



WE WELCOME YOU TO
ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
214 College Ave., Henderson, Texas
Liturgy of the Word with a Commissioning
& Blessing of our Graduates

June 28, 2026
Fifth Sunday After Pentecost, Proper 8

PRELUDE

— *Stand* —

HYMN 518 CHRIST IS MADE THE
SURE FOUNDATION
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:

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; 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
GENESIS 22:1-14

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not

withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 13

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

How long, O LORD?
will you forget me for ever? *how long will
you hide your face from me?

**How long shall I have perplexity in my
mind, and grief in my heart, day after day?
*how long shall my enemy triumph over
me?**

Look upon me and answer me, O LORD my
God; *give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in
death;

**Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over
him," *and my foes rejoice that I have
fallen.**

But I put my trust in your mercy; *my heart is
joyful because of your saving help.

**I will sing to the LORD, for he has dealt
with me richly; *I will praise the Name of
the Lord Most High.**

THE SECOND LESSON
ROMANS 6:12-23

Reader: A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life.

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

— *Stand* —

HYMN 655 O JESUS I HAVE PROMISED
VS. 1-3

THE GOSPEL
MATTHEW 10:40-42

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

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

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

THE SERMON
Mr. Justin Robinson

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* —

Leader:

We pray to you, Christ, the pattern and
perfecter of our faith, teach us to see you in
all things.

Jesus, you were brought up by your loving
family and supported by your brother and
sister disciples. We give you thanks for the
loving families, friends, and supporters who
have made our education possible.

Teach us, Christ our Lord,
To see you in all things

Jesus, you were taught by John the Baptizer,
learned through debates with colleagues, and
found insight in the faith of people. We give
thanks for our mentors, friends, and
classmates who have sharpened our minds
and expanded our hearts.

Teach us, Christ our Lord,
To see you in all things

Jesus, you left your fasting in the wilderness
only to be feasted by angels, celebrating your
formation and inaugurating the time of your
ministry. We give you thanks for the
graduations of *Isabella, Linda, and Sophia*, this
moment marks accomplishment and
welcomes new vocation and ministry.

Teach us, Christ our Lord,
To see you in all things

Jesus, you became a teacher. Not many are
called to teach, but none of us could be where
we are today without the love and attention of
our teachers, professors, and mentors. We
give you thanks for all who have formed us.

Teach us, Christ our Lord,
To see you in all things

Jesus, Joseph your father could not stand with you at your earthly triumph, and surely his absence weighed on your heart. We, too, have lost those we loved during this semester and during our education. We pray for all those who have died.

Teach us, our God and King,
To see you in all things

Jesus, you rejoice in the fellowship of all the saints. With that diverse and numerous cloud of witnesses, we commend our lives to you, celebrating the victories of this day, and confident in the promises of your eternal home.

Teach us, our God and King,
To see you in all things

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Officiant:

God our Father, hear the prayers of your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Officiant:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence)*

Officiant 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.

Officiant:

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.**

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING OF 2026 GRADUATES: ISABELLA CRAIG, LINDA CRAIG & SOPHIA ROBINSON

— *Graduates Come Forward from the Congregation
and the People May be Seated
for the Introduction of Graduates*—

Officiant:

Today, as we celebrate our graduates, let us all also commit ourselves once more to a lifetime of learning; to the sharing of the abundant gifts that God has given us; and to the callings of this community.

People:

May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen us, that in all things, we may do God's will in the service of the kingdom of our Lord Christ. Amen.

Officiant:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor upon these graduates, and this community who have now reaffirmed their commitment to follow Christ and to serve in God's name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen

us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world, and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

— *Family & Members of the Congregation are Invited to Stand with the Graduates* —

THE BLESSING OF GRACE

Officiant:

May God give you the grace never to sell yourself short; Grace to risk something big for something good; and Grace to remember the world is now too dangerous for anything but the truth and too small for anything but love. **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 Greet Our Graduates and One Another with the Sign of God's Peace, then May be 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 June open plate giving will go to the Rusk County Children's Advocacy Center.

— *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 525 THE CHURCH'S ONE
FOUNDATION
VS. 1, 4, 5

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

Celebrant: *Justin Robinson*
Altar Guild Team: *Kim Robinson & Michelle King*
Acolyte: *Sophia Robinson*
Lector: *Matthew Craig*
Greeters: *Ben Patterson & Rick Ortiz*
Vestry Person: *Marty Brown*
Coffee Refreshments: *Graduation Celebration*

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

by St. Matthew's in Honor of Our Graduates

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK Catherine & David York 3rd

TODAY

9:30 a.m., Liturgy of the Word
Coffee Fellowship/Celebration for our Graduates,
Sophia Robinson, Linda Craig & Isabelle Craig

JUNE 30TH
7:30PM A.A.

JULY 5

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

JULY 11TH AT 11AM

Celebration of the Rev. Patsy Barham's ministry at St.
Matthew's in the Parish Hall



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, 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
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