



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, PROPER 17, YEAR C

Service of Holy Eucharist

September 1, 2019 10 A.M.

If you are new or visiting ...

Welcome! After the service, please come to Coffee Hour (in the Lounge on the 2nd floor) for food and fellowship. Though other churches make the claim, ours really is the Best Coffee Hour in Connecticut. Please consider filling out a blue visitor information card (located in the pew rack). You can use the form to request a nametag, and next Sunday it will be waiting for you on the table just inside the main church entrance.

To follow along with the service you need this service bulletin as well as two books in the pew rack: *The Book of Common Prayer* (RED) and *The Hymnal 1982* (BLUE).

Families with small children: Three seating areas at the front of the church are reserved for families with small children: the area under the array of paper cranes (for children age 3 and under), and the areas in front of the two front pews (for children age 10 and under). For safety, every child should be accompanied by a caregiver.

Education for All Ages takes place from 9 to 9:45 A.M. on most Sundays during the academic year. We are currently on hiatus for the summer.

Wireless access in the Sanctuary is accessible by connecting to wireless network STEC – Guest. Your device will open a web browser and St. Thomas's website. Sunday bulletins are posted on the website's Bulletin Archive. We aim to reduce printing by encouraging worshippers to use their smart devices to follow the order of service.

Restrooms for men and women are located on the second floor. Go through the red double doors at the front of the church, up the stairs to the left, and to the far end of the hallway. An **all-gender restroom (with baby changing table)** is in the Vesting Room, located opposite the red double doors at the front of the church.

All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Baptism is not required; church membership is not required. **Gluten-free bread** is available at each communion station; **non-alcoholic wine** is available from the chalice bearer at the center. Any difference will be explained during the announcements.

To receive Holy Communion hold out your hands, and the server will place bread in them. If you wish to receive wine, please sip it from the common cup, using both hands to guide the chalice to your lips.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Intermezzo

Josef Rheinberger (1839–1901), from Sonata no. 8, Op. 132 (1882)

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Immortal, invisible, God only wise (423, *The Hymnal 1982*)

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Presider: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Presider: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Presider: Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

JEREMIAH 2:4-13

Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the LORD:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? They did not say, "Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 81:1, 10-16 (*said by all*)

Page 704, *The Book of Common Prayer*

THE SECOND LESSON

HEBREWS 13:1-8,15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN Sing praise to God who reigns above (408, *The Hymnal 1982*)

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 14:1,7-14

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place', and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

All are seated.

THE SERMON

All stand.

THE NICENE CREED

Presider and People

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, RITE I **Page 328,** *The Book of Common Prayer*

THE CONFESSION **Page 331,** *The Book of Common Prayer*

THE PEACE **Page 332,** *The Book of Common Prayer*

*The People greet one another with a sign of peace, and then are seated for brief announcements. At the beginning of the **Offertory Hymn**, the People remain seated while the Ushers take the collection. When the Ushers carry the gifts forward, the People follow and encircle the altar. You are encouraged to position children where they can see. Small children may sit with a caregiver on the floor in front of the altar. Standing time is approximately 15 minutes. If you are unable to stand, you may sit in one of the chairs arranged near the altar, move to the front row of pews, or remain where you are.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

Tell out, my soul (437, *The Hymnal 1982*)



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
 2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
 Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
 Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
 his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord

in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
 his ho - ly Name—the Lord, the Might - y One.
 the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
 to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

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EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II, RITE I

Page 340, *The Book of Common Prayer*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Page 336, *The Book of Common Prayer*

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Page 337, *The Book of Common Prayer*

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Page 337, *The Book of Common Prayer*

All are invited to receive Holy Communion at God's table in this church. Baptism is not required; church membership is not required. Please proceed to the most conveniently located station to receive communion, and then return to your seat via a side aisle. Gluten-free bread is available at each station; non-alcoholic wine is available from the chalice bearer at the center. To receive a blessing instead of communion, approach the priest with your arms crossed over your chest.

COMMUNION HYMN For thy dear saints, O Lord (279, *The Hymnal 1982*)

After all have received communion, the People remain seated for a period of silence. Then all stand.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER Page 339, *The Book of Common Prayer*

THE BLESSING Page 339, *The Book of Common Prayer*

FINAL HYMN How firm a foundation (637, *The Hymnal 1982*)

DISMISSAL Page 339, *The Book of Common Prayer*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY Scherzoso
Josef Rheinberger (1839–1901), from Sonata no. 8, Op. 132 (1882)

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Announcements

Stay in touch! Subscribe to the Weekly Parish Enews and “like” St. Thomas’s on Facebook.

The Church Office will be closed tomorrow for the Labor Day Holiday.

Today is the last of three weeks of using Rite I, the traditional-language Eucharistic liturgy in *The Book of Common Prayer*. Please note that **many of the congregational responses are different, so be prepared!** We will continue to use *The Book of Common Prayer* and *The Hymnal* through Labor Day.

Fall Coffee Hour. Fall Coffee Hour hosting signups have begun. Please use the link in the Enews to choose your Sunday to host. Unfilled spots will be populated by the parish office after September 8. Thank you for participating in this important ministry!

It's already Back-to-School time! Blessings be upon all children and youth and their families as the new school year commences. We pray especially for those who will be starting at a new school this fall. And let's give a special shout-out to Audrey and Cora, who are off to college—our love is with you!

Startup Sunday and Bishop's Visitation. Come one, come all! Our new program year kicks off NEXT Sunday, September 8. The service time is as usual at 10 a.m. Bishop Laura Ahrens will be preaching and presiding. The Choir will be back. Note that Bishop Laura will also: meet with the Sunday School children at 9 a.m.; during the service, do confirmations, receptions, and reaffirmations (including four folks from St. Jean, Bridgeport); have a Q&A with the congregation during Coffee Hour; meet with the Vestry after that. **We hope to have a Coffee Hour that is really more of a Luncheon, and for that we need your help! PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE.**

Derek Stefanovsky's Ordination to the Priesthood: Saturday, September 21, 10 a.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Darien, CT. All are invited!

Next Delight Night (Parish Potluck): Friday, September 6, 6 p.m. Because so many people are away, there will be NO Delight Night in August. Look for the festivities to return in September.

Safe Church Training, HERE at St. Thomas's: Monday, October 7, 6:30 p.m We are hosting Safe Church training to make it easy for St. Thomas's folks to attend. If you've had it before but it's been more than three years, it's time for a repeat. Use the links in the Enews for more info or to sign up. **Remember, Safe Church training is REQUIRED for all who work with children and youth, all pastoral visitors, and all Vestry members, and it is recommended for everyone in parish leadership. It won't get any easier than this! Please sign up!!!!**

We're already seeing lots of newcomers and visitors on Sundays. St. Thomas's has long taken pride in its welcome - which is a good thing, because hospitality is important. This is something to which everyone can contribute. So please: wear your nametags; be ready to help during worship; extend a sign of Peace; and introduce yourself after worship.

Save the Date: Startup Sunday and Bishops Visitation: September 8. Startup Sunday, September, is also the date of our official Bishop's Visitation. Bishop Laura Ahrens will be presiding and preaching as well as doing confirmation/reception/reaffirmation; the Choir will return. Look for more information to come.

Update on Dorothy. Dorothy is still at Whitney Manor (2798 Whitney Avenue, Hamden 06518). Please consider staying in touch with visits, cards, or calls.

Education for All Ages is now on suspension for the summer. Look for our restart in September.

Sunday School Outreach. The Sunday School has been collecting coins for the Malawi Orphan Feeding Program. Keep those coin jars handy and start filling them up again. Thank you!

Loaves & Fishes: Through the summer, please bring **DRIED BEANS** and **TOILET PAPER**.

Our Little Free Library always needs books. Summertime traffic has been high. Just pop them in yourself.

For more information and announcements, see our website and last week's Weekly Parish Enews.

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Organist: Dr. Noah Horn

Eucharistic Minister: Kyle Holton

Lectors: Jenny Chavira, Jocelyn Tidwell

Intercessor: Claire Scully

Vestry Host: Kyle Holton

Sacristans: Judy & Madison Thompson

Ushers: Greg D'Andrea

Counters:

Coffee Hour Hosts: Linda Meyer

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:

Bonnie, Dorothy, Drew, Dwight, Franklin, Greg, Imane, John, Katie, Marion

Pray for those who have died.

In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

Trinity, Southport; Grace Church, Stafford Springs; Church musicians: organists; choirs and choir directors; bands; community chorister programs; parish and diocesan committees on liturgy, music, and worship

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

In the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, pray for:

Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Officers and Vestry

Kyle Holton (Senior Warden)

Denise Terry (Junior Warden)

Ricardo Chavira (Treasurer)

Linda Meyer (Clerk)

Thomas Hogan

Alexandria Robison

Catherine Stricklan

Joann Sweasy

The Rev. Keri Aubert (Priest-in-Charge)

Church (Volunteer) Associate Priests

The Rev. Canon K. Dexter Cheney

The Rev. Jakki Flanagan

Church Ministry Coordinator

Dr. Dorothy Asch—Volunteer Lay Assistant

Day School Board of Trustees

Gina Panza—Head of School

The Rev. Keri Aubert—President, Day School Corp.

Gina Criscuolo (Chair)

John Forrest (Vice-Chair)

Tracey Meares (Treasurer)

Eileen O'Donnell (Secretary)

Alex Babbidge

Don Edwards

William English

Kenneth Paul

Ontoniel Reyes

Kathryn Crabb Scherer

Denise Terry

Heather Tookes Alexopoulos

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

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