

**WELCOME  
TO  
SAINT MATTHEW ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**

[www.saint-matthew.org](http://www.saint-matthew.org)

**October 1, 2023**

**The Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi**



**We are an emergent church,  
practicing an ancient faith in new ways;  
a church of inclusivity where  
ALL ARE WELCOME!  
+Peter Hickman**



## OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *INTRODUCTORY RITES*

Gathering Song: ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

1. All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam!  
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!  
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him all creatures here below,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Greeting*

*Penitential Rite ( Lord Have Mercy)*

*Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. ALL: AMEN.*

*Priest: the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**ALL: AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

**The Penitential Rite (Confitor)**

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have sinned through my own fault  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done,  
and in what I have failed to do;  
And I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Priest: Lord, have mercy. ALL: LORD, HAVE MERCY.

Priest: Christ, have mercy. ALL: LORD, HAVE MERCY.

Priest: Lord, have mercy. ALL: LORD, HAVE MERCY.

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us.....  
and lead us to everlasting life **ALL: Amen.**

***Gloria***

**Refrain: Glory to God in the highest  
and peace to all people on earth.**

**(repeat 1st time)**

**1. Lord God, heavenly King,**

almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory. (Refrain)

2. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
receive our prayer. (Refrain)

3. For You alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit in the glory  
of God the Father. Amen! Amen! (Refrain)

### *Opening Prayer*

### *LITURGY OF THE WORD*

*please be seated*

**First**

Reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah (9:1-9)  
Psalm Response: ***"LET ALL THE EARTH CRY OUT,  
CRY OUT TO GOD WITH JOY".  
LET ALL THE EARTH CRY OUT,  
CRY OUT TO GOD WITH JOY!"***

Second Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (8:15-23)  
Gospel Acclamation *please stand*

Alleluia, The Gospel

In the beginning was the Word of God  
and the Word was with God and was God..

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld  
His Glory.

Alleluia! The Gospel of the Lord has come to us.

Al le lu ia. Al le lu ia.

*The Gospel Reading*

Deacon/ Priest: A reading from the holy gospel according to  
Matthew (5:1-12)

All: Glory to you, Lord.

*The gospel is read. When the reading is over:*

*Deacon/Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL SING:

Alleluia! The Gospel of the Lord has come to us.

Al le lu ia. Al le lu ia.

Homily & Blessing of the Animals

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,  
one in 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 was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered, died and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of 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.  
With the Father and the Son She is worshiped and glorified.  
She 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 the Faithful      The Sign of Peace*

### *LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST*

*The Giving of our Gifts*

*Our Offertory Song: THE PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS*

*Verse 1:*

Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

*Verse 2:*

Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness only light,

And where there's sadness ever joy.

*Refrain:*

*Oh Master, grant that I may never seek*

*So much to be consoled as to console.*

*To be understood as to understand,*

*To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

**Verse 3:** Make me a channel of your peace.

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

In giving of ourselves that we receive,

And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

(Refrain to verse 1 as needed)

*Prayer Over the Gifts*

*Presider: Pray my brothers and sisters that our sacrifice.....*

***ALL: MAY THE LORD ACCEPT THE SACRIFICE AT YOUR HANDS,  
FOR THE PRAISE AND THE GLORY OF GODS' NAME, FOR OUR  
GOOD AND THE GOOD OF ALL HIS  
CHURCH.***

*Eucharistic Prayer*

*Introductory Dialogue*

*Preface*

*Presider: The Lord be with you. ALL: AND ALSO WITH YOU.*

*Presider: Lift up your hearts.*

***ALL: WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD.***

*Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.*

***ALL: IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE GOD THANKS AND PRAISE.***

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues.....*

**The Holy**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might;**

**Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**



*The Eucharistic Prayer continues.....*

*Words of Consecration:*

***"TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT IT. THIS IS MY BODY WHICH  
WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU."***

***"TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT.  
THIS IS THE CUP OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND  
EVERLASTING COVENANT. IT WILL BE SHED FOR YOU AND FOR  
ALL SO THAT SINS MAY BE FORGIVEN. DO  
THIS IN MEMORY OF ME***

**The Memorial Acclamation**

**Dying you destroyed our death. Rising you restored our life.  
Lord, Jesus, we're waiting for you to come in glory.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues, then concludes with:*

**Doxology & Great Amen**

**Through him, with him, in him, in  
the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father,  
forever and ever. Amen! Amen! Amen!**

**COMMUNION RITE**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Lamb of God**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away  
the sin of the world, grant us your peace.**



*Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are they to be called to this supper.* **ALL: LORD, I AM NOT WORTHY TO RECEIVE YOU, BUT ONLY SAY THE WORD AND I SHALL BE HEALED.**

*Celebrant: May the body and blood.....* **ALL: AMEN.**

*Communion Song: Communion Song: CANTICLE OF THE SUN*  
*Refrain*

***THE HEAVENS ARE TELLING THE GLORY OF GOD  
AND ALL CREATION IS SHOUTING FOR JOY. COME,  
DANCE IN THE FOREST, COME PLAY IN THE FIELD  
AND SING, SING TO THE GLORY OF THE LORD.***

**1. Praise for the sun, the bringer of day,  
he carries the light of the Lord in his rays;  
the moon and the stars  
who light up the way unto your throne.**

***Refrain***

**2. Praise the wind that blows through the trees,  
the seas' mighty storms, the gentle breeze;  
they blow where they will,  
they blow where they please to please the Lord.**

***Refrain***

**3. Praise for the rain that waters our fields,  
and blesses our crops so all the earth yields;  
from death unto life her myst'ry revealed springs forth in joy.**

***Refrain***

**4. Praise for the fire who gives us his light,  
the warmth of the sun to brighten our night;  
he dances with joy, his spirit so bright, he sings of you.**

*Refrain*

5. Praise for the earth who makes life to grow,  
the creatures you made to let your life show;  
the flowers and trees that help us to know the heart of love.

*Refrain*

**CONCLUDING RITE**

*Prayer after Communion*

*Dismissal*

Closing Song: LET US REJOICE IN THE LORD

Refrain:

Let us rejoice in the  
Lord with all the saints and the animals.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let us rejoice in the Lord with all the saints and the animals.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Verse 1:**

The example of their story, their love for humankind  
give God all praise and glory. With strength of heart and mind.  
They lived their lives for justice. They lived their lives for peace,  
rooted in the Gospel with prayers that never cease.

Refrain



*Have a blessed week!*