Wednesday Holy Eucharist w/Healing**, 6:30 pm.
- Oct 30 Trunk or Treat**, 6:00-8:30 pm. Decorate your car (see sign up sheet in hallway). Candy

WORSHIP

Sundays:

Holy Eucharist, 10:00 am 'til October.

Christian Formation, 9 - 9:45 am.

Childcare in the Nursery, 6 mos - 4 yrs.

Episc. Youth EYC: 5:30 pm Youth Rm.

Bible, Bread & Wine, 5:30 pm. Kelly Rm.

Wednesdays: Holy Eucharist w/ Healing,
6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Every Evening: Compline, 9:15 pm. Live
on St. Matt's Facebook.

SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP

Food Pantry & Free Medical Clinic:

Wednesdays: Welcome & Assist Clients, 9:30-11am

Contact Harvey Gloystein, 713-816-0112

Tuesdays: Setting Up for Wednesdays

Contact Heather Yevcak, 704-560-3905

Brotherhood of St. Matthew's: 2nd Tues./mo. 6:30 pm.

Women's Bible Study: 2nd & 4th Tues/mo. At 11 am,
or 6:30 pm. Study guides provided. In the Library.

Daughters of the King: 2nd Sat/mo. 2 pm.

Choir: Thursdays at 6:30 pm.

Education for Ministry (EfM): Monday evenings
'till spring.

Vestry: 3rd Tues/mo. 6:30 pm, Library.



How to Support St. Matthew's with Online Giving and Beyond

Scan the QR Code or visit stmatthewsepiscopal.org/giving to donate online.

Remember there are many ways to support St. Matthew's: pledges, stock gifts, online giving, or direct transfers such as Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs)

Parish Prayer List

Alex Garmise
Betsy Tolley
Carol & Doug Wishard
Cheryl & Mike Jacobson
Debbie Townsend
Debbye Edwards
Deborah Smith
Denise Cannon
Donnie Bird
Don Davis
Edith Webb
Elizabeth Hulett
Ena Stapleton
Ethel Tortorice
Florence Donnan
Gail Stellar
Gene Halford
Geoffrey Thomas
Glyn Shackelford
Hazel Cannon
Hester Martin
Jackie Bailey
Jandy Williams
Jerry Bowers
Juanita Thaxton
Karen Garber
Kathleen Bonner
Kate Price
Kathy Miller
Kathy Wood
Katie Ponder
Kim Cope
Leesa and Phil Simmons
Lindsay Leaman
Louise Rambo
Louise Wickersheim
Lynn Kerfoot
Maria King
Mark Smith
Mary Uhler
Marie Urquhart
Mary File
Max & Angie Painter
Neil Thomas
Peggy Ewing
Robin Hayden
Scott Garber
Schulz Family
Shirley Gould
Steve and Sandi Spanitz
Susan Cherry-Casey

Expectant Mothers

Mary Geraldine

Babies & Families

Harmony, Amy & Steve Beckler
Louisa Miller Matys (grand-daughter of Shep & Kathy)

Wendel Sullens

Friends & Family

Al Hipp
Dr. Arturo Riojas
Bart Owens
Bill Kerfoot
Boone Brooks
Brian Yanaconne
Bruce Schneider
Carlos Anthony Frias, Jr.
Father Charles Smith
Charlton Sy
Chelsea Smith
Chris Solem
Christopher Oxford
Chuck and Pat Piazza
Cindy Holtzman
Dale Pretulak
Danet Peterson
Danielle Anne Baum
David and Nancy Church
David Morgan
David Sanabria
David Wright
Deacon Samuel
Dee Wolfe
Detra Peyton
E J Thompson
Ed Bloomfield
Elizabeth Greco
Emily Painter
Forest
Hannah Holscher
Harriett Seabrook
Jackie Garcia
Jerry
Jing S
John Dennis
Joy Hope
Joyce Ford
Joyce TD
Justus Link
Lib Hughes
Lisa
Lourdes Go
Lourdes Loreto
Marianne Beck
Maryann Yevcak
Matthew Garrett
Maggie Elrod
Mary Nelle Beckler
Michael Szelepsik
Mildred Pretulak
Nancy Butner
Nancy McCart
Nancy O
Patti Hart
Patrick Albert

Paul Jones
Philip Watters
Rakim Jr.
Rich Turner
Ricky Ford
Rob & Sandra Brown
Robert Baker
Rocio Navarro Linares
Roger Go
Ronny Thompson
Rylan Buckley
Satoya Means
Saydet Didert
Sterling Anderson
Steve Ford
Suzi King
Terry & Ronald Coleman
Thongbay Voravong
Tina Bain
Tom Archer
Tracie Powell Wilkin
Travis & Kimberly
Trish Wilson
Wayne Fisher
William Bracey
Military/First Responders
Evan Eleck
LT Anna Lee Van Abel
CAPT Baxter Murray
SPC Clayton Cole
PVT Courtney S. Detwiler
Jack Bankhead, Firefighter
PVT James C. Garber
CPO John Watters
Jordan Bailey, Firefighter
LT Joshua Van Abel
CAPT Katie Donnan
SPC Katie Villatoro
LT Mason R. Beebe, IV
CAPT Pace Murray
Lt. Rebecca M. Beebe
Officer Robert Molina
2nd LT Trevor Owens
Will Townsend
Kozimor Family
Missions/Missionaries
Drs. Ryan & Chelsea Porter
Roberto & Cameron Vivanco
Laura & Jorge Estevez
Education = Hope
Food Pantry
Free Medical Clinic
GoForth Recovery
Kairos Prison Ministry
Safe Homes
St. Matthew's Preschool