



Reaching out  
Reaching within  
Proclaiming God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

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# The Messenger

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## A Note from Fr. Mike Loyd

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### Pentecost, Trinity, and Clubhouse

You don't need me to tell you that May can be a busy month. What with graduations, Mothers' Day on May 10, Cinco de Mayo and Memorial Day. And "May the Fourth Be With You" on May 4 and Bob Dylan's birthday on May 24. Then there's the observances of the Church. Ascension Day on May 14, Pentecost Sunday on May 24, and Trinity Sunday on May 31.

The day of Pentecost is considered to be the "birthday of the Church." It is when the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles "like a mighty wind" along with the "tongues of fire." Last year at St. Andrew's to celebrate Pentecost we had a taco bar and people brought their favorite salsa in order to get into the tongues of fire spirit. The vestry also had "Tongues of Fire" tee shirts made as a fund raiser. I have mine and wear it proudly. Maybe we could do something like that next year, but this year, be sure and wear red on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Also, May is Mental Health Awareness Month and I would like to remind everyone about the Railway Clubhouse. Clubhouse is an international organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for people experiencing severe mental illness. The Clubhouse works with its members to achieve their educational, employment, and wellness goals.

The Clubhouse also provides fellowship and prevents isolation.

St. Matthew's should be proud of our support for the Railway Clubhouse and providing our rectory as a location for the Clubhouse. The Clubhouse outgrew the rectory and is now at their location at 5<sup>th</sup> and Poplar. The Clubhouse is also having an open house on Friday, May 1, from 1:00 to 4:00 and please come by and see the good work they are doing. And thank you to Deacon Barbara for all her work in making Railway Clubhouse happen.

As mentioned, Trinity Sunday is May 31 and it seems to me that a lot of smarty pants priests and theologians overthink and overcomplicate the Trinity. I guess I'm too dumb to know what the issue is with the Trinity. The Trinity makes perfect sense to me as to how God works in our lives and in all creation. Here's the last verse from a hymn by John Bell titled, "Today I Awake" and it makes the best explanation of the Trinity that I know. "Today I enjoy the Trinity 'round me, above and beneath, before and behind; the Maker, the Son, the Spirit together, they called me to life and call me their friend." May the fourth be with you and wear red on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Fr. Mike



***St. Matthew's Vision Statement***

*St. Matthew's Episcopal Church is living into God's vision for us as a beloved community and disciples of Christ.*

*We are always growing in relationship with God, embracing our neighborhood and our world, and leading through acts of service as a beacon of God's justice and love.*

***St. Matthew's Mission Statement***

*The Mission of St. Matthew's is to Welcome, Respect and Care for All People. We accomplish this by following Christ, the perfect example of God's reconciling love, as we promote justice, peace and healing for ourselves and our world.*

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
2001 Windsor Dr.  
P.O. Box 342  
Newton, Kansas 67114

Office phone: 316-283-3310  
Office e-mail: office.stmatthewsnewton@gmail.com

**St. Matthew's office hours:**

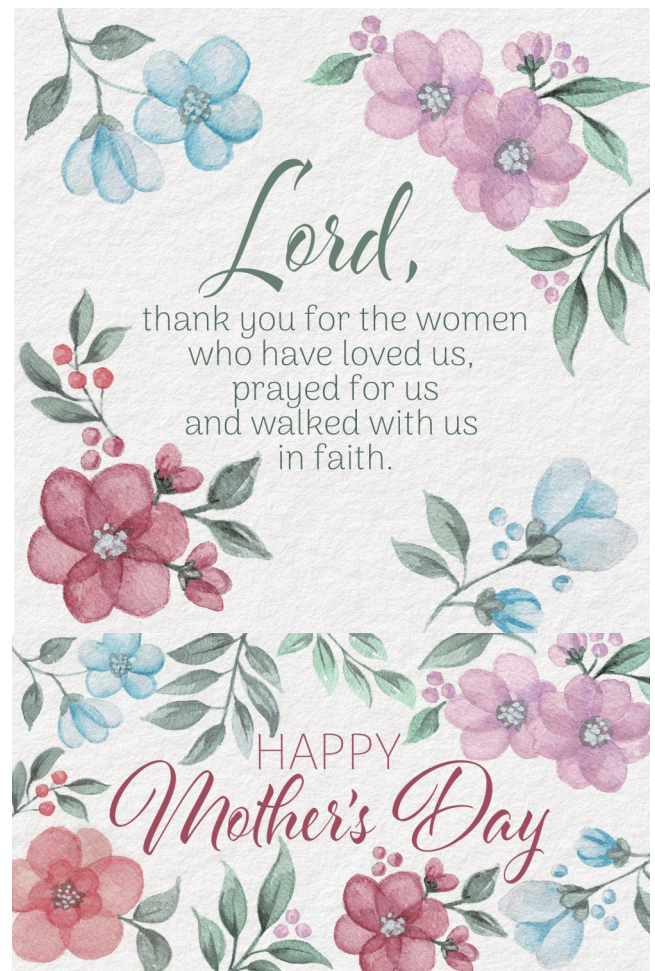
- Monday-Thursday 9:00 am—2:00 pm
- Fr. Mike's office hours are Monday and Thursday 9:00 am-3:00 pm.

**Services:** Holy Eucharist 10:15 am every Sunday  
Evening Prayer 6:00 pm Wednesday

- St. Matthew's Vestry meeting will be Sunday, May 17 after church

**Discretionary Fund**

This is a reminder that on the first Sunday of each month any loose money in the collection plate goes to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. This gives the Rector resources to use for when someone asks for help with things like a utility bill, rent, food or gas. Please be generous.





Contrary to common perception, Jesus' disciples weren't frightened and hiding during the 10 days between Ascension and Pentecost. Instead, they were actively preparing for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. They "all joined together constantly in prayer" (Acts 1:14, NIV) and took steps to replace Judas.

After that inward focus, the disciples were ready to boldly burst forth on Pentecost, empowered and "enabled" (Acts 2:4) by the Spirit. They proclaimed Christ's death and resurrection, leading 3,000 people to faith that day, now known as the church's birthday.

"A great wave of faith and love swept through this newborn community," writes Suzanne de Dietrich in *Free Men*. "These Christians could not keep silent. Their joyful liberty had broken down all the walls behind which people would like to keep them; no prison could silence them."

# Pentecost Sunday



Peace I leave you, My peace I give you;  
not as the world gives, do I give to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled, nor fearful.  
John 14:27, NASB

## St. Matthew's Outreach

### Food Cart

48 non-perishable food items were delivered to the Salvation Army "Harvest of Love" food bank in April. Thank-you for remembering those who don't have enough to eat.

### Shut Ins & Soldiers

Our Shut In board has room for more faces!! If anyone has a loved one that can't get out often, and would like cards and visits, please contact Melissa. Thanks!

### UTO

Our United Thank Offering will be on May 31st. There will be envelopes, blue UTO boxes, and online ways to make a difference in helping others in need worldwide!! Look for our display.

Don't Forget to wear Red on  
Sunday, May 24 in honor of  
Pentecost



### LET'S FILL UP THE ST. MATTHEW'S FOOD PANTRY/BLESSING BOX

Don't forget that you can add items to the Blessing Box anytime. Just picking up an extra can or two when you are at the grocery store is appreciated. Please keep the weather in mind when donating an item. It's getting hot! Thank you for doing your part to help our neighbors.



## Birthdays, Baptisms, and Confirmations

**Remember to pray for each of these persons on their special day**

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### May Birthdays

May 1 - Ethan Moulds  
May 6—Erik Jantz  
May 7—Drew Holstine  
May 8—Cathy Woodward  
May 9—Brie Plummer, Amanda Irving  
May 11—Ashley Lundblom-Hinderliter, Cathie Ashcraft  
May 14—Mark Ekerberg  
May 23—Rochelle Glover  
May 26—Haley Southern  
May 31—Stephanie Lindgren, Chris Teichler

### May Baptisms

May 8—Elizabeth (Betsy) Robb  
May 9—Matthew Bogner

### May Confirmations

May 3—Margie Knupp, Mary Beck  
May 12—Charles Craig  
May 14—Darla Stonehouse  
May 17—Jennifer Beck, Jordan Orr, Betsy Robb, Rose Jones, Jordan Loyd, Darlene Hall, Elizabeth Hill  
May 23—Mike Loyd  
May 28—Drew Holstine  
May 31—Ruth Cooper, Cathie Collier Ashcraft

**If you know of other birthday, confirmation, or baptism dates that are not listed, please contact the office so they can be included. Thank you.**

## May 2026 Coffee Hour Hosts



May 3 - Elizabeth Hill  
May 10 - OPEN / Mother's Day  
May 17 - OPEN  
May 24 - OPEN / Pentecost Sunday  
May 31 - OPEN / Trinity Sunday

We have plenty of opportunities for anyone to host coffee hour after the service on Sundays. Don't be shy, sign up today!

## St. Matthew's Prayer Chain



If you have a request for prayers for yourself or others, contact Mary Upton at **316-841-1736**. The information you share will then be passed on to the chain leaders who will pass the information on to their team. The members of the chain will add your request to their prayers. The information you give me is confidential and will not be shared with others outside the prayer chain without your permission.

### Other Prayer Requests:

Remember that you can add names to the Prayer List that is read during the Prayers of the People during the worship service. There is a white binder in the church office that you can have any name added to. The names will remain on the list for a month before being removed. If you need continued prayers, just let Charlie know, and the name(s) will remain on the list.



Altar Guild Team for May  
Karen Wall, Melissa Keenan, George & Kala Whiteside, Ginger King

**Altar Flowers for May 2026**

**May 3**

**Mary Upton**

*"In loving memory of Jim Upton, Kay Geiman, Marion Helmer and thanksgiving for Maggie and Lennon"*

**May 10**

**Mike and Jill Loyd**

*"In loving memory of Mary Ellen, Paul, and Tom Loyd"*

**May 17**

**Thea Ferguson**

*"For blessings received"*

**May 24**

**Kala and George Whiteside**

*"In memory of Jace Garrett Kinzie"*

**May 31**

**Charlie & Nancy Craig and Mary & Rick Beck**

*"In loving memory of Dr. Richard and Betty Glover, Maergaret Hollingsworth, Marguerite and Dr. Harold Glover"*

If you have any questions regarding Altar Guild or Altar flowers please contact Margie Knupp at 316-284-1790



Please join  
Deacon Barbara Gibson  
and company for

**Evening Prayer**  
every Wednesday  
at 6:00 pm in the  
St. Matthew's  
Covey Chapel.  
Or join us on Facebook

Everyone is welcome

Come take  
a few minutes to end your  
day with prayer



Trinity Sunday

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit **be with you all.**

2 Corinthians 13:14, ESV



Haikus by Joan Breit

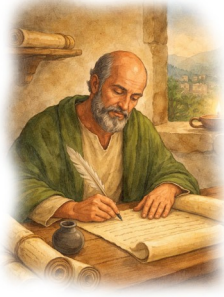
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My soul rises in courage  
Greeting what awaits life  
I bow in gratitude

As I wake to life's day  
Gusts of wind greet my ear  
Wind and trees dance

Childhood memories  
Of barn swallows twittering  
Bring joy and comfort

**Bible Quiz**



Although the apostle Paul is credited with writing the letter to the Romans, he dictated the message while another believer served as the scribe. Near the end of the letter, that writer briefly identifies himself. Who was it?

- A. Tertius
- B. Timothy
- C. Lucius
- D. Aquila

Answer: A (Romans 16:22)



**Help Identify Military Veterans Within Our Kansas Parishes**

The Rt. Rev. Ann Ritonia of the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries recently began a new Veterans Ministry Commission to help identify the veteran, military, and military-connected members in our parishes. The broader effort is intended to create better ministry opportunities to address the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of our very unique and diverse military populations.

The first step in addressing our veterans' needs is to identify who falls within that population group. Therefore, please consider forwarding this survey to the churches within the diocese to ask their congregations to taking two minutes of their day to complete the survey: [Veterans Ministry Survey - Intellistack](#)

The second step is helping us identify a point of contact within the Diocese of Kansas to act as a liason with the Veterans Ministry Commission to streamline communication pathways and encourage initiatives at the church-level relating to our veteran members. If you know someone who may be called to this meaningful ministry please reach out to Rev. Nicholas Young, (202)380-5515, [nyoung@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:nyoung@episcopalchurch.org). Currently, John and Laura Haberland, from St. Paul's in Leavenworth, Kansas are assisting, but they will be moving to Alabama for military duty in June.

What would you tell a young man or woman about to graduate? One of the most common messages commencement speakers share is that graduates are indeed commencing. They are only just beginning to learn.

While they may rightly feel proud of finishing school, a few months in the working world often reveal how much they still do not know.

Christians who love God with their minds understand that truth frees us from ignorance and superstition. They also know that the joy of learning brings deep satisfaction and, in time, wisdom. That wisdom helps us evaluate what we have learned and use it well, so that knowledge becomes a tool for growth and faithful living.





## What is “Ordinary Time”?

### Beginning with Trinity Sunday

The first Sunday in Ordinary Time is Trinity Sunday. It comes immediately after Pentecost, which is fitting, because Pentecost completes the revelation of the Trinity in salvation history. When we say Trinity, we refer to the revealed truth that there is one God in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As a mathematical equation, three in one can be difficult to understand; as a relational truth, however, the eternal love of this three-in-one is beautiful and deeply moving. Our life in God is a participation in the eternal love of the Father for the Son in the Spirit.

### The Ordinary Sundays

After Trinity Sunday, each Sunday is numbered, and this use of the ordinal numbers is the origin of the phrase “Ordinary Time.” This is also why the season is sometimes called the Season After Trinity. When most people hear the phrase “Ordinary Time,” they think nothing special is happening. And in one sense, they are right; there aren't nearly as many major feasts, and for those who love the feasts, this can seem like a long run of shapeless or even boring weeks.

However, there is another way to look at it. A season without many special occasions is also a season without many distractions. It is a season for developing good rhythms for spiritual life. Because there is less focus on what God has done in the past, there is time to focus on our relationship with God in the present.

### Green is for Growth

The liturgical color for Ordinary Time is green. This represents growth. Both as the Church expands, and spiritually as each member of the Church becomes more like Christ. In his article, Peter Johnston writes:

The point of the color green in ordinary time is a balance of quantitative and qualitative growth, numerical and spiritual, of green shoots and deeper roots. For most Christians, the best use of Ordinary Time may, in fact, be internal cultivation focused on pursuing holiness and practicing the spiritual disciplines.

### Rhythms of Spiritual Life

During Ordinary Time, we can develop spiritual habits and disciplines that strengthen our normal relationship with God and our daily walk with the Lord. A helpful approach is to find patterns that can be practiced daily, weekly, or monthly.

For example, consider beginning a prayer practice with the Daily Office as found in the Book of Common Prayer. You can read Morning Prayer, Midday Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Compline.

### Not Exciting, But Essential

Ashley Wallace explains that Ordinary Time is actually the most essential in the development of our spiritual lives and our faith. In her book on Ordinary Time, Ashley Wallace describes the season this way:

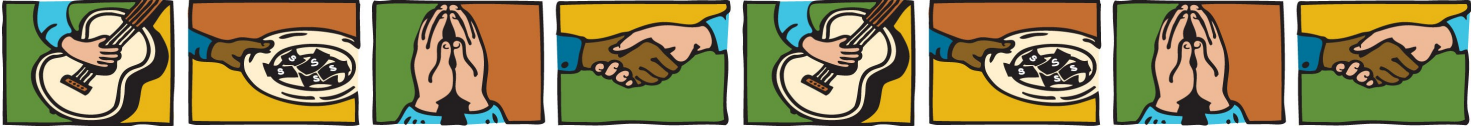
Ordinary Time might not have the excitement of Advent calendars or Lenten disciplines, but in many ways, it is the most essential part of the Christian year. This is the long green stretch of days where our faith takes root and begins to grow. Ordinary Time invites us not into preparation, but into formation. It's the season for building spiritual habits, shaping the quiet, consistent ways our families walk with the Lord.

*The Liturgical Home: Ordinary Time, 27*

### Living Our Vocation

Ordinary Time is a time for the Church to live out her vocation in the midst of the world, recalling that every Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Ordinary Time is a time for growth and maturation, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ. “Ordinary” Time might well refer to living out our “ordinary” lives as Christians. But, since we follow the risen Lord of the Universe, there's nothing “ordinary” about it!

From <https://anglicancompass.com>



Here is the worship schedule for May. Please let the office know if you would like to sign up to read, usher and/or count. We can always use more hands! ***If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please find a substitute.*** Thanks for your service!

	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Season	5th Sunday of Easter	6th Sunday of Easter	7th Sunday of Easter <i>Vestry Meeting</i>	Pentecost	1st Sunday after Pentecost
Service	<b>Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist Healing Service</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist</b>
Leaders	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara
LEM& Acolyte	Maggie Snow Elizabeth Hill	Karen Wall Ruth Cooper	Ruth Cooper Karen Wall	Fred Schroeder	Mary Anne McCloud Ruth Cooper
Lector— Lessons	Jeremy Kitto	Bonnie Jones	Maggie Snow	Ruth Cooper	Mary Anne McCloud
Lector— Psalm	Elizabeth Hill	Darlene Hall	Mary Anne McCloud	Jeremy Kitto	Bonnie Jones
Ushers (2)	Mary Upton	Mary Upton	Rick Glover	Bonnie Jones	Melissa Keenan
	Melissa Keenan	Bonnie Jones	Melissa Keenan	Mary Upton	Mary Werner
Counters (2)	Mary Anne McCloud	Elizabeth Hill	Fred Schroeder	David Simmonds	Marge Knupp
	David Simmonds	Fred Schroeder	David Simmonds	Fred Schroeder	Twila Lockaby
Altar Flowers	<b>Mary Upton</b> “In loving memory of Jim Upton, Kay Geiman, Marion Helmer and thanksgiving for Maggie and Lennon”	<b>Mike and Jill Loyd</b> “In loving memory of Mary Ellen, Paul, and Tom Loyd”	<b>Thea Ferguson</b> “For blessings received”	<b>Kala and George Whiteside</b> “In memory of Jace Garrett Kinzie”	<b>Charlie &amp; Nancy Craig and Mary &amp; Rick Beck</b> “In loving memory of Dr. Richard & Betty Gloer, Maergaret Hollingsworth, Marguerite and Dr. Harold Glover”
Coffee Hour Hosts	Elizabeth Hill	Open Mother's Day	Open	Open Pentecost	Open Trinity Sunday
Organist Flutist	Chris Teichler Sarah Teichler	Chris Teichler Sarah Teichler	Chris Teichler Sarah Teichler	Kelli Glann Sarah Teichler	Chris Teichler Sarah Teichler

**Evening Prayer:** every Wednesday night at 6:00 pm in the St. Matthew's Covey Chapel