

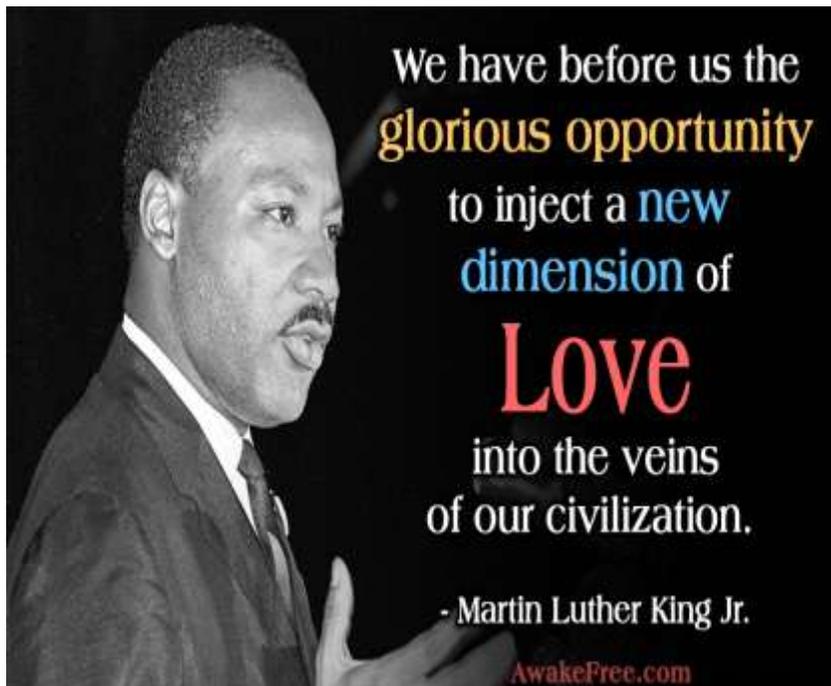
Welcome to Saint Matthew Ecumenical Catholic Church!

500 E Imperial Highway, Brea, CA 92821

saint-matthew.org

January 18, 2026

Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr.



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
(a liturgical aid to today's Mass)

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Gathering Song:

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

It's such amazing grace! It's such amazing mercy!

It's such amazing love for me!

It's such amazing grace! It's such amazing mercy!

It's such amazing love for me!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis Grace that brought me safe thus far
and Grace will lead me home.

It's such amazing grace! It's such amazing mercy!

It's such amazing love for me!

It's such amazing grace! It's such amazing mercy!

It's such amazing love for me!

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound...

Greeting Penitential Rite Opening Prayer

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.

Presider: Give glory to God in the highest!

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 (49:3,5-6)

Psalm Response:

*"Speak, Lord, I love to listen to your voice.
See, Lord, here I am"*

Second Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1 Corinth 1:1-3)

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 John (1:29-34)

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.

(REPEAT ABOVE)

Homily

A LITANY OF COMMEMORATION

We are pleased to share this Litany that is read in many churches on the Birthday Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Thus said, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"LET MY PEOPLE GO!"

Leader: Our Lord God wisely has chosen men and women to serve as His channels. Martin Luther King, Jr. was God's channel, who we now commemorate. We are thankful for the life of this 20th century prophet of freedom, who joined the prophets of history in the cry:

ALL: In the name of freedom, let my people go.

Leader: Martin Luther King, Jr. envisioned the ultimate freedom: the freedom achieved in struggle; the freedom reached in brotherhood; the freedom fired by the dream of a man; the freedom inspired by the lot of a people; the freedom free of hate; the freedom full of love.

ALL: In the name of justice, let my people go.

Leader: And so he set off with us on a journey for justice. It was a journey proclaiming the words of the ancient prophet Amos: "Let justice roll down like waters; and righteousness like a mighty stream." It was a journey calling forth the modern Christian ministry --- to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to set at liberty those who are oppressed.

**ALL: In the name of the prophet Amos,
and in the name of suffering people, let my people go.**

Leader: So we are thankful that the Spirit of the Lord anointed a man who preached good news to the poor, who rejected segregation and embraced liberation, who prophesied the greatness of his people in struggle for the deliverance of all people.

ALL: In the name of the Spirit of the Lord, let my people go.

Leader: We praise the Lord God for sending us a man of peace. Thank You, Lord, for Martin Luther King, Jr., who inspired us with his dream. Thank you for this noble legacy to continue the journey to that land here on earth, in life for all people. Thank You, God, for You have sent us one who now causes us to say:

All: In the name of Martin Luther King, Jr., let my people go.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

(Joy of Worship)

The Giving of our Gifts

Presider: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Presider: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our cup of our salvation.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Our Offertory Song: NOW IS THE TIME

Refrain

**Come to us, you who say, "I will not forget you."
Be with us, you who say, "Do not be afraid."
Take hold of us, our hearts, our minds, our whole being.
Make us your own, now is the time.**

**1. Spirit of love, crush the pain of hatred.
Spirit of hope, stand before our eyes.
Spirit of light, dance within our darkness.
Make us your own, now is the time.**

Refrain

**2. Spirit of peace, silence tongues of anger.
Spirit of life, break the chains of death.
Spirit of joy, overcome our sadness.
Make us your own, now is the time. (Refrain)**

3. Spirit of faith, rise above our doubting.
Spirit of truth, save us from our lies.
Spirit of God, walk among your people.
Make us your own, now is the time.(Refrain)

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 HIS 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 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:

ALL:

"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.

ALL:

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! Amen! Amen! Amen!

COMMUNION RITE

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.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Song: IN THIS PLACE

1. We are all hungry people, we need shelter and strength.

We are one in our hurting, we are one in our pain.

**In our suffering and sadness, we are saved by the grace
of the power and the Spirit that is here in this place.**

Refrain

We are gathered together as one in the Lord.

We are gathered as people who are living the Word.

Our hearts and our spirits are nurtured by grace.

It is Jesus who fills us. He is here in this place.

2. All our lives are a Myst'ry; we see not where they lead.

We are asked now to trust you

and we know we must believe.

**As our feet become Christ's feet, we go forth with the grace
of the power and the Spirit that is here in this place.**

Refrain

**3. Though the world may tell us to look at ourselves,
we reach out to another where suffering dwells.**

As our hands become Christ's hands,

**we are healed by the grace of the power and the Spirit
that is here in this place.**

Refrain

CONCLUDING RITE

Meditation: WE SHALL OVERCOME

We shall overcome. We shall overcome. We shall overcome someday.

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe we shall overcome someday!

We'll walk hand in hand. We'll walk hand in hand. We'll walk hand in hand someday..

We are not afraid. We are not afraid. We are not afraid today,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

We shall stand together. We shall stand together. We shall stand together now.....

Prayer after Communion

please stand

Dismissal

Closing Song: **THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE**

1. This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2. Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3. Jesus gave it to me;
I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me;
I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me;
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine!

Have a spirit-filled week!