

THE THIRD SUNDAY
OF
ADVENT



ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland
10:45A.M. ♦ DECEMBER 15, 2024

**St. Matthew's
Episcopal Church
Christmas Poinsettia Memorial
Flowers**

Please indicate below the number of plants you would like to order and the names of those family members and loved ones in whose memory they will be placed and return it to the church (P.O. Box 303, Oakland, MD 21550) with your check by Monday, December 16th.

Ordering _____ Plants @ \$20.00 each.

In Memory Of:

**Given By:
(as you wish it to appear in the bulletin)**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD AT 10:45

Be thankful, be silent, be reverent, for this is the House of God.

Before the service, speak to the Lord.

During the service, let the Lord speak to you.

After the service, speak to one another.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

THE READING:

ISAIAH 2:1-4

Celebrant

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Lord God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant
People
Celebrant
People

I see you.
We are here.
Blessed be God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant
People

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.

HYMN 59

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

Descant

2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt. Music: *Merton*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935).


OPENING PRAYER

Celebrant: Father, send your Holy Spirit upon us as we come together to hear your word and to receive your sacrament. Keep us mindful that we are one with you and each other and help us to live our lives joyfully sharing the grace you have shown us and the life you have brought us. Mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do; and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Response: **We offer ourselves to you, O Lord, and to each other, that we may serve in your Name. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE 56 (VS 5 & 6)


O come, O come, Emmanuel



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 → (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 → (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 → 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 → 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 → 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 → 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.
 Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890);
 acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Copyright: Words: © The Church Pension Fund

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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, be honor and glory, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The people sit.

THE FIRST LESSON:

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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.

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.

Reader
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Advent- Gospel Acclamation

L. DeLauder

Al - le-lu - ia, Al-le-lu-ia! Pre- pare the way of the Lord!

5 Al - le-lu - ia, Al-le-lu-ia! Pre - pare the way of the Lord!

9 Keep a-wake, oh chil-dren of God, keep watch - ful through the

12 night. The val-leys be filled, the moun-tains laid low, pre -

15 par-ing the way of the Lord! Al - le-lu - ia, Al-le-lu-ia!

19 Pre- pare the way of the Lord! Al - le-lu - ia, Al-le-lu-ia! Pre -

23 pare the way of the Lord!

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

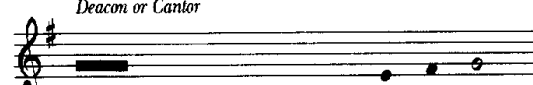
All stand for

THE NICENE CREED

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: 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.

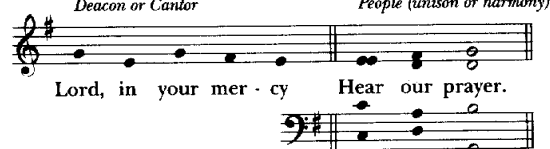
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon or Cantor



Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Deacon or Cantor *People (unison or harmony)*



Lord, in your mer · cy Hear our prayer.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us true repentance; forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and grant us the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your holy Word.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, 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.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Please warmly greet one another with the peace of Christ

PARISH LIFE

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

Please stand as the Offering is brought to the Altar

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people remain standing

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We thank you, Lord, for the beauty of this earth, our island home. We thank you especially for this place in which we live; for our lakes and our forests, our farmland, and the life which flourishes here. Guide us in the care of all you have given us, especially in our care of each other. You have given us much, and for that we are grateful. And so we join with Angels and Archangels, and all the company of heaven, evermore praising you, and singing:

HYMN 858 (WLP)

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner, harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983)

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."

Recalling now his suffering and death, and celebrating his resurrection and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Accept, O Lord, our sacrifice of praise, this memorial of our redemption. Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts. Let them be for us the Body and Blood of your Son. And grant that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may be filled with your life and goodness.

As we come to this table, Lord, grant that we may share your Spirit together, renew our strength, and reveal your love to a waiting world because we were here. 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 LORD'S PRAYER

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

*Celebrant
and People*

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.

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.

Music: From *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950)
 Copyright: Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

All here are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. Our tradition is to receive both bread and wine, sharing the common cup. Please assist the chalice bearer by guiding the cup to your lips. You may receive the bread only, if you prefer. After consuming the bread, simply cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you do not wish to receive the wine. You may also "intinct" by dipping the bread into the chalice. If you desire only a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest when you come to the rail.

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:
 to see thee more clear - ly, love thee more dear - ly,
 fol - low thee more near - ly, day by day.

Words: Att. Richard of Chichester (1197-1253)
 Music: *Sumner*, Arthur Henry Biggs (1906-1954) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant

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



1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore! Mor -
 2 The Lord the Sa - vior reigns, the God of truth and love: when
 3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven; the
 4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come, and

Refrain



tals, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.
 he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove. Lift
 keys of death and hell to Christ the Lord are given.
 take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.



up your heart! lift up your voice! Re-joyce! a - gain I say, re -



joyce! up your heart! lift up your voice! Re-joyce! a -



gain I say, re - joice!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Gopsal*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); arr. John Wilson (1905-1992).
 Arrangement, By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant
People

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

announcements

the annual, occasionally annual christmas party at the rectory

Please join us **TONIGHT**, from **6-9PM** for a light buffet, wine and beer, fellowship and holiday cheer at 217 G Street, Mountain Lake Park.

For those who have not attended our holiday celebration before, please note that this is not a potluck dinner, but a social event that Kathleen and Chip are hosting, so there is no need to bring food or other contributions to this event. No RSVP necessary. Additional details about directions and parking can be found in the e-news.

caroling in mt. lake park

House church invites you to join them for a night of **Christmas Caroling** in Mt. Lake Park on **December 18th at 7:30 pm** with refreshments to follow. **Anyone is welcome to join in caroling, even if you did not attend house church.**

stephen's table

Our next meal will be served on **Thursday, December 19th from 5 pm - 6:30 pm**. If you can help in any way (you do not have to stay the entire time), please reach out to **Kip Senholzi** at kwsenholzi@comcast.net or simply show up and have some fun with us! The **Nearly New** will be open during this time, also.

longest night

A Longest Night Service will be held on **Saturday, December 21st at 7 pm**. Please join us for a time of reflection, music, and healing prayer.

christmas decorating

We will be decorating for Christmas on **December 22nd** immediately following the 10:45 service. Please bring finger foods or cookies to share!

christmas eve services

The early service will be held at St. Matthew's this year at 7 PM. The late service will be held at St. John's at 10:30 PM.

enquirers' class

Enquirers' classes are being held on **Wednesdays** in the Parish Hall at **7pm**. We are using the book [Your Faith, Your Life: An Invitation to the Episcopal Church](#), by Jenifer Gamber and Bill Lewellis. If you would like to take part in this group, let Julie know.

seekers

Seekers will **NOT** meet in December. They will meet again on **Sunday, January 26th** at 5pm in the parish hall. They will be creating Valentine's Day cards for nursing home residents, and dinner will be make your own pizza!

The Seekers collect **non-perishable food** to replenish the food pantry at the Oakland Town Hall. They fill the pantry at least twice per month. If you are able to help, please bring your donations to church with you.

episcopals

We have no gatherings scheduled at this time except for December. If you would like to host, let Julie know. EpiscoPals is held on the third Sunday of each month at 6PM. The hosts provide the main course and the drinks. All others in attendance are asked to bring one of either hors d'oeuvres, a side dish, a salad, or a dessert to share. If you are unable to host in your home, you are welcome to use the St. Matthew's parish hall.

calendars and offering envelopes

The 2025 liturgical calendars and offering envelopes are in the back of the church. If you want offering envelopes for the first time, please sign your name by an open number and take those envelopes. Otherwise, please take the same number that you had last year.

nearly new

We are in need of **winter gloves**. We also need **volunteers**. If you can help, even if you only want to be on call for as-need staffing situations, please reach out to Kathy Zimmer, Maryn Fisher, or Julie.

ministers of today's service

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Chip Lee
Reader: Krysta Huxford
Chalicer: Leslie Roper

prayer list

We pray each Sunday and Thursday for members, relatives and friends of this faith community who have asked for our prayers. Requests should be renewed the first of each month to be kept on our list. You may call Julie in the Church Office at 301-334-2510 or email your request to:

episcopalchurchingarrettcountry@gmail.com

Let us pray to the Lord and for each other, especially for Philip Pritts; Barb Riley; Jennifer Virts; Kinsley Virts; Bev Maynard; Ed & Jeanne Neff; Nancy Morgan; John Jorgensen; Kathy & Elon O'Connor; Sharon Caple; Hugh & Dolores Andrew; Jessie Harris; Dave Arnold; Jeff Arnold; Kim Lovett & family; Carolyn Germain; Mary Ann Crawford; Lexie Byrne; Bill Seling; Terry Turner; Bonnie Weiler; Karina Stonesifer; and for all whom we hold in our hearts this day.

(Silence)

In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for Emmanuel, Bel Air; Grace Memorial, Darlington; Holy Cross, The Rocks.

We also pray for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Carrie our Bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers.

In the Anglican communion we pray for the Anglican Church of Tanzania.

For relatives and friends of this faith community serving the victims of disasters and political unrest around the world, for those who are in harm's way in war zones, and for those who are working for peace everywhere.

For all victims of natural disaster, terrorism, war, economic and environmental injustice and addiction.

Members of our Faith Community for whom we are praying

Karen Adams, Hugh Andrew, Thomas Ashby, Linda Ludwig Baker; Bobbi & Peter Banse, Mike Barnes, Luke Bowser, Patricia Burkholder, Nick & Oksana Carlson, Joseph R. Clark, Sr., Carol Collins, Jenna Conn, Betty Jane Cook, Robert Coughlin, Rev. Crites, Dave Culler, Susie Culler, Harold DeBerry, Tasha DeWitt, Virginia Dillsworth, Carolyn Dore, Mary Ellen Dore, Terry Elliott, Sherri Fredlock, Ron Gebron, Mary Jane Germain, Kathleen Gibbs, Mimi Gigax, Larry Glatt, Laurie Grant, Sherry & Bud Gunter, Cosette Harman, Joe Harvey, Lauren Hatcher, Jane Hazlett & Family, Jeremy Henry, Charles Herman, Jacques Hourtal, Emily Imgrund, Jane Ann Kane, Paul Keister, Mark Keefer, Thomas Kovach, Joan Lambert, Evelyn Lamp, Smith Lantz, Charlotte Laumann, Shirley Lotz, Nancy Louie, Carol Mattingly, Carole Maynard, Madeline Meister, Joe Methany, Pat Michener, Cassie Midcap, Christy Montgomery, Judy Morgan, Don Morin, Janet Mosser, Greg Myers, Jane Newagen, Derek Parker, Rebecca Paugh, Logan Perry, Brenda Rathgeb, Donald Richter, Doug Roberson, William Robinson, Betty Rundquist, Kat & Matt Rayner, Ralph Schmidt, Irene Schrock, The Scott Family, Tommy Scott, William Seling, Katie Shearon, William Smeltzer, Bob Smith, Joshua Snider, Sean Snider, Alice Soberg, Heidi & Deva Solomon, Kyle Swaim, Darlene Terlizzi, Gene & Barbara Wahl, Lillian Wall, Daryl Walters, Tom Watts, Jennie Weeks, Pat Wilkinson, Samantha Hodge-Williams, Kerry Chartrau Willoughby, Nancy Wright, Andrew Yoder, Garrett Yoder, Chuck Zellefrow, and Brian Zerbe.

also

Little ones have a place at St. Matthew's!

Our Sunday school and nursery is open at 10:15, upstairs in the Parish Hall. Please ask anyone for directions.

Stay in touch with us digitally!

To receive the Parish E-news, please add your name, address, phone number, and email address to the guest register just inside the door of the narthex, or use the form on our website home page at www.episcopalchurchingarrettcountry.org. When you are not able to be with us on Sunday, you can watch the televised webcast live at either 8 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. each week.

In case of rare snow closures or sudden changes in our worship schedule, we will send an email to our address list announcing the change.

Please note that we delete addresses that report as nonexistent and cause our emails to bounce back. Make sure you add **episcopalchurchingarrettcountry@gmail.com** to your computer's address book to ensure that our email does not end up in your spam folder.

Sunday, December 15

8 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 am Sunday School in the Parish Hall
10:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
11:45 am Coffee hour in the chancel immediately following the service
6 pm The annual, occasionally annual Christmas party at the rectory

Sunday, December 22

8 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 am Sunday School in the Parish Hall
10:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
11:45 am Coffee hour and Christmas decorating in the chancel immediately following the service

weekly

Sunday

8 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 am Sunday School in the Parish Hall
10:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Wednesday

10 am - 2 pm Nearly New Open
11 am It's in the Bag Packing at St. John's
7 pm Enquirers' Class - parish hall

Thursday

7:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Friday

10 am - 2 pm Nearly New Open

Saturday

10 am - 2 pm Nearly New Open

monthly

third Sunday

6 pm EpiscoPals (none scheduled at this time)

seekers - not meeting in December

5 pm January 26th - parish hall

next-to-the-last Thursday

5 - 6:30 pm Stephen's Table (December 19th)

The Episcopal Church in Garrett County

the episcopal diocese of maryland

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
126 East Liberty Street
Oakland, Maryland 21550

St. John's Episcopal Church
5234 Maryland Highway
Oakland, Maryland 21550

Office phone: 301-334-2510

Visit our website at:

www.episcopalchurchingarrettcountry.org

E-mail: episcopalchurchingarrettcountry@gmail.com

Parish office hours: Monday - Friday 9 am - 1 pm

clergy

The Rt. Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent

Bishop of Maryland

The Rev. Dr. Chip Lee

Rector, St. Matthew's; Vicar, St. John's

The Rev. Anne Byrne-Deitch

Assistant Priest for Christian Formation, St. Matthew's

staff

Julie Hartman

Office Manager

Krysta Huxford

Senior Warden, St. Matthew's

Mike Voelkel

Senior Warden, St. John's

Gladys Virts

Junior Warden, St. John's

Leah DeLauder

Music Director

The Garrett County NAACP Scott Robinson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is a memorial to Pastor Scott Robinson who spread the message of unity and equality throughout Garrett County and helped start the local chapter of the NAACP in Garrett County. Pastor Scott led seminars and gatherings on diversity and tolerance, opening many of our eyes to local historical and ongoing racial injustices.



This scholarship honors his efforts by supporting students of color who have graduated from a public high school in Baltimore City or any of the Maryland counties and who attend Garrett College or Allegany College of Maryland (ACM). Originally, the scholarship was established to support only Garrett College students. Beginning with the 2024-25 academic year, we have broadened our applicant base by including students at Allegany College of Maryland.

The CollegeBound Foundation, a Baltimore-based college access non-profit organization, administers our scholarship with no administrative fees. Therefore, 100% of every tax-deductible dollar donated toward the scholarship goes directly to the college to cover the scholarship recipient's expenses. For more information about CollegeBound please visit collegeboundfoundation.org. For the current academic year, we have three Garrett College students and two Allegany College of Maryland students receiving our scholarship. We are excited about this expansion of our scholarship program!

Need-based financial assistance and grants cover most Garrett College and ACM tuition and fees, but living costs of \$8,000-\$10,000 per year are far above what most students can afford. Taking out federal student loans can create unmanageable debt for the student in the future. Therefore, many students rely on scholarships and other financial help to cover room, board, and books. Garrett College students of color also face a myriad of stressors resulting in high drop-out rates. Therefore, Garrett County NAACP wants to promote success among Garrett College and ACM students through financial scholarships.

Through our annual fundraising efforts, we hope to continue increasing the number of scholarship recipients as well as the amount of each award. The annual award was increased to \$2,000 beginning with the 2025-26 academic year. In addition, as an incentive to students to continue their education, we would like to award an additional \$500 to scholarship recipients who return for their next year at Garrett College or ACM. The scholarship is renewable for up to three years. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at scholarship@gcnaacp.org.

Donation Options

1. Donate with a check payable to CollegeBound Foundation. **Include in the memo line "GCNAACP Scott Robinson Memorial Scholarship"**. Mail your check to: CollegeBound Foundation, 2601 N. Howard St. Suite 210, Baltimore, MD 21218
2. Donate online by going to our donor page at <https://secure.ggiv.com/for/tgcnsrms>. Online options include one-time gifts as well as automatic monthly payments from your credit card or bank account.

Double your gift!

A special Matching Fund has been established with CollegeBound. All donations made to the Garrett County NAACP Scott Robinson Memorial Scholarship between November 1st and December 31st 2024 (up to \$7,500) will be matched.

The Episcopal Church in Garrett County

A Believing Community Diverse in its Faith;
Unified in its Purpose

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