St. Matthias Episcopal Church

Sunday, April 21, 2024 The Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Right Reverend Dr. Justin S. Holcomb, Bishop The Reverend James M. Dorn III, Rector

352.460.9580 · rector@stmatthiasfl.com

7:45 am Service • Holy Eucharist Rite I

The Service is found in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) which is the red book in the pew rack.

The Word of God

Greetings and Announcements	
The Opening Acclamation	BCP, Page 323
The Collect for Purity	BCP, Page 323
Lord Have Mercy Upon Us	BCP, Page 324
Glory Be to God on High	BCP, Page 324
The Collect of the Day	Insert
The First Lesson	Insert
The Psalm (said in unison)	Insert
The Epistle	Insert
The Gospel	Insert
The Sermon	The Rev. Dr. Jane A. Clark
A Moment of Silence	
The Nicene Creed	BCP, Page 326
The Prayers of the People	BCP, Page 328
The Peace	BCP, Page 332
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The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. (*Ephesians 5:2*)

The Offertory

The Offertory Prayer (said by all)

God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer; and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer I	BCP, Page 333
The Sanctus	BCP, Page 334
The Lord's Prayer	BCP, Page 336
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP, Page 337
Prayer of Humble Access	BCP, Page 337

Administration of Communion

The Post-Communion Prayer	BCP, Page 339
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Prayer for Eucharistic Visitors (said by all)

We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

Birthday & Anniversary Blessings	BCP, Page 830 & 431
Blessing	BCP, Page 339
Dismissal	

The Collect

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

Old Testament Acts 8:26-40

Reader A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Reader The Word of the Lord. **People Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures

and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Epistle
1 John 3:16-24

Reader A Reading from the First letter of John.

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Gospel John 10:11-18

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said,] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.