



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, PROPER 23, YEAR A

Liturgy of the Word

October 11, 2020 10 A.M.

ANTHEM

Schafe können sicher weiden

Schafe können sicher weiden,
wo ein guter Hirte wacht.

Sheep can graze securely
where a good shepherd watches.

Wo Regenten wohl regieren,
kann man Ruh und Friede spüren
und was Länder glücklich macht.

Where rulers govern well
quiet and peace can be experienced
and all that makes countries happy.

Words: Salomon Franck (1659–1725) Music: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), *Was mir bebagt* (1713), BWV 208

The invitation to worship is sounded with the ringing of the bells.

HYMN

Rejoice in the Lord always (162, *Voices Found*)

1 F C7 F
Re - joi - ce in the Lord al - ways, and a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

2 C7 F
Re - joi - ce in the Lord al - ways, and a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

3 C7 F
Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce! And a - gain I say re - joi - ce!

4 C7 F
Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce! And a - gain I say re - joi - ce!

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. [*Silence is kept.*]

Presider 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.

Presider

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

EXODUS 32:1-14

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD." They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"' The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth?’ Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’” And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 106:1-6,19-23

- 1 Hallelujah! Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Who can declare the mighty acts of the LORD *
or show forth all his praise?
- 3 Happy are those who act with justice *
and always do what is right!
- 4 Remember me, O LORD, with the favor you have for your people, *
and visit me with your saving help;
- 5 That I may see the prosperity of your elect
and be glad with the gladness of your people, *
that I may glory with your inheritance.
- 6 We have sinned as our forebears did; *
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.
- 19 Israel made a bull-calf at Horeb *
and worshiped a molten image;
- 20 And so they exchanged their Glory *
for the image of an ox that feeds on grass.
- 21 They forgot God their Savior, *
who had done great things in Egypt,
- 22 Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham, *
and fearful things at the Red Sea.
- 23 So he would have destroyed them,
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, *
to turn away his wrath from consuming them.

THE SECOND LESSON

PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ALLELUIA

Norah Duncan IV

The Cantor sings the Gospel Alleluia once through, then the People join in singing.

The musical score is written in 3/8 time and D major. It consists of two systems. The first system is for the Cantor, and the second system is for the People. The lyrics are "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!". The score includes a treble clef and a bass clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/8. The notes are primarily quarter and eighth notes, with some beamed eighth notes. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system begins with a measure rest (9) and continues with the same melody. The second system also ends with a double bar line.

Cantor: Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is,
brethren, to dwell together in unity.
It is like the precious ointment upon the head:
that ran down unto the beard, even unto Aaron's beard.

The People sing the Alleluia again.

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 22:1-14

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [*The United Church of Canada*]

Presider and People

We are not alone,

we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God’s presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our guide and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor and People

The season of harvest is a tangible demonstration of God's abundant generosity. In gratitude for the multitude of gifts that we have received, let us seek God's blessings for the church and for the world.

Bless Christ's holy church. Help those who minister in Jesus's name follow the path of true discipleship. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

Bless the leaders of nations around the world, and especially the elected leaders of this nation. Help them to be steadfast in the pursuit of peace. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all who advocate for systemic change, especially those addressing issues of racial justice. Help heal our nation's wounds as it learns to uphold all people. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

Bless the fruits of the earth. Help humans steward your creation for the generations to come. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

Bless us with gifts for ministry and discernment to recognize them. Help us to offer those gifts as blessings to others. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

Bless the hungry, the homeless, and the sick. Help them to be strong, and help us to be compassionate. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

Bless the communion of saints, the living and the dead. Help us to glean from them the inspiration to seek and serve you. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

Bless the prayerful intentions that we now offer before you, either silently or aloud.

Presider

Gracious God, humbly and confidently we turn to you, the source of all blessings; hear our prayers, offered through your redeeming Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your ongoing financial support of St. Thomas's Church is especially appreciated at this time. To give online with a debit or credit card, go to the Home page of the Church website (www.stthomasnewhaven.org), and click GIVE NOW. If you are viewing this document electronically, you can simply [CLICK HERE](#). Know also that the Church office is able to process checks that have been mailed. Thank you!

OFFERTORY HYMN

Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness (339, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the
 2 Sun, who all my life dost bright - en; Light, who
 3 Je - sus, Bread of Life, I pray thee, let me

gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's
 dost my soul en - light - en; Joy, the best that an - y
 glad - ly here o - bey thee; nev - er to my hurt in -

splen - dor, there with joy thy prais - es ren - der
 know - eth; Fount, whence all my be - ing flow - eth;
 vit - ed, be thy love with love re - quit - ed;

un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed hath this
 at thy feet I cry, my Ma - ker, let me
 from this ban - quet let me mea - sure, Lord, how

won - drous ban - quet found - ed - high o'er all the heavens he
 be a fit par - ta - ker of this bless - ed food from
 vast and deep its trea - sure; through the gifts thou here dost

reign - eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign - eth.
 hea - ven, for our good, thy glo - ry, giv - en.
 give me, as thy guest in heaven re - ceive me.

Words: Johann Franck (1618-1677); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.
 Music: *Schmücke dich*, melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

You are invited to say the Lord's Prayer in the language of your choice.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,**

**as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

A PRAYER OF COMMUNION

Presider and People

Almighty God, you promised through our Lord Jesus Christ that where two or three are gathered together in his name, you will be in the midst of them. We ask you to be in the midst of us now, though we are far apart, and to bind us to one another, and to you, through the power of your Holy Spirit. Just as you, Father, are in the Son, and he in you, so may we also be in you, and Christ in us, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Presider

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. **Amen.**

Presider: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Invention in F major
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), BWV 779

After the Voluntary, you are invited to stay online for virtual Coffee Hour. Please see the Parish Enews for the latest announcements and information.



*Unless otherwise indicated, all printed music and anthem texts are used by permission.
Reprinted using ritesong, Church Publishing Incorporated License #90148. All rights reserved.*

Announcements

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

NEXT SUNDAY, October 18, 10 a.m.: ECCT Annual Convention Worship (followed by our own Zoom Coffee Hour). Look for the worship link in next week’s edition of the Enews.

Thursday, October 15, 7:30 p.m.: Bible Study: Matthew 9-11: Mighty Deeds.

Keri is building a new [Creation Care & Ecojustice](#) page for the [St. Thomas's website](#). Send her ideas you have for resources. And don't forget our recently added [Racial Justice & Reconciliation](#) page.

Helping Our Neighbors. Please consider donating to the [Disaster Fund](#) of Episcopal Relief & Development and/or to the [Connecticut Food Bank](#).

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Musician: Dr. Noah Horn

Lectors: Max Ballardo, Jesse Stricklan

Intercessor: Claire Scully

This Week’s Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:
all who are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially those who work in healthcare and those who have lost their livelihood

Pray for those who have died.

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

St. John’s, Vernon; St. Paul’s, Wallingford; St. John’s, Washington; Youth and youth ministries; J2A, Confirm Not Conform, and all other confirmation classes and other programs that challenge youth to grow in their faith & discipleship

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:
the Church of the Province of Uganda

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

Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico

Leadership at St. Thomas’s

Church Vestry

Kyle Holton (Senior Warden)

Denise Terry (Junior Warden)

Ricardo Chavira (Treasurer)

Linda Meyer (Clerk)

Greg D’Andrea

Bill English

Chris Martinez

Alexandria Robison

Catherine Stricklan

The Rev. Keri Aubert (Rector)

Church (Volunteer) Associate Priests

The Rev. Canon K. Dexter Cheney

The Rev. Jakki Flanagan

Day School Board of Trustees

Gina Criscuolo (Chair)

John Forrest (Vice-Chair)

Heather Tookes Alexopoulos (Treasurer)

Eileen O’Donnell (Secretary)

Alexander Babbidge

Christopher Cavallaro

William English

Jeralyn Fantarella

Linda Meyer

Kenneth Paul

Denise Terry (Parish Junior Warden)

The Rev. Keri Aubert (President, Day School Corp.)

Gina Panza (Head of School)

ST. THOMAS’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511

Church: (203) 777-7623 ♦ www.stthomasnewhaven.org

Day School: (203) 776-2123 ♦ www.stthomasday.org