

SAINT MATTHEW TODAY



A word from Max

It's a big day—this Sunday.
An important day.
Transfiguration Sunday.

Jesus on the mountain—glowing

in glory.

One of the most important scriptures in the Bible.

But very few people listen to what it says.

Especially “fundamentalists.”

Let's talk about it on Sunday.

And the choir will sing that great anthem we had in the bulletin prematurely last week—with oboe and flute. Big music for a big day.

Transfiguration Sunday is always the last Sunday before Lent.

Lent—the “time of the Cross” leading to Easter.

That means **next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday!!!**

I need an Ash Wednesday.

I am ready for this year's journey to the cross.

And Ash Wednesday is when it begins.

Wednesday worship will be at 6:00.

Last Sunday

We had the joy last Sunday of welcoming Judy Cornish as a member. She was already very much a part of our church family.

We also had all kinds of disappointments. Keith Butterfield was ill, so there was no 99th birthday party. Doug and Sue Kelcey were out with COVID. Judy Reaves' husband, John, is in the ICU. His daughter, Michelle, was in church with Judy. Keep the prayers going.

Got word that Beverly Tye's second hip surgery has been very painful, and the pain is not clearing yet. Linda Anderson has not been back to church since her fall. (We miss her.) Charlotte Holder is recovering, but not back yet. Other folks are out sick.

But the Lord is always with us.
That's what I said in my sermon.
Thanks be to God.

Pastor's Class

Researchers have discovered that dogs often know when their master decides to return home and will go to the door and wait—even if the master is many miles away. What has this got to do with God and faith? Find out Sunday—class at 9:45.

Breakfast

It's a “We Bring It” Sunday.

Please bring breakfast items to share if you are able.
At 10:30.

By the time you read this, I will have seen my eye doctor for a procedure to correct the blurred vision after cataract surgery.

I may see you better this Sunday.

Plan to be there so I can see you!

God bless,

Rev. Max Brennan

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St. Matthew Ladies' Luncheon – February 12

St. Matthew's Ladies' Luncheon will meet as usual on the second Thursday of the month, February 12, with a Valentine's theme. The program will focus on Heart Health for Women, and Pastor Mary has arranged for a cardiac health professional from Texas Health Resources to be our guest speaker.

Please sign up or let Veta or Carol know if you are able to bring an entrée, salad, or dessert. We are expecting 12–15 attendees. While this is a ladies' luncheon, men are welcome to join us for this timely and informative program.

Kids' News

When God's Glory Shines Through

Jesus and his disciples had been walking and teaching for a long time when one day Jesus invited three of them—Peter, James, and John—to climb a mountain with him. They didn't know why, but they trusted Jesus and followed him up the steep path. Mountains were often places where people felt close to God, even if they didn't always understand what might happen there.

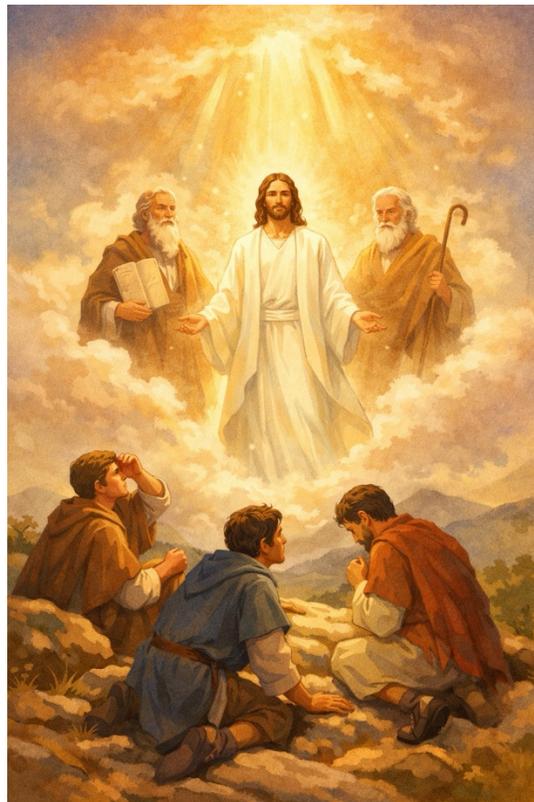
While they were on the mountain, something amazing happened. Jesus was changed right before their eyes. His face began to shine like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared, talking with Jesus. The disciples were terrified and confused. Peter blurted out, “Lord, it is good for us to be here!” (Matthew 17:4), not really knowing what else to say.

Then a bright cloud covered them, and a voice spoke from the cloud: **“This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”** (Matthew 17:5). The disciples fell to the ground in fear. But Jesus came to them, touched them gently, and said, **“Get up and do not be afraid.”** When they looked up again, Moses and Elijah were gone. It was just Jesus—still the same Jesus they knew and loved—walking with them back down the mountain.

Jesus didn't stay shining like that forever. He came down the mountain to keep teaching, healing, and loving people. But the disciples never forgot what they saw. They learned that Jesus was more than a teacher or friend—he was God's beloved Son, full of God's glory, even when it wasn't easy to see.

What We Learned

- ✓ God sometimes shows us who Jesus really is in surprising ways.
- ✓ Even when we are scared or confused, Jesus stays close and tells us not to be afraid.
- ✓ God asks us to listen to Jesus and trust him.
- ✓ Jesus' love and glory are always with us, even when they aren't shining like the sun.





A word from Mary

Peace and love to you in the name of Jesus. I pray that this week finds you stronger and

healthier than in previous weeks. We have many folks among us facing health issues, and many more who are living with spiritual distress. In the middle of all of this is the emotional trauma of seeing what is happening in our world today.

The good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ is that we worship a victorious Savior. Our Lord Jesus Christ has already defeated all the things that would come against us. Darkness will never have the final word.

At the same time, even when somebody gives you a pair of boots, you still have to learn to tie your own shoelaces, or you will fall. We have to become a healthier congregation. Physically, our church offers chair yoga and standing yoga every Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. As spring approaches, we can also create a shared walking group. We have four and a half acres of beautiful land surrounding our church, and we should be using this land to strengthen our bodies.

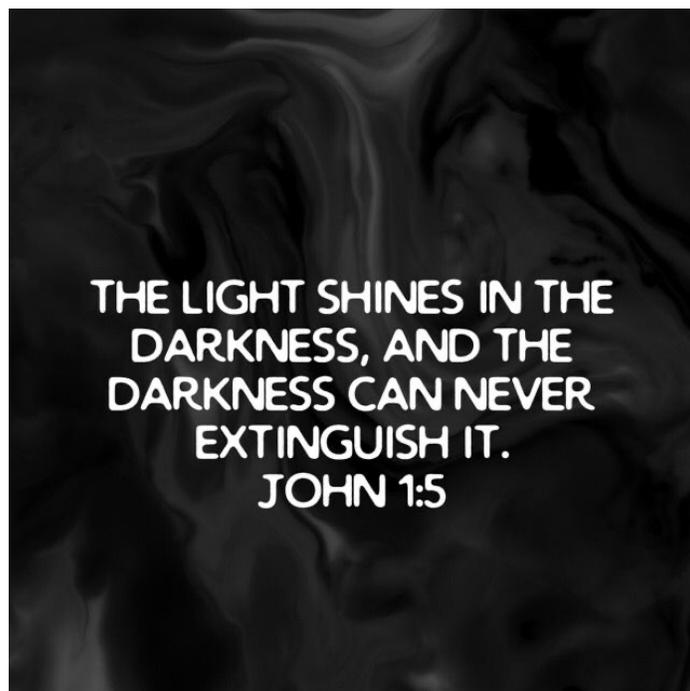
Spiritually, there is a class every Sunday morning at 9:45 called *Discovering God*. How much more spiritual can you get than going to a class that's called *Discovering God*? Emotionally, we can make ourselves stronger by being committed to the connections we have as believers in the risen Christ. Lent is upon us—just eight days away from this writing—and it is our time to prepare for the events at Calvary, coming very quickly the first weekend in April. Taking care of ourselves emotionally includes filling our lives with so much joy that we are able to help one another and stay connected.

If you are able, please come to the Women's Luncheon on Thursday, February 12, at noon. We will have nurses from Texas Health Fort Worth who

will be teaching a class about heart health. You don't have to be a woman to attend this class. Please come if you can and bring something special to share as part of our potluck meal.

My love to all of you. Please know in your hearts that every single day, I pray for you.

Mary



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