

Apostolic Sacramental Church



Mass of Reception
Of
Matthew Wayne Shepard
Holy Person and Martyr

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Matthew Wayne Shepard
Holy Person and Martyr

The Right Reverend S. Thomas Clark
Presiding

The Venerable Dylan Littlefield
Master of Ceremonies

The Very Rev. Michelle “MJ” Johnston, CFA
Preaching

Concelebrating:

The Reverend Brenda Bos
Bishop, Southwest California Synod
Rev. Sharon Richter
Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

Toni-Kay Attanasio
Association of Roman Catholic Women Priests

Rev. Todd Scull, OSB
Pastor, Saint Caecilia's Old Holy Catholic Church, Glendale

The clergy and members of the altar party join in prayer before processing.

Bp. Brenda: Let us pray. God of Peace, pour out grace upon us all, that the work we do for our community of faithful today will be received by you with open arms and that those we serve are blessed by our actions today and every day. Amen.

Processional Hymn

All stand as they are able.

Verses

Here I Am, Lord



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.



My hand will save. I who made the
They turn a - way. I will break their
My hand will save. Fin - est bread I



stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
will pro - vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Processional. The congregation is incensed.

All bow upon arriving at the altar. Bp. Thomas, Fr. Dylan and Rev. MJ approach the altar and reverence it with a kiss.

Bp Thomas: Blessed be the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

All: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

Amen.

Bp. Thomas: Peace is with you.

All: And also with you.

Fr. Dylan: 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.

All: Amen.

All may be seated.

Biography of Matthew Shepard

From the Lectern

Fr. Todd: Matthew Wayne Shepard was born in Casper, Wyoming on December 1, 1976. His parents, Judy and Dennis, doted on their son. According to them, Matthew got along with everyone, but was picked on as a child because of his small stature and lack of athleticism. He spent all but the last couple of years of his childhood in Wyoming. In 1994, Dennis took a job in Saudi Arabia. Matthew was sent to the American School in Switzerland. There, he developed a love of theater and politics. During his last year of high school, Matthew travelled to Morocco. He graduated in 1995 then began college, attending Catawba College in North Carolina and Casper College in Wyoming, before settling in Denver, Colorado.

Pastor Richter: Matthew was a life-long Episcopalian. He was an altar server and participated in local theater productions put on by his local church. According to his dad, Matthew was "an optimistic and accepting young man who had a special gift of relating to almost everyone. He was the type of person who was very approachable and always looked to new challenges. Matthew had a great passion for equality and always stood up for the acceptance of people's differences." Because of his stature and quiet personality, Matt was victimized while in Morocco in 1995. This brutal encounter caused Matthew to experience extreme anxiety and depression. Despite the brutality of the experience in Morocco, Matthew made it clear that he forgave his tormentors.

From the center of the Choir.

Fr. Dylan Matt Shepard is a friend of mine. We crossed paths in 1998, as I was leaving the University of Wyoming and he was starting. I knew from our first few meetings that Matthew was unique. He made an impression on me that was unforgettable. I left Wyoming in late September 1998 to take a job in a local Television newsroom. It was there, on the morning of October 7, that I saw a bulletin come across the wire that a gay University of Wyoming student had been beaten and left tied to a fence. It wasn't confirmed until about 40 minutes later when a friend from Laramie called to tell me the news but something inside me already knew. Matthew Wayne Shepard died from his injuries just after midnight on October 12, 1998.

I'd like to share a story I heard about Matt. He was at a bar, one that was not necessarily a gay-friendly bar. During the chit-chat typical of bars, Matt told the bartender he was gay. The bartender took this as Matt making a pass at him. The bartender slugged Matt in the face. One of the people he was with asked him what he was going to do. Matt said, "Forgive him and move on." This is the Matthew that I knew.

Matthew's Cause

Fr. Dylan: After prayer and discernment, after much thought, we, as a community find that Matthew's life and death are a shadow of Jesus' life and death, calling us all to our higher selves, leading us to hope for a better day for humanity, and bringing our attention to the plight of the oppressed so that we might help all people be free.

All may remain seated. Clergy will kneel at the communion rail.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

I



V E-ni Sancte Spí-ri-tus, Et emít-te cæ-li-tus



Lu-cis tu-æ rá-di-um. 2. Ve-ni pa-ter páu-pe-rum, Ve-ni



da-tor mú-ne-rum, Ve-ni lumen cór-di-um.

Source: Translation by Edward Caswall Cong. Orat. 1814-78. Lyra Catholica, 1849.

Clergy may return to their places.

Bp. Brenda: Throughout the Bible, those who follow Christ are called to be saints. The term saint refers to those, who in this life, achieved a level of virtue so impactful as to inspire people to seek God through their witness. In some cases, the saint gives their life for others, some have a spiritual life full of devotion, and others take a stand against oppressive forces and/or for those with no power. The lives of the saints are our source of inspiration. To witness, in person or through history, these acts of faith, the followers of Christ are encouraged to imitate the saints.

Rev. MJ: Bishop Thomas, on behalf of the assembled faithful, I ask you, as Presiding Bishop of the Apostolic Sacramental Church and having heard his Holy Cause, to receive Matthew Shepard into the Order of Holy People, as a Martyr.

All Stand as they are able.

Bp. Thomas: My Friends, let our prayers rise up to God, the Creator and Cause of All, that through Jesus, as the Christ, along with his Most Holy Mother, Matthew be received as a Holy Person and Martyr before the Throne of Heaven, and that Matthew be welcomed into the assembly of the Saints. May God sustain us with Divine Grace as we undertake this holy act of reception of Matthew Shepard.

All: Amen

Rev. Toni-Kay: Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

Rev. Toni-Kay: Christ have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

Rev. Toni-Kay: Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

Rev. Toni-Kay: Let us pause for a moment to contemplate the Saints, those known to us and those whose saintly acts have not yet been revealed but are known to God.

Musical Interlude (~ 1:00)

Fr. Todd Source of Grace, we ask you to accept our humble prayers and gratitude. Grant that our supplications and loving actions will draw people closer to you. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Prayer of Reception

Bp. Thomas: For the honor of God, the exaltation of our faith, by the grace of Christ Jesus and the Holy Apostles, Mary Magdalene, Peter and Paul and Stephen, the first Martyr, and after prayer for divine guidance, and with much consideration, we receive Matthew Shepard as a Holy Person and Martyr, calling upon all the faithful to

venerate him with all the saints and martyrs. We do this in the name of the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

All: Amen

Bp. Thomas will sign the declarations, and once signed, they will be incensed.

Presentation of the Declarations

Bp. Thomas: In recognition of this Holy Day, I am pleased to present to Pastor Sharon Richter and Bishop Brenda Bos a copy of the declaration in appreciation for their role in today's reception, to be displayed as may be proper for this Church.

Bishop Brenda and Pastor Richter may say a few words here.

Bp. Thomas: In recognition of this Holy Day, I am pleased to present Rev. Sibling MJ and Fr. Dylan, as our local clergy, with a copy of the declaration to be displayed in a place of honor.

I am further directing that Fr. Dylan, as my Episcopal Vicar, deliver a copy of this declaration to Matthew's parents, Judy and Dennis Shepard and the Matthew Shepard Foundation in Denver, Colorado.

Collect

Fr. Dylan: Let us pray. Oh God, source of unending grace, having called Matthew Shepard to you in your time, grant we beseech thee, that Matthew's legacy be ever remembered. Let our hearts be joined in love that we may always know that all people are made in your loving image. We ask this through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God to the ages of ages.

All: Amen

Liturgy of the Word

All sit.

First Reading

Hosea 6:1-3

A reading from the Prophet Hosea.

Come, let us return to the Lord;
for he has torn, that he may heal us;
he has stricken, and he will bind us up.

After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.

Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord;
his going forth is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 1:1-4,6

Our Response tonight is: Anyone who follows you, O Lord, will have the light of life.

Anyone who follows you, O Lord, will have the light of life.

Happy indeed is the one
who follows not the counsel of the wicked;
nor lingers in the way of sinners
nor sits in the company of scorners,
but whose delight is the law of the Lord
and who ponders his law, day and night.

Anyone who follows you, O Lord, will have the light of life.

He is like a tree that is planted
beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper.

Anyone who follows you, O Lord, will have the light of life.

Not so are the wicked, not so!
For they like winnowed chaff
shall be driven away by the wind:
for the Lord guards the way of the just
but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

Anyone who follows you, O Lord, will have the light of life.

Second Reading

1 Peter 4:12-14

A reading from the first letter of St. Peter.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal which comes upon you to prove you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are reproached for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

All stand as they are able.

Gospel

Matthew 5:8-12

Fr. Dylan bows before the altar and says a short silent prayer and then incenses the Book of the Gospels as it rests on the ambo.

Fr. Dylan: The Lord is with you.

All: And also with you.

Fr. Dylan: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St.

Matthew ☩

All: ☩ Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so others persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Fr. Dylan: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

All sit. Rev. MJ delivers the lesson.

Fr. Dylan: It is my honor to declare that the Memorial for Matthew Shepard, Holy Person and Martyr, will be celebrated on October 12 each year. Matthew is received as the patron of LGBTQ+ people and victims of hate crimes. Suggested readings for his memorial will be offered by the office of the Presiding Bishop. The Liturgical Color for the Memorial shall be red, or alternatively, a rainbow stole may be worn.

Prayers of the Faithful

All stand as they are able.

Bp. Brenda: My friends, let us continue our prayer together, humbling ourselves before God with our community's needs.

Reader: That our church leaders hold close a loving, affirming, and welcoming Church and that no one be turned away from or oppressed by any church. For this we pray.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who are oppressed because of their authentic self-expression find strength and power to overcome their oppressors and that they find a path to healing from the pain of oppression. For this we pray.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For all who have died at the hands of hate-fueled violence because of their gender identity or sexual orientation, may their souls be comforted by God. For this we pray.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For our own intentions, we pause for a moment to speak or think them. For all this we pray.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Bp. Brenda: O God, our refuge and our strength,
hear the prayers of your Church,
for you yourself are the source of all devotion,
and grant, we pray, that what we ask in faith
we may truly obtain.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Sign of Peace

All Clergy gather together in front of the communion rail.

All Clergy: The Peace of the Lord be with you all!

All: And also with you!

Fr. Todd: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

All sit.

Offertory

Musical Interlude

Please give generously. A portion of the offering will go to the Matthew Shepard Foundation helping them in their mission to Erase Hate.

The offering is presented by the People to Bishop Brenda and Fr. Todd who bring the gifts to the Altar.

While Bishop Thomas and Fr. Dylan prepare the altar, Rev. Toni-Kay reads the following from the lectern:

Rev. Toni-Kay: Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge God's Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

All stand as they are able. Bishop Thomas censes the Altar with the gifts.

Sursum Corda

The assembled clergy gather around the Altar.

Bp. Thomas: The Lord is with you.
All: And also with you.

Bp. Thomas: We lift up our hearts.
All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Bp. Thomas: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Bp. Thomas: It is truly right and just, always and everywhere, to give you thanks, source of all creation. As we rejoice on this festival and memorial of Saint Matthew Shepard, strengthen all your Holy Church to live a life of love, eschewing hate and keeping the most vulnerable of your People safe.

And so, with all the Angels and Saints, we acclaim in one voice:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
✠ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Fr. Dylan: Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made
us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and
become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy,
sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share
our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to
reconcile us to you, the God and Nurturer of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered
himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for
the whole world.

Bp. Thomas: On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,
Jesus 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."

Pastor Richter: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Rev. MJ: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

All Clergy present extend their right hand toward the bread and wine.

Bp. Thomas: Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the ✠ Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ

Fr. Dylan: Through Him, with Her, and in Them, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Toni-Kay And now, as our Savior
 Christ has taught us,
 we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.	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.
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Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.

The Breaking of the Bread

Bishop Thomas breaks the bread and drops a small piece into the cup of wine.

Bp. Thomas: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Rev. MJ: 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.

We offer open communion. All are welcome to receive Communion without regard to any perceived barriers. If you wish to receive a blessing in lieu of communion, please come forward in the communion line with your arms crossed over your chest.

Communion Hymn – One Bread, One Body

Refrain (Unison)

D7 G C G C G D Em B

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,

Em D G Em A7 D7

one cup of bless - ing which we bless. _____ And

G C G C G D Em B

we, though man-y through-out the earth,

Em D G Em A7 D7 G C G *Fine*

we are one bod - y in this one Lord. _____

WORDS: John B. Foley, S.J., 1978 (1 Cor. 10:16-17; Gal. 3:28; 1 Cor. 12)

MUSIC: John B. Foley, S.J., 1978; harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

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ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

44.6 with Refrain

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The first system has three verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. Chords are indicated above the vocal line.

System 1:

- Chords: D, Em, D, Em, D
- Lyrics:

1. Gen-tile or Jew,	ser-vant or free,
2. Man-y the gifts,	man-y the works,
3. Grain for the fields,	scat-tered and grown,

System 2:

- Chords: Em, F, Am, D7
- Lyrics:

wom-an or man,	no more.
one in the Lord	of all. One
gath-ered to one,	for all.

The faithful pause for a moment of quiet reflection.

All Stand as they are able.

Fr. Dylan

Let us pray.

By these holy mysteries now made part of us,
 Prepare us, we pray, to live a life of service
 according to our calling, to give honor to the
 sacrifice made by your Holy Martyr, Matthew
 Shepard. Through Christ who redeems.

All:

Amen

Final thanks and remarks

Dismissal

The clergy assemble in front of the communion rail.

Rev. Toni-Kay: Bow your head for a blessing.

Bishop Brenda blesses the assembly

Fr. Dylan: Let us go forth into the world,
 rejoicing in the love of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

All clergy line up in a single row and together bow towards the Altar.

Recessional

Recessional Hymn – On Eagle’s Wings

G **B m** **F#m** **E m** **A7** **D**

1.

G **D Maj7/F#**

8 You who dwell in the shel - ter of the Lord, Who a -

G **D Maj7/F#** **F**

8 bide in His shad - ow for life, say to the Lord "My

D m **F** **G m** **A sus4** **A7**

8 ref - uge, my Rock in whom I trust." And He will

D **E m**

8 raise you up, on ea - gle's wings bear you on the

A7 **D** **D7** **G** **E m** **A**

8 breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and

B m **F#m** **E m** **A7** **D**

8 hold you in the palm of His hand.

22 **D** **G** **DMaj7/F#**

8

2. The snare of the fowl - er will nev - er cap - ture you, and

Detailed description: This block shows the first line of music for measure 22. It features a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a common time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C#5, D5. Chords are indicated above the staff: D major for the first two notes, G major for the next two, and DMaj7/F# for the final four notes.

25 **G** **DMaj7/F#** **F**

8

fam - ine will bring you no fear: un - der His wings your

Detailed description: This block shows the second line of music for measure 25. The melody continues with quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C#5, D5. Chords are G major, DMaj7/F#, and F major. A triplet of eighth notes (D5, E5, F#5) is marked with a '3' and a bracket.

28 **D m** **F** **G m** **A sus4** **A7**

8

ref - uge His faith - ful - ness your shield. And He will

Detailed description: This block shows the third line of music for measure 28. The melody consists of quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C#5, D5. Chords are D minor, F major, G minor, A sus4, and A7.

31 **D** **E m**

8

raise you up, on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the

Detailed description: This block shows the fourth line of music for measure 31. The melody consists of quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C#5, D5. Chords are D major and E minor.

34 **A7** **D** **D7** **G** **E m** **A**

8

breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and

Detailed description: This block shows the fifth line of music for measure 34. The melody consists of quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C#5, D5. Chords are A7, D major, D7, G major, E minor, and A major.

37 **B m** **F#m** **E m** **A7** **D**

8

hold you in the palm of His hand.

Detailed description: This block shows the sixth line of music for measure 37. The melody consists of quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C#5, D5. Chords are B minor, F# minor, E minor, A7, and D major.

40 **D** **G** **DMaj7/F#**

8

3. You need not fear the terr - or of the night nor the

Detailed description: This block shows the seventh line of music for measure 40. The melody consists of quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C#5, D5. Chords are D major, G major, and DMaj7/F#. A triplet of eighth notes (D5, E5, F#5) is marked with a '3' and a bracket.

43 **G** **D Maj7/F#** **F**

ar - row that flies by day though thou - sands fall a -

Detailed description: This musical staff covers measures 43 to 45. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a common time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are 'ar - row that flies by day though thou - sands fall a -'.

46 **D m** **F** **G m** **A sus4** **A7**

bout you, near you it shall not come. And He will

Detailed description: This musical staff covers measures 46 to 48. It continues the melody with quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are 'bout you, near you it shall not come. And He will'.

49 **D** **E m**

raise you up on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the

Detailed description: This musical staff covers measures 49 to 51. The melody features quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are 'raise you up on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the'.

52 **A7** **D** **D7** **G** **E m** **A**

breath of dawn make you to shine like the sun, and

Detailed description: This musical staff covers measures 52 to 54. The melody includes quarter notes, half notes, and a long note with a fermata. The lyrics are 'breath of dawn make you to shine like the sun, and'.

55 **B m** **F#m** **E m** **A7** **D**

hold you in the palm of His hand.

Detailed description: This musical staff covers measures 55 to 57. The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are 'hold you in the palm of His hand.'

58 **D** *End* **B m** **F#m** **E m7**

And hold you hold you in the

Detailed description: This musical staff covers measures 58 to 60. It starts with a rest, followed by quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are 'And hold you hold you in the'.

61 **A sus4** **A7** **D**

palm, of His hand.

Detailed description: This musical staff covers measures 61 to 63. The melody features quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are 'palm, of His hand.'

All are invited to a small reception after the service.

Acknowledgements

The Chapel of St. Maximilian Kolbe and the Apostolic Sacramental Church would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make this Mass of Reception possible.

We extend endless gratitude to the clergy who celebrated with us.

Gratitude to the Matthew Shepard Foundation and Judy and Dennis Shepard for their work to Erase Hate.

www.apsacc.org

www.saintmaxkolbe.org/donate

www.matthewshepard.org

