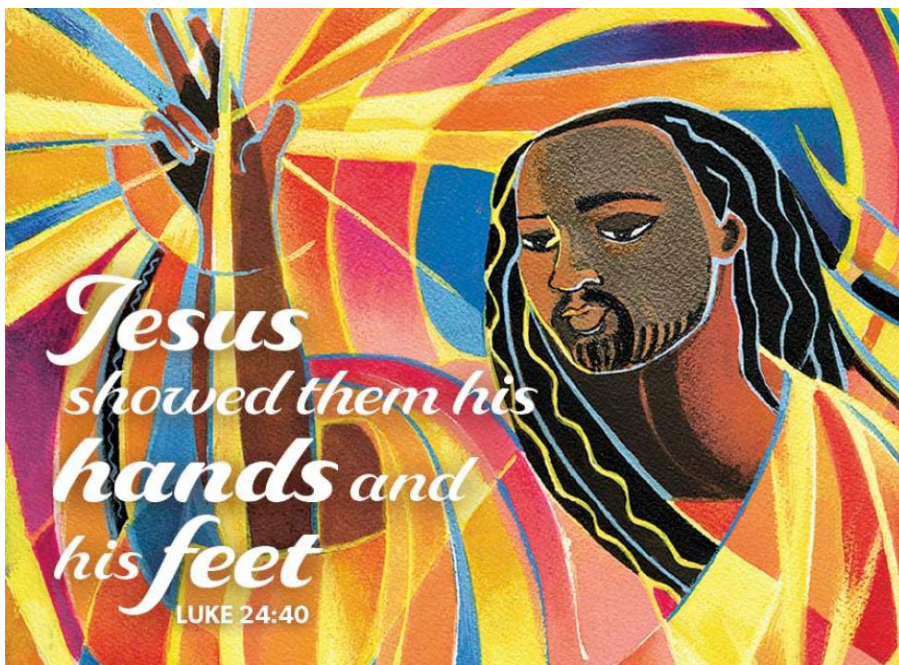


# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

*Today Is April 14, 2024*

+ + +

*The Third Sunday of Easter*



**ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

12351 All Saints Place  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22192

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY ~**

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

## GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Improvisation on tune "Civility"*

WELCOME

*The assembly stands.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

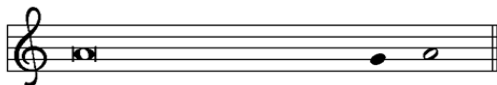
*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

KYRIE – *Pastor leads and the assembly responds.*



P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.



P: For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.



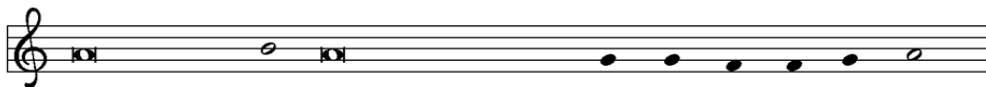
P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.



P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord have mer - cy.



P: Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. C: A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE – *sung in unison*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



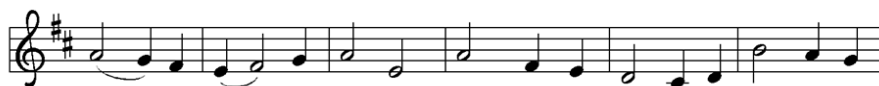
strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

TEMPLE TALK

**GIFT Sunday**

Joyce Forbes

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 3:12-19

L: A reading from Acts.

[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



L: We sing the psalm responsively.

Answer me when I call, O God, defender <sup>l</sup> of my cause;  
 you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and <sup>l</sup> hear my prayer.

**“You mortals, how long will you dishon- <sup>l</sup> or my glory;  
 how long will you love illusions and seek <sup>l</sup> after lies?”**

Know that the LORD does wonders <sup>l</sup> for the faithful;  
 the LORD will hear me <sup>l</sup> when I call.

**Tremble, then, and <sup>l</sup> do not sin;  
 speak to your heart in silence up- <sup>l</sup> on your bed.**

Offer the appointed <sup>l</sup> sacrifices,  
 and put your trust <sup>l</sup> in the LORD.

**Many are saying, “Who will show us <sup>l</sup> any good?”  
 Let the light of your face shine upon <sup>l</sup> us, O LORD.**

You have put gladness <sup>l</sup> in my heart,  
 more than when grain and <sup>l</sup> wine abound.

**In peace, I will lie <sup>l</sup> down and sleep;  
 for you alone, O LORD, make me <sup>l</sup> rest secure.**

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-7

L: A reading from the First Letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L: The word of the Lord.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Stephen Bohannon



NICENE CREED

**C:** 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, was incarnate  
of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is  
worshiped and glorified, who 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*The pastor invites the assembly into prayer.*

P: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*(A brief silence is kept; each petition ends with the response.)*

L: God of grace, **C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**C: Amen.**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

*You are invited to greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say,  
"Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

OFFERING

*St. Patrick's Hymn*  
Choir

K. Lee Scott

*The assembly stands.*

OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**C: Amen.**

## MEAL

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: The Lord be with you. C: And al - so with you.



P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.



P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

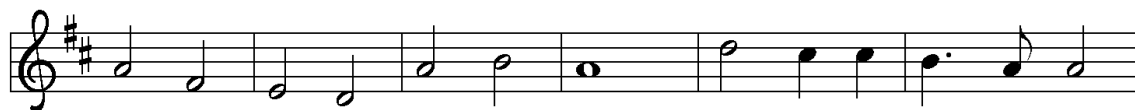


C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

*Pastor begins, "It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise..." Here the pastor continues with the preface for the day, "...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:"*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P:** The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table. The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

**C: Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*All who believe Jesus is present in this sacrament are invited to receive the bread and wine. Communion will be distributed at the altar rail; when invited by an usher, please come forward and kneel at the altar to receive the bread and wine. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Know that if you only take the bread that you have fully communed. Whether you are receiving communion at in-person worship or if you are receiving communion at home, we extend to you: The body of Christ given for you; the blood of Christ shed for you.*

## COMMUNION HYMNS

***Touch That Soothes and Heals***  
***Bread of Life From Heaven***

page 17

page 18

*The assembly stands.*

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING

## BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*Day of Arising*

page 19

## DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

*Alleluia! Christ is Risen*

arr. Ronald A. Nelson

The Eternal Candle for the month of April  
is sponsored by Jenni Rigot  
*In loving memory of her father, Joe Webb...*

The Altar Flowers are given by Gloria and Tom Bortner,  
*In loving memory of Tom's mother Dorothy and brother Jerry...*

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*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds, ELW 367*



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly




here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!

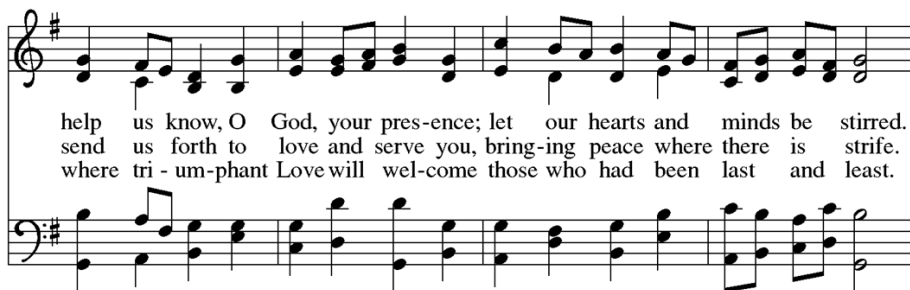


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## *As We Gather at Your Table, ELW 522*



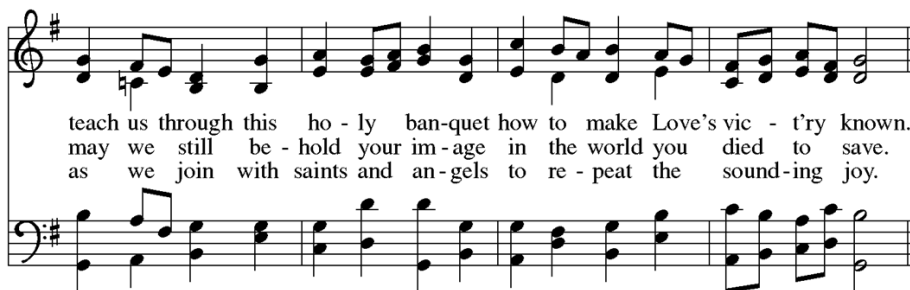
1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um-phiant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

*Return to page 9*



COMMUNION HYMNS

*Touch That Soothes and Heals, ASC 939*



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that  
 2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it  
 3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's  
 4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the  
 ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and  
 peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of  
 wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:  
 shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.  
 kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.  
 tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

*Refrain*



“See my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. “Be my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, “live as



ones I died to save.”

## Bread of Life from Heaven, ELW 474

*Refrain*

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,

we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

1	Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice;	giv - ing
2	Seek not the food that will pass a - way;	set your
3	Love as the one who, in love for you,	gave him -
4	Dwell in the one who now dwells in you;	make your
5	Drink of this cup and de - clare his death;	eat this

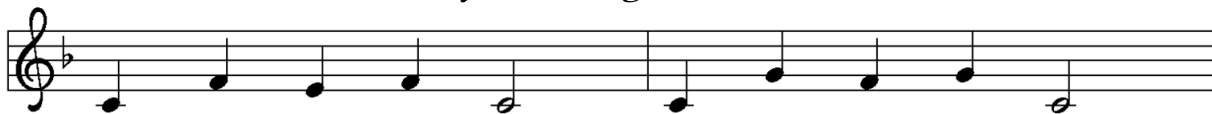
thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round.	Eat, all of you, and be	
hearts on the food that en - dures.	Come, learn the true and the	
self for the life of the world.	Come to the one who is	
home in the life - giv - ing Word.	Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly	
bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn;	trust his re - turn and, with	

*Refrain*

sat - is - fied;	in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.	
liv - ing way,	that the full - ness of life may be yours.	
food for you,	that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.	
One of God,	and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.	
ev - 'ry breath,	praise the one in whom you are re - born.	

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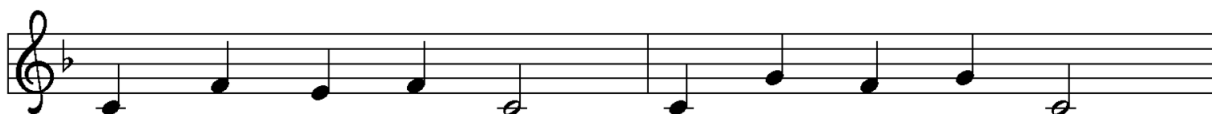
*Day of Arising. ELW 374*



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,  
2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,  
3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.  
4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.  
blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,  
This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:  
bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,  
yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing  
when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,  
Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.  
our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.  
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.  
that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

## **Ministers: ALL the People of St. Matthew's**

Senior Pastor: Rev. Stephen Bohannon [sbohannon@stmatthewsva.org](mailto:sbohannon@stmatthewsva.org)  
Director of Music: Kathy Lundgren [klundgren@stmatthewsva.org](mailto:klundgren@stmatthewsva.org)  
Organist: Melvin Goodwyn [organist@stmatthewsva.org](mailto:organist@stmatthewsva.org)  
Administrative Assistant: Patti Hinson [stmatthews@stmatthewsva.org](mailto:stmatthews@stmatthewsva.org)  
Congregation Council President: Dave Strand [councilpresident@stmatthewsva.org](mailto:councilpresident@stmatthewsva.org)  
Lector: Ron Trostel  
Tech Volunteers: Joyce Forbes, Melody Stachour, Rob Mouw, Jen Block  
Ushers: Dave Carr, Mike Fink, Mark Victorson

### **Church Council Members:**

Dave Strand – President  
Hal Deadman – Property Chair  
Dick Gullickson – Fellowship Chair  
Denise Riley – Worship & Music Chair  
Mark Victorson – Vice President, Social Ministry Chair  
Pat Hartline – Financial Secretary  
Darryl Lundgren – Treasurer  
Angela Allen – Secretary, Evangelism Chair  
Gaye DeCesare – Finance & Stewardship Chair  
Emily Hess – Christian Education Chair  
Cindy Schmitt – Day School Chair

**For more announcements and upcoming events,  
please visit [www.stmatthewsva.org](http://www.stmatthewsva.org)**

**TODAY** – Sunday School classes will meet following our worship service.  
Middle School Youth Group meets tonight at 6:00PM.

**Friday, April 19** – We'll be holding a Family Fun Night from 5-9 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the St. Matthew's Lutheran Day School. There will be games/prizes, moon bounces, cotton candy, and more.

**Thursday, April 25** – We're serving lunch to clients of the Ferlazzo Emergency Shelter for up to 60 people on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month, April through October. Sign up to contribute on the St. Matthew's SignUp Genius.

**Sunday, May 19** – Our annual fellowship golf outing will be held at Forest Greens Golf Course on Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup> with proceeds to benefit the Hilda Barg Center for Homeless Prevention. Sign up on the St. Matthew's SignUp Genius. Talk to Rob Dowling if you have questions.