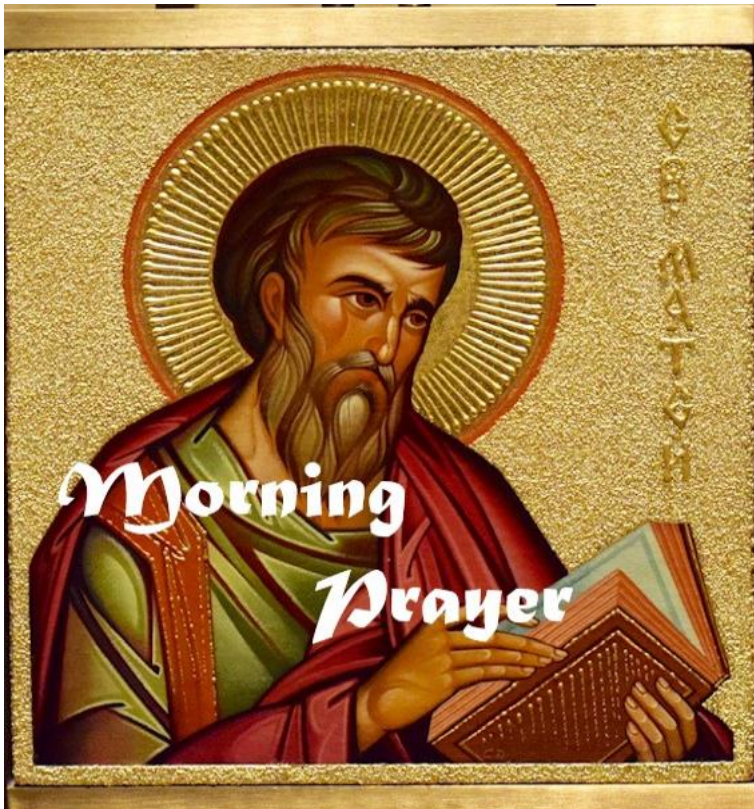




**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**  
**THE FEAST OF SAINT MATTHEW**



*Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.*

Wednesday, 21 Sep 2022 9:30am

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Deacon Dorothy Gutwein**

## Opening Sentences

BCP p. 78

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

## Confession of Sin

BCP p. 79

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*(Short Silence may be kept.)*

**All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and Forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Leader: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Invitatory and Psalter

BCP p. 80-82

Leader: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**All: 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.**

*Leader chooses either the Venite or the Jubilate*

BCP p. 82-83

### **Venite**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \*

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture  
and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**OR**

### **Jubilate**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.  
Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people  
and the sheep of his pasture.  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.  
For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

### **The Lessons**

#### **Psalm 119:33-40**

**33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of  
your statutes, \*  
and I shall keep it to the end.**

**34 Give me understanding, and I  
shall keep your law; \*  
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

**35 Make me go in the path of your  
commandments, \*  
for that is my desire.**

**36 Incline my heart to your decrees \*  
and not to unjust gain.**

**37 Turn my eyes from watching what  
is worthless; \*  
give me life in your ways.**

**38 Fulfill your promise to your serv-  
ant, \*  
which you make to those who  
fear you.**

**39 Turn away the reproach which I  
dread, \*  
because your judgments are  
good.**

**40 Behold, I long for your command-  
ments; \*  
in your righteousness preserve  
my life.**

## **First Lesson A Reading from Proverbs 3:1-6**

My child, do not forget my teaching,  
but let your heart keep my commandments;  
for length of days and years of life  
and abundant welfare they will give you.

Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you;  
bind them round your neck,  
write them on the tablet of your heart.

So you will find favour and good repute  
in the sight of God and of people.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
and do not rely on your own insight.

In all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make straight your paths.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people

**People: Thanks be to God**

## **Second Lesson A Reading from the Book of 2 Timothy 3:14-17**

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people

**People: Thank**

## **Gospel Lesson:**

**Deacon :** The holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
**Matthew (9:9-13)**

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.** *(No need to stand)*

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

**Reader:** Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people

**People: Thanks be to God**

### *Reflection on readings / homily (optional)*

## **The Apostles Creed**

BCP p. 96

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived  
by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended  
to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge  
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the  
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the  
body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## The Prayers

BCP p. 97

Leader The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Leader Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The Suffrages (A)

BCP p. 121-122

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**R. And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**R. Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**R. For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

**R. Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Collects

BCP p. 228, 98-100

*The Collect of the Day*

**We thank you, heavenly Father, for the witness of your apostle and evangelist Matthew to the Gospel of your Son our Savior; and we pray that, after his example, we may with ready wills and hearts obey the calling of our Lord to follow him; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Collect for the Renewal of Life*

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Collect for Guidance*

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Intercessory Prayer:**

**Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, Gratitude**

*(The Leader invites the people to offer their prayers silently or aloud)*

*(Leader concludes the service with ONE or the other of the following:)*

Prayer of General Thanksgiving

BCP p. 101

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

**OR**

*Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

