



The Ivy Leaf

January 3, 2021

Welcome...

to St. Matthew's. We're delighted to worship with you today. The Episcopal tradition values all parts of the human person—heart, mind, and soul. We believe that all three are gifts from God, and God both sustains them and invites us to use them in God's service. Our passionate emotions, our questions and searching, our yearning for something deeper—God values them all, because God values all of us. Wherever you are on your journey in life, we hope you find something in this community that feeds your soul and strengthens you to share in God's work in the world.

Annual Meeting January 24

Our parish annual meeting will be held virtually on Sunday, January 24, following the service. The meeting will include a report from Fr. Eric Hinds, review of the 2021 budget, a stewardship update, the election of vestry members and deanery representatives, and release of our written annual report (if you lead a group or ministry, now is the time to put together remarks for inclusion--reminder emails to come).

All parishioners are invited and urged to attend this important event in the life of the parish. Links to access the meeting will be provided in an upcoming *Ivy Leaf*.

Donate to Second Harvest Food Bank

Second Harvest Food Bank provides food to over 500,000 of our neighbors in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. This is double the amount that was given since the pandemic started in March.

One in ten of our neighbors receives food from Second Harvest. Many of our neighbors can't afford to pay for housing and also put nutritious food on the table including our cooks, cashiers, health care workers, and teachers. Please donate today to ease the local food shortages by using Second Harvest's website:

<https://give.shfb.org/donatenow>.

Peace and love,
Deacon Lauren

***Gilead* Is Next For Book Group**

Marilynne Robinson's novel *Gilead* is next for the Book Group. Set in rural Iowa in the 1950s, its narrator is a 76-year-old pastor who has recently been diagnosed with a serious heart condition that may end his life. It is a story of family (particularly fathers and sons), friendship, and faith—the first in a series of four books that Robinson has set in Gilead, each with a different narrator and perspective. The group will meet via Zoom at **7:00 pm, Wednesday, January 13**, and all are welcome. (If you're not officially in the group but would like to join, [rsvp to the church office](#) to get the link.)

Pledge Envelopes Available

Weekly 2021 pledge envelopes are available now. If you ordered a set, we will mail yours to you. If you haven't yet ordered but would like a set, please contact the [church office](#).

Blessings and Prayer List Additions

Names for blessings and prayers can be submitted by emailing or calling the church office: office@episcopalstmatthew.org or 650-274-0795.

Contributions and Pledges

Your generous financial support helps St. Matthew's fulfill its mission: to live God's love, to share the Gospel, and to grow spiritually. Thank you for continuing your giving during these times. Contributions and pledges can be mailed to the church or made online at: episcopalstmatthew.org/giving/donate-now/.