St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
Madison, Alabama

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
Holy Eucharist Rite II

November 15, 2026
8:30 & 11:00 am

The Rev. Emily Rowell Brown, Rector
The Rev. Taylor Johnson, Associate Rector
Tom Killian, Music Director
Susan Fletcher, Organist

Quiet before the service helps us to mark sacred space and time. Please use this time to prayerfully prepare for worship. Please remember to silence your cell phone.

*Elements marked with * are included in the 11:00 am worship service.*

The Liturgy of the Word

The Prelude **Adagio in A-flat** *(Felix Mendelssohn)*

Processional Hymn #401 **The God of Abraham praise**

Opening Sentences, *Standing* BCP 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

Collect for Purity

Celebrant 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,* #S-236**, **Sung by all*

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you, beholding the depths;
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen***.

The Lesson, Judges 4:1-7

A Reading from the Book of Judges.

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years. At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 123

1 To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.

2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

3 So our eyes look to the LORD our God, *
until he show us his mercy.

4 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

The Epistle, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Standing, sung by all
Sequence Hymn #9 **Awake, awake to love and work** *(v. 4-6)*

The Holy Gospel, Matthew 25:14-30

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at

once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon The Rev. Emily Rowell Brown

The Nicene Creed, *Standing* BCP 358

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, Form III BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Richard, our Bishop; for Emily and Taylor, our clergy; for Bob and Sam, our retired clergy; for our staff, vestry, and laity; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for our president, Donald; our vice president, JD; our governor, Kay; our mayor, Ranae; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

We pray for our Companion Diocese of Honduras and for their bishop, Lloyd; for the Food Bank of North Alabama; for First Stop; for the Episcopal Relief and Development; for Sawyerville; for the Huntsville Assistance Program; for the National Children's Advocacy Center; for

peace in Ukraine and the Middle East. Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

We pray for those who are in areas of conflict and disaster who are in harm's way. We pray for our friends, family, and community in need of your care, especially Bob Bogard, Daryl Carpenter, Gina Centanni, Carmen M. Colon, Barbara Combs, Joan East, Molly Killian, Eileen Lewis, David Newton, Cathy Rasnick, Bill Pope, Jane Prince, Anne Sullivan, Chuck, Lorna, and Roy Vickers, Ray White, Carol Doyle, and Jerry Bentley. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and for those of others.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin BCP 360

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister 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.***

The Priest stands and says

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***.

***Children's Homily**

The Peace, *Standing*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Offertory

Instrumental Offertory (8:30) **Festive Bells** *(John Rutter)*
Choral Offertory (11:00) **Offertory** *(John Ness Beck)*

Financial offerings are not mandatory; they are expressions of our thanksgiving towards God and an investment in St. Matthew's ministries. If you would like to give a one-time offering digitally, you may use the QR code here. Many who give choose to set up a recurring gift (a "pledge"). To pledge, email our office at office@stmatthewsmadison.org.

Presentation Hymn #380, *Standing, sung by all* **The Doxology** *(vs. 3)*

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B BCP 367

The people remain standing.

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth…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, **Sung by all*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are 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.

Standing or kneeling

Celebrant 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;

Celebrant 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 Matthew and 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer, *Said by all* BCP 364

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.

8:30 only

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

***Fraction Anthem #S-164**, *Sung by all*

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.

Invitation to Communion

You are invited to receive communion in the Episcopal Church. If you wish to receive a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms over your chest. If you are interested in being baptized, please speak with the clergy after the service or contact the church office. If you would like clergy to bring communion to you, please notify an usher.

During the distribution of communion, anyone who would like is invited to light one of the candles located in the back right transept as a symbol of prayer.

Communion Hymn #312 **Strengthen for service, Lord**
Communion Hymn #617 **Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round**

The Postcommunion Prayer, *Said by all, standing or kneeling* BCP 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing, *All standing*

Closing Hymn #390 **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude **Lobe den Herren** *(J. G. Walther)*

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Remember in your prayers this week: Bob Bogard, Daryl Carpenter, Gina Centanni, Carmen M. Colon, Barbara Combs, Joan East, Molly Killian, Eileen Lewis, David Newton, Cathy Rasnick, Bill Pope, Jane Prince, Anne Sullivan, Chuck, Lorna, and Roy Vickers, Ray White, Carol Doyle, and Jerry Bentley.

Also pray for our friends and family members, especially: Ginger Eich, Anthony Hardin, Angela Loehr and family, Catherine Ott, Diana Parks, Mike Rice, Suzette Rice, Cathy Taveras, Shannon Carpenter, Fran Woytowich, Felicia Temple, Jan Blood, Afton Pruett Travens, Bren Stilson.

The names placed on our prayer list are held in prayer by this parish throughout the week. We are happy to include all prayer requests. Names will remain on the list for four weeks. Please contact the office or clergy if you desire a name to remain on after four weeks or to be removed sooner. Apart from prayers for the departed, we ask that you have the person's permission before adding them to the list.

SERVING TODAY (8:30 AM)
PREACHER/CELEBRANT: The Rev. Emily Rowell Brown
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Tom Killian
ORGANIST: Susan Fletcher
ALTAR GUILD: Carey Holcomb
LEM: Kristie Scheuer, Bobby Williams
LECTOR: Todd Clem
CRUCIFER: Erin Bruce
USHERS: Carla Stagner, Brian Buzby
MEDIA MINISTRY: David Wales
HOSPITALITY: Monica Couch
COUNTERS: Kathy Modrall, Scott Cechovic
NURSERY: Amber Anderson, Mary Brown
VESTRY OF THE DAY: Natalie Lapacek-Trout

SERVING TODAY (11:00 AM):
PREACHER/CELEBRANT: The Rev. Emily Rowell Brown
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Tom Killian
ORGANIST: Susan Fletcher
ALTAR GUILD: Grace Lo
LEM: Karen Price, Kathy Barr
LECTOR: Jim Salmon
EPISTOLER: Dan Brown
INTERCESSOR: Jeff Anderson
CRUCIFER: Samantha Jones
GOSPELER: Ben Watson
USHERS: Ray Casssell, Terry Sampson
MEDIA MINISTRY: Dane Rasmussen
HOSPITALITY: Alyssa Mauch
COUNTERS: Melissa Barton, Alinda Coiner
NURSERY: Amber Anderson, Mary Brown
VESTRY OF THE DAY: Natalie Lapacek-Trout

LIVE STREAM SERVICE REMINDER – ***Please be mindful that the 11:00 am service is live-streamed every week. Therefore, names may be audible, and faces may be visible to anyone watching online. During the children's homily, a slide is displayed for children's privacy.***