

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

The Welcoming of a New Rector
Holy Eucharist Rite II

November 12, 2026
6:00 PM

The Rt. Rev. Richard T. Lawson III, Bishop
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.

Gathering of the Community

The Prelude **Bist du bei Mir** *(J. S. Bach)*

Processional Hymn #448 **O love, how deep, how broad, how high**

The people standing, the Bishop says

Bishop Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**
Bishop There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Bishop One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God, Creator of all.**

Bishop The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Bishop Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen***.

The people are seated. The Warden(s) stand near the Bishop.

The Bishop states the purpose of the gathering; and concludes

Bishop People of St. Matthew's, you have reflected on your ministry and discerned your choice for a new Rector.
Wardens We have chosen and called Emily Rowell Brown to be our Rector, and she has accepted.
Bishop I commend your choice and affirm this call.

The Letter of Institution (BCP, p. 557) is read. The Bishop continues

Bishop Are you, the people of St. Matthew's, ready to continue in your ministry, with Emily as your priest?

People **We are.**

The Wardens escort the Priest from the nave to the front of the assembly.

The Word of God

Representatives such as Lectors present the lectern Bible and say

Lectors Emily, with this Bible we proclaim and hear God's living Word. Join us in the ministry of telling the Good News to the World.

Rector Amen. Let us hear again the Good News of salvation.

The Lesson, Joshua 1:7-9

A Reading from the Book of Joshua.

Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146

1 Praise the Lord!*
Praise the Lord, O my soul!
2 I will praise the Lord as long as I live;*
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.
3 Do not put your trust in princes,*
in mortals, in whom there is no help.
4 When their breath departs, they return to the earth;*
on that very day their plans perish.

[5] Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,*
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
[6] who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;*
who keeps faith forever;
[7] who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.*
The Lord sets the prisoners free;
[8] the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;*
the Lord loves the righteous.
[9] The Lord watches over the strangers;*
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
[10] The Lord will reign forever,*
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the Lord!

The Epistle, Romans 12:1-18

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo

one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #488, *Standing, sung by all* **Be thou my vision**

The Holy Gospel, John 15:9-16

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon The Rev. Paul Pradat

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Bishop Emily; people of St. Matthew's: in Holy Baptism we received full adoption through God's grace and full empowerment for ministry through the Holy Spirit. Will you work together as partners in the mission of the Church, to reconcile all people to God through Christ?

People **We will, with God's help.**

Bishop The water of baptism signifies our eternal covenant with God. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to Christ, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The Bishop may bless the water.

We pray you, O God, sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that all who in baptism are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Rector Let us renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we renounce Satan and all his works, and promise to serve God faithfully in God's holy Catholic Church.

Water is poured into the font and the Bishop or the Rector leads the renewal of baptismal vows.

Rector Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

Rector Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Rector Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Rector Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,**
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Rector Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Rector Will you preserve in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sins, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Rector Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Rector Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Rector Will you strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Rector May almighty God, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, and called us to ministry in Jesus Christ, keep us in eternal life by his grace; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen***.

The Prayers

A symbol of prayer (e.g., a book of prayers, the list of intercessions, an icon) is brought forward by Intercessor(s) from the congregation.

Intercessor Emily, with this quilt we offer our prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings to God.

Rector Amen. In the Spirit of God, who searches the heart and knows our deepest needs, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all who yearn for Christ's healing.

A Litany for God's Mission for the Church

Bishop Holy God, in whom all things in heaven and earth have their being,

People **Have mercy on us.**

Bishop Jesus the Christ, through whom the world is reconciled to the Father,

People **Have mercy on us.**

Bishop Holy Spirit, whose glory fills the world and searches the depths of God,

People **Have mercy on us.**

Bishop From blind hearts and petty spirits that refuse to see our need for your love,

People **Savior, deliver us.**

Bishop From pride, self-sufficiency, and the unwillingness to admit our own need of your compassion,

People **Savior, deliver us.**

Bishop From discouragement in the face of pain and disappointment, and from lack of persistence and thoroughness,

People **Savior, deliver us.**

Bishop From ignorance, apathy, and complacency that prevent us from spreading the Gospel,

People **Savior, deliver us.**

Bishop O God, we pray for the gifts of ministry.
Inspire our minds with a vision of your kingdom in this time and place.

People **Hear us, O Christ.**

Bishop Open our eyes, that we may see your glory in all creation.

People **Hear us, O Christ.**

Bishop Open our ears, that we may hear from every mouth the hunger

for hope and stories of refreshment.

People **Hear us, O Christ.**

Bishop Open our lips, that we may tell in every tongue the wonderful works of God.

People **Hear us, O Christ.**

Bishop Open our hearts, that we may discern the work to which you call us.

People **Hear us, O Christ.**

Bishop Send us with your Good News into our neighborhoods, communities, and all parts of the world.

People **Hear us, O Christ.**

Bishop Strengthen us, that we may each accomplish the work you give us to do.

People **Hear us, O Christ.**

Bishop Sustain and encourage all who minister in your name in lonely, dangerous, and unresponsive places.

People **Hear us, O Christ.**

Bishop Open the hearts and hands of many to support your Church in this and every place.

People **Hear us, O Christ.**

Bishop Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***Amen***.

A stole and/or flask of oil for healing may be presented by parishioners such as Pastoral Visitors, Eucharistic Visitors, or Prayer Circle Members.

LEV Emily, with prayer, companionship and laying-on of hands we bring the reconciling presence of Christ to those who seek healing. Join us in this ministry by calling us to repentance, and assuring us of God's forgiveness and love.

Rector Amen. Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, loves you eternally, and reconciles you to one another.

All stand. The new Rector says to the people

Rector The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Bishop says to the people

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and the wine. Addressing the Rector, they say

Ushers Emily, when we share the bread and the cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Join us at God's table to offer and bless our gifts of bread and wine.

Rector Amen. Together, let us keep the feast.

The Offertory **Offertory** *(John Ness Beck)*

The offering for this evening will be designated for the Rector's Discretionary Fund. The Rector's Discretionary Fund supports charitable, pastoral, and emergency needs within the church congregation and surrounding local community.

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

The deacon brings the elements to the table, and the Offertory continues as a hymn or anthem is sung. When the alms are brought forward, gifts for ministry may also be brought to the altar, and may be received with the following or similar words

Bishop We offer thanksgiving to God for the ministries represented by these symbols, and ask God's grace to live ever more fully into the commitments we have made in Baptism.

People **Amen.**

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B BCP 367

The people remain standing.

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**
Bishop Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Bishop 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
Bishop 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,

Bishop and People

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

Bishop 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.

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 #538 **God of mercy, God of Grace**
Communion Hymn #686 **Come, thou fount of every blessing**

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

Bishop Let us pray.

People **Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Bishop We have celebrated this new pastoral relationship in the great prayer of the Church. Emily, I commend to your love and care the people of St. Matthew's. My brothers and sisters in Christ, I commend to your love and care your new Rector, colleague and friend, Emily.

The Blessing, *All standing*

Closing Hymn #525 **The Church's One Foundation**

The Dismissal

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude **Procession in C** *(Hal Hopson)*

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SERVING TODAY

PREACHER: The Rev. Paul Pradat
CELEBRANT: The Rt. Rev. Richard T. Lawson III
RECTOR: The Rev. Emily Rowell Brown
DEACON: The Venerable Catherine Schiesz
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Tom Killian
ORGANIST: Susan Fletcher
ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Carpenter
LEM: Barbara Carpenter, Diane Loehr
LECTOR: Michael Harrison
EPISTOLER: Janet Wetzel
INTERCESSOR: Natalie Lapacek-Trout
CRUCIFER: Charlotte Brown
GOSPELER: Natalie Lapacek-Trout
TORCHBEARERS: Nicholas Brown
USHERS: Dennis and Angel Utt
MEDIA MINISTRY: Dane Rasmussen
HOSPITALITY: ECW and Vestry
NURSERY: Amber Anderson

LIVE STREAM SERVICE REMINDER – ***Please be mindful that this service is live-streamed. Therefore, names may be audible, and faces may be visible to anyone watching online.***