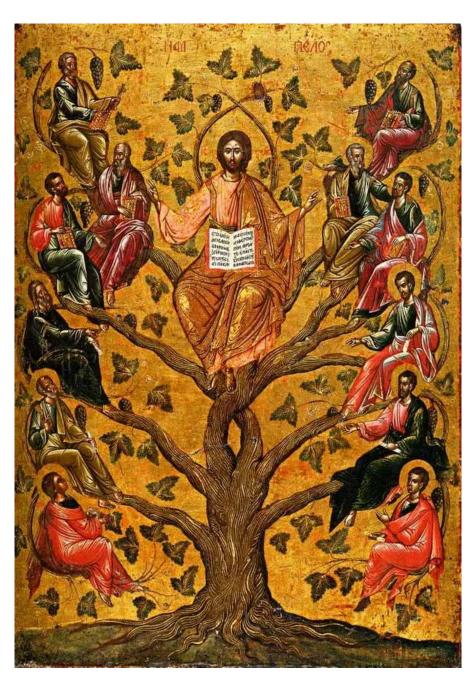
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH the episcopal diocese of maryland 8A.M. \$\delta\$ April 28, 2024

The Liturgy of the Word at 8

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.

The people standing,

Celebrant I see you.

People We are here.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Celebrant Almighty God, unto 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 thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly

love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Celebrant Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with

all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and

the Prophets.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

People Christ, have mercy upon us.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the

unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON: ACTS 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer,

so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

Psalm 22:24-30 Deus, Deus meus

My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: * "May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 JOHN 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

All standing,

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 15:1-8

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to John.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

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

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

Leader For all people in their daily life and work;

People For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader For this community, the nation, and the world;

People For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader For the just and proper use of your creation;

People For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Leader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for All Saint's, Frederick; Harriet Chapel, Catoctin Parish;

Grace, Brunswick.

We also pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Eugene our Bishop, Carrie our Bishop coadjutor,

and for all bishops and other ministers.

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Church of Bangladesh.

People For all who serve God in his church.

Leader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The people may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.

Leader Hear us, Lord;

People For your mercy is great.

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

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

Leader We will exalt you, O God our King;

People And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Leader 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

Leader Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People Who put their trust in you.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:"

Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that

heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, now and for ever. Amen.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CelebrantPeopleCelebrantThe Lord be with you.And with thy spirit.Lift up your hearts.

PeopleWe lift them up unto the Lord.CelebrantLet us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks

unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy

glorious Name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

Celebrant and

People Holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to

thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in

the highest.

The people kneel or stand

Celebrant

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness,

vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

All 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. If you desire only a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest when you come to the rail.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant

People

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

announcements

seekers

The Seekers will gather again for a taco night **tonight** at 5pm in the St. Matthew's parish hall. This month they are collecting food for the Little Free Pantry located at the Oakland Town Hall. All are welcome and are encouraged to bring friends!

stephen's table

We will be hosting a summer kick-off meal on **Thursday, May 23rd 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.

episcopals

Our next EpiscoPals is **June 16th** and will be hosted by Earl and Linda Eisenhart at their home. It is open to all and kid friendly. The hosts will 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.

To help the hosts know how much food to prepare, **RSVP** with how many people will be attending and what you will be bringing. You can find the registration link in the weekly e-news and also under the EpiscoPals section on the church app.

If you would like to host an available month (May, October, or November), please call or email the office to let Julie know. If you are unable to host at your home, you are welcome to use the St. Matthew's parish hall.

house church

House church meets at 7:30 pm every other Wednesday at the Ludwig home at 101 F Street in Mt. Lake Park. A complete schedule is in the weekly e-news. For more information, contact Kendall Ludwig at mkendallludwig@gmail.com.

nearly new

The Nearly New is always looking for volunteers. The shop is open on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10am - 2 pm. We are also open during Stephen's Table on the next to the last Thursday of each month from 5pm - 6:30pm.

Also, keep us in mind if your teen needs to earn service learning hours. (Note that anyone under 16 years of age must have a parent or other adult with them throughout their shift.)

If you are interested in lending a hand, please let us know in one of the following ways:

Send an email to nearlynewcrew@gmail.com

Contact **Kathy Zimmer** by cell at **412-287-7483** or by email at **kathyzimmer24@gmail.com**

Contact **Maryn Fisher** by cell at **240-409-6845** or by email at **mhffisher@comcast.net**.

Contact Julie Hartman in her office at 301-334-2510 ext. 3 or by email at: episcopalchurchingarrettcounty@gmail.com

ministers of today's service

Celebrant The Rev. Dr. Chip Lee

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:

episcopalchurchingarrettcounty@gmail.com

Let us pray to the Lord and for each other, especially for Chip Lee; Kinsley Virts; Bev Maynard; Nancy Morgan; Carol Collins; John Jorgensen; Gene & Barbara Wahl; Kathy, Elon, and Mary O'Connor; Sharon Caple; Linda Eisenhart; Dolores Andrew; Jessie Harris; Dave Arnold; Carolyn Germain; Sherri Fredlock; Diane Thayer; Mary Ann Crawford; Lexie Byrne; Bill Seling; Terry Turner; Bobbi & Peter Banse; Bonnie Weiler; Karina Stonesifer; Jacques Hourtal; William Robinson; Larry Glatt; Dale and Sharon Broadwater; Madeline Meister; Kat & Matt Rayner; Jane Newagen; Bill Riley; Vicki Skeen; Jane Hazlett & family; and for all whom we hold in our hearts this day.

(Silence)

In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for All Saint's, Frederick; Harriet Chapel, Catoctin Parish; Grace, Brunswick.

We also pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Eugene our Bishop, Carrie our Bishop coadjutor, and for all bishops and other ministers.

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

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; Mike Barnes, Luke Bowser, Patricia Burkholder, Nick & Oksana Carlson, Joseph R. Clark, Sr., Jenna Conn, Betty Jane Cook, Robert Coughlin, Rev. Crites, Dave Culler, Susie Culler, Harold DeBerry, Virginia Dillsworth, Carolyn Dore, Terry Elliott, Ron Gebron, Mary Jane Germain, Kathleen Gibbs, Mimi Gigax, Laurie Grant, Sherry & Bud Gunter, Lauren Hatcher, Jeremy Henry, Charles Herman, Emily Imgrund, Jane Ann Kane, Paul Keister, Thomas Kovach, Joan Lambert, Evelyn Lamp, Smith Lantz, Charlotte Laumann, Shirley Lotz, Nancy Louie, Carol Mattingly, Carole Maynard, Joe Methany, Pat Michener, Christy Montgomery, Judy Morgan, Janet Mosser, Greg Myers, Derek Parker, Rebecca Paugh, Logan Perry, Brenda Rathgeb, Donald Richter, Doug Roberson, Betty Rundquist, 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, 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.episcopalchurchingarrettcounty.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, or listen to the 8 a.m. service live, locally, over WMSG, 1050 AM. In case of rare snow closures or sudden changes in our worship schedule, we will send an email to our address list and also an automated telephone message to everyone on our call 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 **episcopalchurchingarrettcounty@gmail.com** to your computer's address book to ensure that our email does not end up in your spam folder.

Sunday, April 28

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:15 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall

10:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:45 a.m. Coffee hour in the chancel immediately

following the service

5 pm Seekers (Parish Hall)

Sunday, May 5

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:15 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish Hall

10:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:45 a.m. Coffee hour 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

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

next-to-the-last Thursday

5 - 6:30 pm Stephen's Table (May 23rd)

third Sunday

6 pm EpiscoPals (next gathering on June 16th

at Earl and Linda Eisenhart's home)

fourth Sunday

5 pm Seekers (TONIGHT - parish hall)

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.episcopalchurchingarrettcounty.org

E-mail: episcopalchurchingarrettcounty@gmail.com Parish office hours: Monday - Friday 9 am - 1 pm

clergy

The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton

Bishop of Maryland

The Rt. Rev. Robert Ihloff

Assistant Bishop

The Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent

Bishop Coadjutor

The Rev. Dr. Chip Lee

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

The Rev. Anne Byrne

Assistant Priest for Christian Formation, St. Matthew's

staff

Julie Hartman

Office Manager

Susan Offutt

Senior Warden, St. Matthew's

Mike Voelkel

Senior Warden, St. John's

Gladys Virts

Junior Warden, St. John's

Leah DeLauder

Music Director

The Episcopal Church in Garrett County

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

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

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

301-334-2510 www.episcopalchurchingarrettcounty.org

