



We Welcome You to
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church!
214 College Ave., Henderson, Texas 75654

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
The Second Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2026

PRELUDE

THE WORD OF GOD

— *All Stand, if Able* —

HYMN 178 ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, GIVE
THANKS vs. 1, 2, 4

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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. **Amen.**

GLORIA S-280

— *All Sing 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.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant:

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the
Paschal mystery established the new covenant
of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been
reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body
may show forth in their lives what they profess
by their faith; 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 LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 2:14A, 22-32

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 16

— *The Leader and People Pray Responsively by Full Verse* —

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
*I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."

**All my delight is upon the godly that are
in the land, *upon those who are noble
among the people.**

But those who run after other gods *shall
have their troubles multiplied.

**Their libations of blood I will not offer,
*nor take the names of their gods upon
my lips.**

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; *it
is you who uphold my lot.

**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
*indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
*my heart teaches me, night after night.

**I have set the LORD always before me;
*because he is at my right hand I shall not
fall.**

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit
rejoices; *my body also shall rest in hope.

**For you will not abandon me to the grave,
*nor let your holy one see the Pit.**

You will show me the path of life; *in your
presence there is fullness of joy, and in your
right hand are pleasures for evermore.

THE SECOND LESSON
1 PETER 1:3-9

Reader: A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

— *Stand* —

HYMN 691 MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE
Vs. 1-3

THE GOSPEL
JOHN 20:19-31

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house

where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

— *Sit* —

THE HOMILY
The Rev. Dr. Steve Elers

— *Silence* —

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

— *Stand or, if Able, Please Kneel* —

Leader:

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, Hector, Kai (Kay) and Brian, our Bishops; and all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

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

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

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

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*)

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

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants *Catherine and June* as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives. **Amen.**

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 *Lisa and John*, 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.**

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Celebrant:
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.**

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

— *Silence* —

Celebrant and People:
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.

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

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

— *Sit* —

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

Celebrant:
Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

THE OFFERTORY

Our April Sunday open plate will go to **Henderson Interchurch Ministry.**

If you would like to give electronically, see the QR code on the back of the bulletin.

— *Stand, if Able* —

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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

— *Remain Standing, if Able* —

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS S-130

— *Sing in Unison* —

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

— *Kneel, if Able* —

The Celebrant continues:

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.*

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." ***

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my

Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” ***

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People:

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant 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.

AGNUS DEI S-157

—*Sing in Unison*—

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

—*All baptized Christians, including children, are invited to receive Holy Communion.* —

The Bread & Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
Amen.

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

—If able, please kneel—

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Priest may bless the People

—Stand—

HYMN 205 GOOD CHRISTIANS ALL,
REJOICE *vs. 1-3*

The Priest dismisses with these words:

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

LEADERS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Celebrant: *The Rev. Dr. Steve Elers*

Altar Guild: *Anne Davenport*

Chalice: *Jim Kangerga*

Acolyte: *Sophia Robinson*

Lector: *Michaëlle Green*

Greeters: *Roberta Vallantyne & Bonnie Geddie*

Vestry Person: *Kim Robinson*

Coffee Refreshments: *Ben Paatterson & Rick Ortiz*

TODAY

9:30 a.m., Holy Eucharist

Coffee Fellowship

TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH

7:30 p.m. AA

THURSDAY, APRIL 16TH

6:30 p.m., Craft Night

SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH

9:30 a.m., Liturgy of the Word

Coffee Fellowship

Vestry Meeting

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Catherine York 14th

June Fuller 17th

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Lisa & John Melvin 17th

Our **April** Sunday open plate (undesigned cash or checks designated to the open plate ministry) will go to **the Henderson Interchurch Ministry**. If you want your **cash donation to go into the General Fund**, please place it in an envelope and notate your wishes on the envelope.



If you would like to give electronically, scan the QR code to be taken to a secure payment site.

PRAYER LIST

Our St. Matthew's Family: Mother Patsy+, Charlene & David, Christopher, Mary Jo, Jimmy, Anne, Alexa, Jimmy, June, Gail & Dan, Lisa & John, Randy, Heath, Justin, Sophia, Ann, and Catherine.

Friends & Loved Ones: Brad, Christy Jo, Marnie, Julie, Donna, Zoe, Misty, Holly, Pastor Blake & Family, Nancy, Cody, Holly & son, 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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THE EASTER LILIES ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In Memory of Loved Our Parents by Carol & Tom Roberts

In Memory of My Twin, Jere Fred Culp, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Clifford Culp, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Fred Clifford Culp, Sr., Mr. & Mrs. Hoyt Jerome Law, Mr. Richard Noon, Mr. William C. Teague, Mrs. Carol Hamilton and Mrs. Sharon Files St. John Parker by Jimmy Culp

In Memory of Louis Colombo by Mary Jo Colombo

In Memory of Loved Ones by Michaelle Green

In Memory of Loved Ones by Tracy Allen

In Memory of Loved Ones by Gail & Dan Love

In Memory of Loved Ones by Deborah & Jim

Kangerga

In Memory of JR Patterson, Naomi Pacheco, Richard by Ben Patterson & Rick Ortiz

In Memory of Loved Ones by Linda Craig

In Thanksgiving for Our Children & Precious Grandchildren by Carol & Tom Roberts

In Thanksgiving for St. Matthew's Twins, Linda & Isabella Craig and Aaden & Noah King by Jimmy Culp
In Thanksgiving for Family & Friends by Mary Jo Colombo

In Thanksgiving for Sophia & Solon by Kim & Justin Robinson

In Thanksgiving for Our Church Family by Kim & Justin Robinson

In Thanksgiving for Our Grandchildren by Deborah & Jim Kangerga

In Thanksgiving for Our Family & Friends by Deborah & Jim Kangerga

In Thanksgiving for Sam & Quinn by Deborah & Jim Kangerga

In Thanksgiving for Our Parish Family by Carol & Tom Roberts

In Thanksgiving for St. Matthew's Church and Vestry Leadership by Mary Jo Colombo

