



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

ALL ARE WELCOME!

214 COLLEGE AVE., HENDERSON, TEXAS

Liturgy of the Word

September 20, 2026

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE

— *Stand* —

HYMN 690 GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT
JEHOVAH
vs.1-3

Officiant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Officiant:

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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

— *Sung in Unison* —

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

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. 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.**

Officiant:

The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant:

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

— *The People May be Seated for the Lessons* —

THE FIRST LESSON
EXODUS 16:2-15

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to

them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 105:1-6, 37-45

— *The Leader & People Recite Responsively
by Whole Verse* —

Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *make known his deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to him, sing praises to him, *and
speak of all his marvelous works.**

Glory in his holy Name; *let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

**Search for the LORD and his strength;
*continually seek his face.**

Remember the marvels he has done, *his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

**O offspring of Abraham his servant, *O
children of Jacob his chosen.**

He led out his people with silver and gold; *in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.

Egypt was glad of their going, *because they were afraid of them.

He spread out a cloud for a covering *and a fire to give light in the night season.

They asked, and quails appeared, *and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.

He opened the rock, and water flowed, *so the river ran in the dry places.

For God remembered his holy word *and Abraham his servant.

So he led forth his people with gladness, *his chosen with shouts of joy.

He gave his people the lands of the nations, *and they took the fruit of others' toil,

That they might keep his statutes *and observe his laws.

Hallelujah!

THE SECOND LESSON
PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

Reader: A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians.

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is

more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

— *Stand* —

HYMN 343 SHEPHERD OF SOULS
VS. 1 - 4

THE GOSPEL
MATTHEW 20:1-16

Officiant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others

standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

— *The People May be Seated for the Sermon* —

THE SERMON
Mr. Tracy Allen

Officiant:

Let us now stand with Christians past and present, and from all over the world in proclaiming our common faith.

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.

— *Please Kneel, if Able* —

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

— *The Leader & People Pray Responsively* —

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *(Silence)*

For all people in their daily life and work;
**For our families, friends, and neighbors,
and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice,
and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Andy, Jeff, Kai, Hector and Brian our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *(Silence)*

— *The People may add their own petitions* —

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Therefore continue to send your blessing upon *Deborah and Jim*, that they may love,

honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may continue to be a haven of blessing and peace. **Amen.**

Gracious God, you have knit us together in this community of faith at St. Matthew's that we might share in Christian love, discipleship and worship with one another. Open our doors and our hearts anew to the wider community that surrounds us. Grant us the grace and courage to draw new members into our fellowship, that our witness may grow and your name be praised; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(Silence)*

— *The People may add their own thanksgivings* —

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

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* —

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. *(Silence)*

Leader and People:

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Officiant:

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Officiant says to the People:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

— *The People May Seated for Announcements* —

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

Officiant:

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

THE OFFERTORY

To give electronically, see the QR code on the back of the bulletin.

Our September open plate giving will go to the Linda's African Ministry.

— *Stand* —

THE DOXOLOGY

— *All Sing in Unison* —

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

Officiant:

And now, to gather all our petitions, let us pray in the words our Savior Christ himself has taught us:

— *Please Kneel, if Able* —

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant 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.

Officiant:

God love us and have mercy upon us; through the cross of Christ, pardon us and set us free; in the name of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

— *Stand* —

HYMN 660 O MASTER, LET ME WALK
WITH THEE
VS. 1, 3,4

The Officiant dismisses with these words:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

LEADERS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship Leader: *Tracy Allen*

Altar Guild Team: *Kim Robinson & Michelle King*

Acolyte:

Lector: *Kim Robinson*

Greeters: *Ben Patterson & Rick Ortiz*

Vestry Person: *Kim Robinson*

Coffee Refreshments: *Linda Craig*

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK
Deborah & Jim Kangerga 26th

TODAY
9:30 a.m., Liturgy of the Word,
Coffee Fellowship,
Vestry Meeting

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST
October Messenger deadline

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND
7:30 p.m., AA in the Parish Hall

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH
10:00 a.m., Patch Workday

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH
9:30 a.m., Liturgy of the Word,
Blessing of the Patch,
Coffee Fellowship

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH
5:30 p.m., Pumpkin delivery and place pumpkins in
the Patch

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., National Night Out at Fairpark,
Contact Ben or Rick to volunteer or for more
information



To give electronically, scan
the QR code to be taken to
a secure payment site.

PRAYER LIST

Our St. Matthew's Family: Charlene & David,
Christopher, Mary Jo, Jimmy, Anne, June, Gail &
Dan, Lisa & John, Randy, Tom & Carol, Justin,
Sophia, and Ann.

Friends & Loved Ones: The Smith & Baker
families, Christy Jo, Marnie, Pastor Blake, Donna,
Zoe, Misty, Shawn, the McAnally family, Ashley,
Monica & Bubba, Cynthia, Debbie, Jane and Mary.
**We pray for all of our Military, at home and
abroad.**

ST. MATTHEW'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church is a body of believers
united in a common desire to love and serve the Lord
and our neighbors. Our faith journey is to do justice,
to love kindness and to walk humbly with our God.

—Adapted from Micah 6:8

ST. MATTHEW'S VISION STATEMENT

"To be a Christian community that demonstrates
God's love to those around us through prayer, caring,
visitation, worship, and teaching."

WWW.STMATTHEWSHENDERSON.ORG
STMATTHEWS@SUDDENLINKMAIL.COM



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