

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (PROPER 17) – YEAR C Holy Eucharist

August 28, 2016

10:00 A.M.

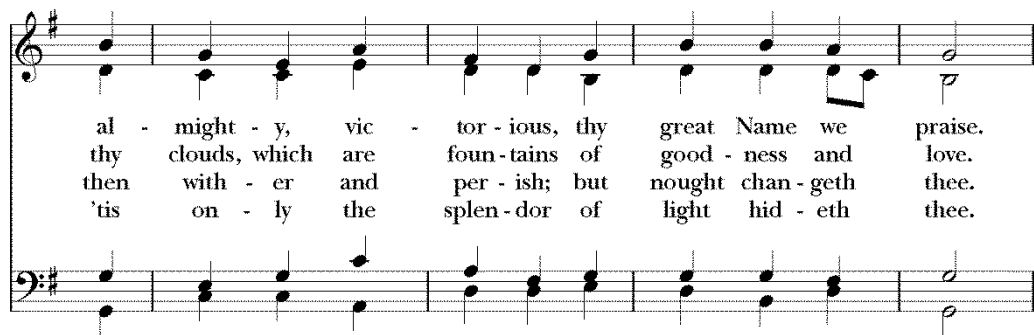
Information for newcomers and visitors is located on the back page of this service bulletin.

PRELUDE Hymn Prelude on 'Werde Munter' Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Immortal, invisible, God only wise
Hymn 423 (*St. Denio*)

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,
in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;
most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see



OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your 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 lives and reigns with you 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*)

Exultate Deo

- 1 Sing with joy to God our strength *
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.
- 10 I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, *
"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."
- 11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, *
and Israel would not obey me.
- 12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, *
to follow their own devices.
- 13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! *
that Israel would walk in my ways!
- 14 I should soon subdue their enemies *
and turn my hand against their foes.
- 15 Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, *
and their punishment would last for ever.
- 16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat *
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



All: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life. *1 Samuel 3:9; John 6:68*

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 14:1, 7-14

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All are seated.

THE SERMON

After the Sermon, there follows a short period of silent reflection. Then all stand.

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant 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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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

Intercessor

Let us pray with confidence to the Lord, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

O Lord, guard and direct your Church in the way of unity, service, and praise.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Give to all nations an awareness of the unity of the human family.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Cleanse our hearts of prejudice and selfishness, and inspire us to hunger and thirst for what is right.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach us to use your creation for your greater praise, that all may share the good things you provide.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Strengthen all who give their energy or skill for the healing of those who are sick in body or in mind.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Set free all who are bound by fear and despair.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant a peaceful end and eternal rest to all who are dying, and your comfort to those who mourn.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Please add your own prayers of intercession and thanksgiving, either silently or aloud.

Silence

Celebrant

Father of light, yours is the morning and yours is the evening. Let Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine for ever in our hearts and draw us to that light where you live in radiant glory. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION

Priest

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

Priest and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,**

by what we have done,
 and by what we have left undone.
 We have not loved you with our whole heart;
 we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
 We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
 For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
 have mercy on us and forgive us;
 that we may delight in your will,
 and walk in your ways,
 to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The People greet one another with a sign of peace, and then are seated for brief announcements.

During the Offertory Hymn, the People gather around the altar for Communion by following the ushers in procession up the center aisle. You are encouraged to position children where they can see, and 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 in your seat.

OFFERTORY HYMN

All who hunger gather gladly
 WLP 761 (*Holy Manna*)

1. All who hun - ger gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na
 2. All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers, seek - er, be a
 3. All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is

is our bread. Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring.
 wel - come guest. Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing.
 liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing.

Here in truth we will be fed. You that yearn for
 Here, in joy we keep the feast. We that once were
 Here, in peace, we have been fed. Blest are those who

days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
 lost and scat - tered in com - mun - ion's love have stood.
 from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.

Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.

Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see that God is good.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 5

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you. By your power you sustain the universe.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves, but we rebel against you by the evil that we do. In Jesus, your Son, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family. Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name, as we sing:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

WLP 858

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature.

Celebrant

We give you thanks and praise, loving Father, because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us you showed us how much you love us. He cares for the poor and the hungry. He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love. On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death. By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

On the night before he gave up his life for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me."

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Gracious God, with this bread and wine we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him. Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread, and share in the life of the family of your children.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Father, you call us to be your servants; fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your kingdom. We sing your praise, almighty Father, through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S-163

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God. [Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.]

All are invited to receive Holy Communion at God's table in this church. 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 any station. Non-alcoholic wine is available from the server at the center of the altar. To receive a blessing instead of communion, approach the priest with your arms crossed over your chest.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Jesu, joy of man's desiring

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Jesu, joy of man's desiring,
Holy wisdom, Love most bright,
Drawn by thee, our souls aspiring
Soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned
With the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to truth unknown,
Soaring, dying round thy throne.

Text: Psalm 51:9-11

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

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: All your works praise you, O Lord.

People: And your faithful servants bless you.

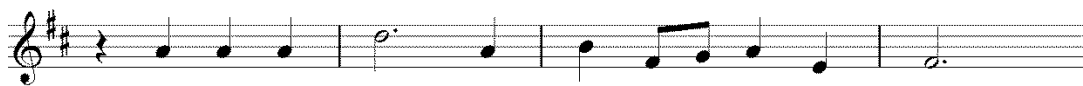
Celebrant and People

Gracious God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

FINAL HYMN

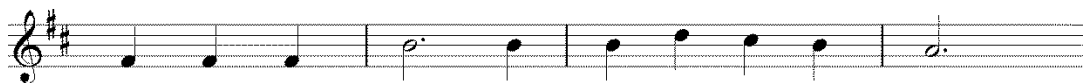
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
Hymn 438 (*Woodlands*)



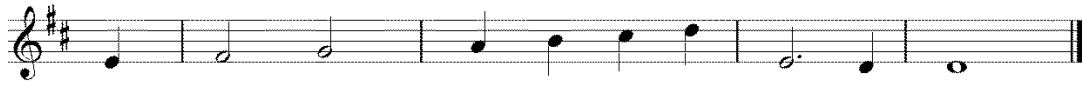
1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!



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 - jice.
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!

DISMISSAL

Priest: *[A priest dismisses the people.]*

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Two Trumpet Tunes and Air

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Serving Today

Celebrant: The Rev. Keri Aubert
Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Lynda Tyson
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Julie Kelsey
Organist and Choirmaster: Simon Jacobs
Eucharistic Minister: Ricardo Chavira
Crucifer: Chris Martinez
Acolyte: Kevin Johnson
Lectors: Drew McDermott, Kat Bower-Phipps
Intercessor: Laura Bower-Phipps
Sacristans: Valerie Echols, Jill Morrison
Ushers/Greeters: Bill Nanfeldt, Sally Nanfeldt

Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, including:
Bill M., Bill R., Bob, Carly, Donna, Ginny, Jane, Jonathan, Kathy, Katie, Kim, Lee, Marj, Marilyn, Norma, Phil, Suzanne

In St. Thomas's Cycle of Prayer, pray for:
Thomas Robey, Susan Fink, Michael and Frederick;
Karen Robinson

Pray for those who have died

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for:
Kent School; South Kent School, Pomfret School, Salisbury School, Wooster School, Rectory School; St. Thomas's Day School, New Haven, Trinity School on the Hill (Middle School), Hartford; the Episcopal Church at Yale; the Episcopal Church at UCONN, Storrs; Berkeley Divinity School, New Haven; authentic ways to bring our ancient spiritual practices into our digital culture

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:
Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan & Sudan; The Most Revd. Dr. Daniel Deng Bul Yak, Archbishop of the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan & Sudan & Bishop of Juba

Prayer for all Christians in their vocation (*Book of Common Prayer*, p. 256)

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you for all member of your holy church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one god, now and for ever. Amen.

Church Leadership

The Rev. Keri Aubert—Priest-in-Charge
Simon Jacobs—Director of Music and Organist
Julie Kelly—Administrator, Parish and Property

Officers and Vestry

Ricardo Chavira (Senior Warden)
Mark Branch (Junior Warden)
Alexander Scherer (Treasurer)
Sarah Insley-Say (Clerk)
Dorothy Asch (Deanery Representative)
Anne Harrison (Assistant Treasurer)
Laura Bower-Phipps
Michael Fournier
Daniel Harrison
Jennifer Herdt
The Rev. Julie Kelsey
Chris Martinez
Erika Nemeti
Jennifer Regan
Christopher Ritacco

Associate Priests

The Rev. Dexter Cheney
The Rev. Jakki Flanagan
The Rev. Julie Kelsey
The Rev. Bill Loutrel
The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Sharp
The Rev. Lee McGee Street
The Rev. Dr. Parke Street
The Rev. Dr. Lynda Z. Tyson

Ministry Coordinators

Dr. Dorothy Asch—Volunteer Lay Assistant
Jennifer Ricker—Children and Youth Ministries
Jennifer Herdt, David Kelsey—Adult Formation

Day School Leadership

Gina Panza—Head of School
Eric Gregory Snow—Chaplain

Board of Managers

Gina Panza—Head of School
The Rev. Keri Aubert—President, Day School Corp.
Jennifer McTiernan (Chair & Parish Rep)
Jonathan Macey (Vice-Chair & PTO Rep)
Tracey Meares (Treasurer & Member of the Parish)
Gina Criscuolo (Secretary & PTO Rep)
Mark Branch (Warden Rep)
Frank Chang (Community Rep)
The Rev. K. Dexter Cheney (Parish Rep)
Lois DeLise (Community Rep)
Don Edwards (Parish Rep)
John Forrest (Alumni Rep)
Michael Fournier (Vestry Rep)
Greg Mokotoff (PTO Rep)
Kenneth Paul (Community Rep)
Kathryn Scherer (Parish Rep)

Announcements

For more calendar highlights, visit www.stthomasnewhaven.org and www.musicatstthomas.org.

Welcome Back Sunday is September 11! The day will include the return of our Adult Choir, a special celebration after church, and a 5 p.m. service of Choral Evensong. Sunday School begins the following Sunday, September 18.

Sing at St. Thomas's: Rehearsals begin soon! Now is a great time to consider joining the Adult Choir or enrolling your child in Choristers (junior choir for ages 7 and up). Our choirs are talented and fun. For more information, contact Simon Jacobs.

Celebration of the Spirit: Sunday of Convention. The Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT) is doing something wonderful and different on the Sunday of Convention this year—a massive worship service in the Convention Center in Hartford, open to all, with the Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Curry, preaching. **You are invited!** Please register on the ECCT website before all the seats are filled. *If you have already registered for Convention then you do not need to register again for the Celebration of the Spirit.*

Sunday Bulletins. If you haven't noticed, there is now a Sunday bulletin archive on our website. On Thursday afternoon, the office generally posts the bulletin for the coming Sunday. Please consider using your tablet (or smartphone, if you have good eyesight) to read the bulletin during the Sunday service - if enough people participate, we can reduce the number of printed bulletins.

Ecumenical Focus on Prayer for Creation. Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Orthodox Christians are being asked to join in the World Day of Prayer for Creation on September 1, and to use the following month, leading up to the feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October, as a Season of Creation.

Today's Eucharistic Prayer...

...is from the Alternative Service Book of the Anglican Church of Canada. The Prayers of the People and Post-Communion Prayer are also from that source.

New St. Thomas's Parish Website!

Our new church website has been launched, at the same URL as before: www.stthomasnewhaven.org. It is not complete, but we're on our way. Because this is the time of year when a lot of people move into the area, we tried to make it easy to find information of interest to newcomers and visitors. Note that the website now includes archives for Sunday sermons (text and audio), Sunday bulletins, and the Parish Enews.

Save the Date: Bishop's Visitation October 9

St. Thomas's official Bishop's Visitation is scheduled for Sunday, October 9. Bishop Ian Douglas will preside and preach at our usual 10 a.m. service. After worship, he will enjoy fellowship with the congregation and then meet for conversation with the Vestry. (Remember, this is rescheduled from our original February date, which Bishop Ian had to cancel due to illness.)



Electronic Giving. You can give online via the St. Thomas's website or by scanning the QR code at left. If you do so using a credit card, the Church pays a small fee. If you do so using a debit card, there is no fee. Also, if you use online banking, you can always set up automatic pledge payments. There is no fee to the Church if you use this option.

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511
Church Phone: (203) 777-7623
Day School Phone: (203) 776-2123

www.stthomasnewhaven.org
www.musicatstthomas.org
www.stthomasday.org

The Rev. Keri Aubert—Priest-in-Charge
Simon Jacobs—Director of Music and Organist
Julie Kelly—Administrator, Parish and Property
Gina Panza—Head of Day School
Eric Gregory Snow—Day School Chaplain

pastor@stthomasnewhaven.org
music@stthomasnewhaven.org
administrator@stthomasnewhaven.org
gpanza@stthomasday.org
chaplain@stthomasday.org



If you are new or visiting ...

Welcome! Thank you for attending worship at St. Thomas's. Please consider returning the information slip below, signing the guest register near the main entry, and introducing yourself to a clergy person or usher. After the service, you are invited to join the congregation for Coffee Hour (in the Lounge on the second floor).

Families with children: On most Sundays during the school year, Sunday School is offered for children from pre-K through grade 8. All children are invited to attend. On three Sundays a month, Sunday School takes place during the service; on one Sunday a month, it follows the service. On any given Sunday, the bulletin announcements and worship instructions provide additional information.

Families with small children: Two 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); the area in front of the left side of the pews (for children age 10 and under). For safety, every child should be accompanied by a caregiver.

All are invited to receive Holy Communion at God's table in this church. At St. Thomas's, the people gather around the altar for the celebration of the Eucharist. While this may be unfamiliar to you, most find it to be a powerful experience of true communion.

There are usually two stations (located at the front corners of the altar) where you may receive Holy Communion. **Gluten-free bread** is available at both stations. **Non-alcoholic wine** is available only from the server at the center of the altar. Any difference in orientation will be explained during the announcements.

To receive Holy Communion: The server will place the bread in your hands; they will place it on your tongue if that is your practice. Wine is sipped from the common cup; please use both hands to guide the chalice to your lips. Some people 'intinct' (dip the bread into the wine), or receive bread only, or request only a blessing. Additional instructions for communion and for worship more generally are included at appropriate points in the bulletin.

Tear along dotted line, and then place in the offering plate or give to a member of the parish

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail & Phone _____

How did you hear about St. Thomas's? _____

I would like to:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speak to a clergy person | <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll my child(ren) in Sunday School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Receive parish emails | <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about joining the Adult Choir |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have a permanent name tag | <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll my child(ren) in the St. Thomas's
Choristers (Junior Choir) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Explore becoming a member | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get involved with _____ | |