

# SAINT MATTHEW TODAY



## Max's Corner

### Lazarus — The Musical

Saturday, Oct. 25 · 6:00 p.m.

*Dinner to follow at St. Matthew*

The excellent choir from the Unitarian Universalist Church around the corner from St. Matthew

presented *Lazarus* in May as a fundraiser for Eastside Ministries.

They're repeating that performance here at St. Matthew this Saturday evening—again to benefit Eastside Ministries.

*Lazarus* brings to life Jesus' parable of "The Rich Man and Lazarus." Lazarus sits at the rich man's gate, surviving on crumbs from his table. When the rich man dies, he finds himself in torment.

This story will come alive for us on Saturday as part of our monthly concert series. Your presence matters—if you're able to come. We're helping Eastside Ministries continue their vital work feeding hungry neighbors who depend on our support.

An offering will be taken.

For your gift of time and support, you'll be rewarded with a good evening of music, food, and fellowship. Let's do our best.

(And to those bringing desserts to go with the tacos, beans, rice, and homemade sauce—mmm, good!)

### Pastor's Class

What we didn't do last week, we'll do this week: God and grief. Our experiences tell us that God wants us to be comforted in times of loss.

9:45 a.m. — followed by breakfast.

### Breakfast this Sunday

It's a "We bring" Sunday. Help if you can.

That's at 10:30 a.m.

### This Sunday

Sermon: *When Our Strength Is Gone*

Anthem: *They Shall Soar Like Eagles* — a moving setting of Psalm 40  
Featured Hymn: *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

No one can fill your place but you.

God Bless—  
MB

## Friday's Word

Well, there were seven million last weekend standing up for right over might, good over mean, grace over vengeance.

My sermon this Sunday will barely mention our national plight, but it is about never giving up.

So, it will apply.

Are you watching our services?

You can see us on YouTube through our webpage. Type in our web address at the bottom of this little box. Click on "video." There it is.

During the week, the service gets shortened to just the sermon—for those in a hurry.

But below the picture that comes up when you click on "video," there is a choice to "watch full service."

Or watch the full service on Facebook. Go to "Saint Matthew UMC Fort Worth Facebook."

Or watch on your TV.

On YouTube.

There I am—preaching from a stool.

Yes, I hate it—preaching from a stool.

I hope to escape the stool after knee surgery.

You will note as soon as you tune in that I—uh—I am older than the picture I use in this little box.

I've been at this for 43 years, and I was 39 when I started. (You do the math.)

I'm still at it.

I hope to be at it for several years to come.

Lord willing.

And with our good Bishop's approval.

But at one point, I thought my ministry was over before it began.

I'll tell you about that this Sunday.

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# Mary's Corner



Let It Be, Saint Matthew! Whisper words of wisdom and let it be.

Blessings and peace to all in the name of Jesus Christ. I am thoroughly enjoying finding these secular songs that carry a gospel message—and even more, I'm enjoying hearing you sing them!

What a wonderful time we had on Sunday, seeing your faces light up as you sang *Let It Be*. We'll have more Sundays like this because I've gathered an entire list of songs with powerful gospel truths, even if they aren't traditional hymns. Lessons from the gospel about obedience are not always easy to preach or to hear, but pairing them with good music helps those lessons settle in our hearts. Thank you for your joyful participation!

This **Saturday, October 25 at 6 p.m.**, we will host the **All People's Church Choir** as they perform the musical *Lazarus*. Dinner will be served immediately after the performance. Please join us if you can—and if you're able to help with setup, cleanup, or by bringing desserts, your help will be greatly appreciated.

I leave you with the words of Jesus and the strategy of Moses. From Luke 6: *Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. Do good and lend without expecting anything in return. Be merciful as God is merciful. Do not judge or condemn.* And from Deuteronomy 6: *Know the commandments of God and keep them on your heart. Teach them to your children. Talk about them with each other every chance you get. Keep visible reminders of the things Jesus commanded us to do.*

May you grow in grace and truth as obedient children of God. And in all these things—Lord, Lord, let it be!

Love,

**Mary**

# Upcoming Events

🎵 **All Peoples Church Choir**  
Saturday, October 25, 2025, at 6:00 PM  
All Peoples Church Choir performs *Lazarus*.

🍽️ **Thanksgiving Meal**  
Sunday, November 23, 2025

🎵 **Western Hills Ensemble Choir**  
Friday, December 5, 2025, at 6:00 PM  
This concert benefits the Western Hills Choir for their 2026 competition expense

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# Kids' News

## *God Provides for Elijah in the Wilderness*

Elijah was a prophet who loved and obeyed God. One day, God sent him to speak to King Ahab, who had turned away from God and led the people to worship a false god named Baal. The Canaanites believed Baal was the storm god who sent rain and made crops grow. But Elijah told the king the truth—it was not Baal who brought rain and life, but God alone.

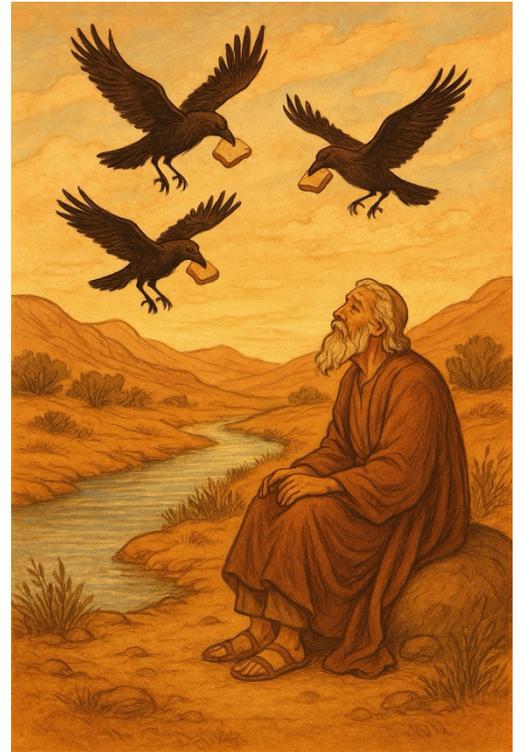
King Ahab didn't want to hear that message, and Elijah had to flee for his life. He hid near a quiet brook, where he had no food and no one to help him. But God did not forget Elijah. Each morning and evening, ravens flew to him carrying bread and meat, and he drank water from the brook. God cared for Elijah even in the wilderness.

After a while, the brook dried up, and Elijah had to move on. But he had learned something powerful: Baal wasn't the one who gave rain—God was. God protects and provides for His people. Just like Elijah, we can trust that God will take care of us, even when times are tough.

### **What We Learned**

- ✓ God is the true source of life, not false gods or idols.
- ✓ Even when Elijah was alone, God was still with him.
- ✓ God uses surprising ways—like ravens—to provide for us.
- ✓ We can trust that God will never abandon us, no matter what we face.

We are all planning for the very near holiday season—please be in church Sunday so we can start making plans for a **Christmas play for all our kids!** And by the way, it seems Santa will be able to work us into his schedule this year. I've called! See you Sunday!



Saint Matthew UMC  
Saturday Night Concert Series  
Presents:

# "LAZARUS"

Performed by the All-People's Choir

Saturday, October 25, 2025, at 6pm

Dinner to follow at 7pm

2414 Hitson Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76112

Proceeds benefit Eastside Community Assistance

**The concert is free.**

For more information or questions contact  
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