



Spring/Easter 2024



St. Matthew's Lutheran Church Newsletter What's New? Was gibt's Neues?

From the Vacancy Minister

Dear St. Matthew's community,

Embracing Renewal: Celebrating Easter at St. Matthew's

After weeks of cloudy skies and plenty of (admittedly much-needed) rain, it appears that spring is slowly arriving. In my neighborhood, I love seeing the cherry trees blossom and tender leaves budding. The birds are chirping, and the sun is at long last peeking through the skies again, warming things up. We are reminded of the beauty of renewal and the promise of new beginnings.

The prophet Isaiah writes, "O dwellers in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a radiant dew, and the earth will give birth to those long dead." (Isaiah 26:19b) The earth brings forth new life, and for many of us, this cycle of life re-energizes and fills us with hope. We journeyed with Christ through the 40 days of Lent from Ash Wednesday to the cross of Good Friday.

I am eagerly awaiting the celebration of Easter, the cornerstone of my faith. Easter is a time to pause and remember Christ, whose resurrection symbolizes triumph over death. It's a reminder that even in our darkest and most difficult moments, there is the promise of new life and boundless grace. Where do you need encouragement? Where do you need a boost in your life? Come and celebrate this spirit of Easter at St. Matthew's – deepen your faith and connect with others from your church community!



Holy Week

Journey with the church through Holy Week, remembering the events leading up to Christ's crucifixion and resurrection. From Palm Sunday's procession to the solemn Good Friday liturgy, each day offers an opportunity for reflection and spiritual growth.

Easter Sunday

On Easter Sunday, we celebrate with the whole church on earth the Resurrection of our Lord. Let us come together to sing hymns of joy, hear an uplifting message of hope, receive Christ in Holy Communion, and share in fellowship with others.

Easter Coffee Reception

Following the Easter Sunday service, we continue the celebration with a beloved tradition and come together over hot cross buns, coffee, and mimosas. I am looking forward to celebrating Easter with you at St. Matthew's as we rejoice in the hope and promise of new life that this season brings for the church and the whole world!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Easter blessings,
*Christian Jennert,
Vacancy Minister*



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24

11:00 a.m. Bilingual Communion Service with the Procession of Palms

12:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

12:30 a.m. Bible Study

Good Friday, March 29

11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

12 noon Liturgy of Good Friday

Easter Sunday, March 31

11:00 a.m. Festival Bilingual Service with the Distribution of Holy Communion

12:15 a.m. Festive Coffee Reception



Karwoche und Ostern an der Matthäuskirche

Palmsonntag, 24. März

11:00 Uhr Zweisprachiger Gottesdienst mit Palmprozession und Hl. Abendmahl

12:15 Uhr Kirchkaffee

12:30 Uhr Bibelgespräch

Karfreitag, 29. März

11:00 Uhr Kirchkaffee

12 Uhr Karfreitagsgottesdienst

Ostersonntag, 31. März

11:00 Uhr Zweisprachiger Festgottesdienst mit Hl. Abendmahl

12:15 Uhr Festliches Kirchkaffee



Baptism of Lani Elia and Lasse Pitt on Dec 31th



Feb. 24th Cantor Arik Luck of Temple Emmanu-El Bible Class



**Lenten Bible Class:
Mareike, Philomena, Ursula, Pr. Christian and
Lore (from the left)**



Crab Feed on January 27th
Thank you to Church Council VP Ulrike Hodges for organizing this year's Crab Feed
and all who helped make it a success!



“Fat Thursday Dinner” at Leopold’s Austrian Gasthaus in Russian Hill on February 8th



2024 Annual Meeting, Feb. 11th



**2024 Council members
Front row: Ulrike, Dorothy, Philomena, Juergen, Dave
Back row: Bill, Pastor Christian, Steven**



**We celebrated Juergen’s 90th birthday
on March 10th**

Golden Gate Men's Chorus Concert, Dec. 18th



Freundschaft Liederkranz performed on Dec. 25th Christmas Service



Freundschaft Liederkranz Christmas Dinner on Dec. 14th at the Basque Cultural Center (Bill & Astrid)



Upcoming Recorded Services

St. Matthew's Staff and Virtual Worship Team will continue to offer a Recorded Service to connect with friends and members who are unable to join in person and to reach out to those who live too far away and enjoy a bilingual German-English worship service. Here are the dates for the monthly Recorded Service this spring:

Easter, March 31

Pentecost, May 19

Previous services can be viewed in the archives on St. Matthew's website: <https://www.stmatthews-sf.org/worship-services/on-line-videos/>



2024 Annual Concert

Come and enjoy this special concert by the Deutscher Musikverein of San Francisco.

Please join us for a reception after the concert. Prosecco, refreshments and traditional German treats will be served. This event is co-sponsored by the German-American Society of San Francisco.

April 6, 2024 at 2:00 pm
New Location
St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
3281 16th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103
For more information: www.sfgermanband.org



Eastertide Lunch at Stein's at 731 Clement, SF | Sunday, April 21 @ 1:30 p.m.

Join us for a German lunch following worship at Stein's pub in San Francisco's Richmond district! A small German style pub offering steins of beer, including many European varieties, plus German fare & TVs—perfect for conversation and fellowship! Let's carpool after church. Bring a friend or neighbor—**all are welcome!** For more information and/or to RSVP please email Pr. Christian at jennert@stmatthews-sf.org

Shabbat Evening Service at Congregation Emanu-El with Cantor Luck | Friday, April 26th at 6:00 p.m.

Join Pastor Christian Jennert for Shabbat Evening services at Congregation Emanu-El with Cantor Luck, April 26, 6:00pm, 2 Lake St. On February 25, Cantor Arik Luck appreciated the opportunity to preach at St. Matthew's, and now invites you to participate in his congregation's Shabbat worship. The synagogue is located on the intersection of Arguello and Lake Street, but the entrance is on Arguello. The service will begin promptly at 6:00 PM, and last until 7:15 pm. Please let Pr. Christian know if you like to attend and need a ride. Please allow time on arrival to pass through security, and let the attendant(s) know that you are visiting from St. Matthew's, as they will want to welcome us!





Continued Financial Support of St. Matthew's Ministries

We want to thank everyone who has supported St. Matthew's financially during the past months.

Please continue to send in your contributions!

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