

From: St. Matthew's Episcopal Church office@stmattsbldm.org
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Contents

This Week's Readings
Ministry Assignments
Birthdays and Anniversaries

Rector's Ramblings

Gaudete Sunday

The Third Sunday in Advent is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday and features Rose colored Vestments.

The name derives from the historical use of Philippians 4:4 as the introit verse for the Mass on this day. In this verse we are commanded to "Rejoice always". On this Sunday, we will hear Paul's words to the Philippians as well as the Lord's word given through Zephaniah that we are called, nay commanded, to rejoice.

Why do we rejoice? Because our King and Savior now draws near. Because God has won the victory through Jesus Christ. Because the Kingdom of God is at hand.

Rejoicing, it is not a suggestion. In the words of Shia Labeouf, "Just do it!"

Advent Blessings,

Dave+

Service Schedule for the week of December 13, 2015

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)
7:30 AM

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

The Good News

A weekly newsletter of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
December 11, 2015



Morning Prayer - Standard Schedule

Morning Prayer is offered at 7AM on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and at 7:30 AM on Thursday. The fourth Thursday at 7:30 AM is Holy Eucharist.

Parish Mission Trip

If you are interested, please see Fr. Dave. The trip will leave the week of June 27 and return on July 8. The cost of the trip is \$1500 (inclusive).

The goal of the trip is 1) to build relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ and 2) to rebuild a roof at St. John Church, Owia, St. Vincent.

No shots are required, but a passport is. All ages are welcome and you don't have to know how to swing a hammer.

Bible Study

Continues on Wednesday at 6PM.

Fr. Dave

Women' Breakfast

Will be held on Saturday, 12/12, at 830. There will be an ornament exchange with a limit of \$10.

All women of the church are invited.

10:00 AM

Evensong 5:00 PM

Other Services:

Morning Prayer

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
and Friday 7:00 AM and Thursday
at 7:30 AM

Rosary 5:30 PM Wednesdays.

Intercessory Prayer

Monday at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday
at 12:15 p.m., and Thursday at
10:30 a.m. in the Chapel

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield
Rector's Blog

Poverty Simulation

Fr. Dave will be participating in a poverty simulation alongside the staff of Oakland School on January 19. Principal Lafrance is looking for volunteers to staff the event. If you are interested in helping that day, please call or email St. Matthew's office.

Men's Breakfast

Will meet at 8:00AM on December 19 at St. Matthew's. All men of the church are invited.

Local Mission Opportunities

COATS COATS - It's time to collect coats to donate to The Salvation Army for distribution to people in need. Bring your gently used coats to St. Matthew's and place them in the big white box opposite the church office, and you'll be blessed. Gently used scarves, hats and mittens are also welcome. Thanks so much.---The Outreach Committee

MITTEN TREE-It is tradition at St. Matthew's that during Advent and Christmas, new mittens, hats, scarves, etc. are collected for The Children's Foundation. Please decorate the trees placed in the narthex and outside the parish hall with your donations. The Outreach committee will deliver them in January.

CELL PHONES-Do you have a cell phone you no longer use? Donate it to Neville House in December by placing it in our big white "coats" box. (We are assured they clean off all history before sharing it with someone in need.) Outreach Committee

Intergenerational Advent Activities:

The Youth Group would like to invite the parish to the following Advent events for all ages!

Christ Candle Craft

Sunday, December 13 from 6:00 - 7:30pm

Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 20 from 6:00 - 7:30pm

Good News Daily

This Week's Good News Daily is [here](#).

Readings & Music for December 13, 2015

Hymns: #67, #72

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.
The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

Canticle 9 Page 86, BCP The First Song of Isaiah Ecce Deus
Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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.

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of

vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Ministry Assignments for December 13 & 20

13-Dec

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Martha Carroll

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Lector: Sandy Kohlase

Acolytes: Liam Halt, Jack & Nolan White

Crucifer: Alex Davingman

Thurifer: Bill Johns

Boat: Daniel

E.M.: Jack Pitts & Shelley Brenneman Carter

Monday Counter: Pam Laws

Coffee Hour: Shelley Brenneman Carter & Susan Long

20-Dec

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Mona Johnstone

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Lector: John Stoffer

Acolytes: Chris Bennett, Liam & Sarah Halt

Crucifer: Christian Pitts

Thurifer: Collin Bennett

Boat: Georgia

E.M.: Bob Kohlase

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis

Coffee Hour: Stoffers

Birthdays & Anniversaries December 11 - 27

Diana Holderby
John Larson
Eric Owens
Jack White
Holly Dyson
Hally Brenneman
Woody Shadid
Karyn Smith & Robin Levine

Collect for Sunday, December 13th

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, by honor and glory now and for ever. Amen

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St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

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