



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, YEAR A

Service of Holy Eucharist
with the Holy Baptism of Sylvia Margaret Empsall

January 12, 2020 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. 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.

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.

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.

To follow along with the service you will need this service bulletin as well as The Hymnal 1982 (the blue book in the pew racks). In The Hymnal 1982, hymn numbers beginning with "S" are in the front section of the book.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Pastorale
César Franck (1822–1890), Op. 19, 1868

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Songs of thankfulness and praise (**135**, *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: There is one Body and one Spirit;

People: **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Presider: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People: **One God and Father of all.**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29 *(sung by the Choir)*

Stephen Darlington

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, * ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
 worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; *
 the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *
 the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *
 the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, * and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
 the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *
 the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe * and strips the forests bare.
9 And in the temple of the LORD * all are crying, "Glory!"
10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.
11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

THE SECOND LESSON

ACTS 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN

The people who in darkness walked (126, *The Hymnal 1982*)

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3:13-17

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All are seated.

THE SERMON

All stand.

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE FOR HOLY BAPTISM

The Presider says

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

The candidate is presented by her Parents and Godparents

I present Sylvia Margaret Empsall to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Presider asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Presider

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then the Presider asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the child

Question: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as our Savior?

Answer: I do.

Question: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer: I do.

Question: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer: I do.

The Presider addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People: We will.

The Presider then says these or similar words

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven.
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Presider: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Presider: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Presider: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Presider: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Presider: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

Presider: Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?

People: I will, with God's help.

THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATE AND FOR WORLD

Presider

Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth, and for the welfare of the whole world.

Intercessor

Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Open her heart to your grace and truth. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Send her into the world in witness to your love. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Unite your church and all your people. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Guide the leaders of every nation and land. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Protect the earth and all its inhabitants. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Help us fulfill our baptismal promises through service to you. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Deliver all who live in danger, sickness or need. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Hold the living and the dead in the communion of all your saints. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Presider

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Presider blesses the water, first saying

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Presider continues

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Presider touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

The Presider pours water upon the candidate, saying

Sylvia Margaret, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

When this action has been completed for the candidate, the Presider prays over her, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Then the Presider uses chrism to mark on the person's forehead the sign of the cross, saying

Sylvia Margeret, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

A candle lit from the Paschal Candle is presented to the newly baptized with the words

Receive the light of Christ as a sign of the new life enkindled within you.

Presider

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Presider and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

THE PEACE

Presider: 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, after which the People remain seated for the **Offertory Anthem**, and during which the collection is taken.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The White Dove

Alleluia.

The White Dove hovered in the still, clear air,
with such celestial beauty,
while God's dear Son stood in the water cool.
Alleluia.

The White Dove hovered in the still, clear air,
with such ethereal beauty,
and there did John baptize our Lord Jesu. Alleluia.
The Dove descended through the still, clear air,
with such transcendent beauty,
and rested on our Savior, Lord Jesu. Alleluia.

Words and Music: Derek Healey (b. 1936)

OFFERTORY POEM

Written by the Children of the Congregation

LOOK AND FIND

Study. Learn. Persist.

Study astronomy.

Learn the prophets.

Persist in believing.

See. Follow. Find.

See the star.

Follow the light.

Find the child.

Inspire. Journey. Jesus.

Inspire each other.

Journey with hope.

Jesus is peace.

During the singing of the **Offertory Hymn**, the Ushers carry the gifts forward. The People follow and encircle the altar. You are encouraged to position children where they can see. 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 O love, how deep, how broad, how high (449, *The Hymnal 1982*)
VERSES 1-3, 6

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
 4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
 5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
 6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so

1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
 3 dai - ly works he wrought; by words and signs and
 4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
 5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
 6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom

1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
 3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
 4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
 5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
 6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deo Gracias*, English ballad melody; Trinity College MS., 15th cent.;
 harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950 Copyright © by permission of Hymns Ancient & Modern Limited. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

THE HOLY COMMUNION
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

Celebrant *People*
 The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
 It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider

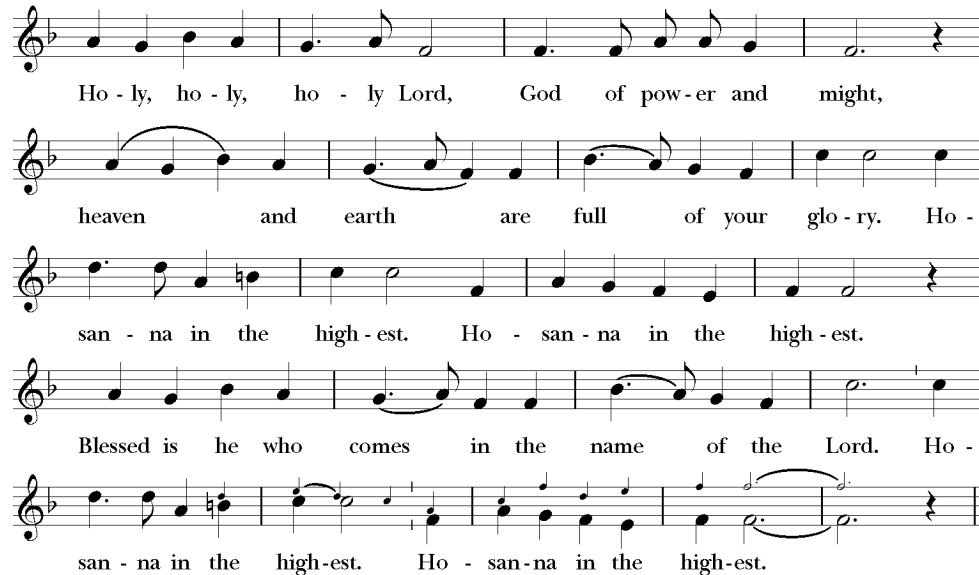
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

S-125, *The Hymnal 1982*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Presider

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

**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 Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

S-164, *The Hymnal 1982*

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

The first line of musical notation is for the Fraction Anthem. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second line of musical notation is for the Fraction Anthem. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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 ANTHEM

Alma Redemptoris Mater

Alma Redemptoris Mater
 quae pervia coeli porta manes
 et stella maris succurre cadenti
 surgere qui curat populo
 tu quae genuisti natura mirante
 tuum sanctum Genitorem
 Virgo prius ac posterius
 Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud Ave
 peccatorum miserere.

Loving Mother of the Redeemer,
 who the accessible Heaven's Gateway remains,
 and Star of the Sea, give aid to a falling
 people that strives to rise.
 O Thou who begot, while all Nature marvelled,
 thy holy Creator,
 Virgin before and after
 from the mouth of Gabriel receiving that "Ave",
 have mercy on sinners.

Words: 13th-century Marian antiphon Music: Gregor Aichinger (1564–1628), à 4

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

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SEASONAL BLESSING FOR EPIPHANY

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. **Amen.**

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

Brightest and best (117, *The Hymnal 1982*)

DISMISSAL

Presider: [*The Presider dismisses the People.*]

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie
Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986), 1961

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Parish Meeting

THE PARISH OF ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN

In accord with Canon I, Section II of the Canons of the Diocese of Connecticut,
the Annual Parish Meeting will be held **January 26, 2020**.

Purpose: Electing the Wardens and Vestrypersons, Clerk and Treasurer, and transacting such other business
as may legally come before the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting will be called to order immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist.

Announcements

Stay in touch! Subscribe to the Weekly Parish Enews and "like" St. Thomas's on Facebook.

Today we will baptize Sylvia Margaret Empsall. Congratulations, Diana and Nathan!

Service of Epiphany Lessons & Carols: Next Sunday, January 19, 5 p.m.

at Trinity Episcopal Church on the Green

Featuring the Choirs of St. Thomas's, Christ Church, and Trinity on the Green

This is one of the three three-choirs events held during the program year.

This is always a beautiful event - come and join us if you can!

The Hidden Old Church is Coming Down! St. Thomas's Church was originally located on Elm Street, at the southwest corner of Elm and Orange. The building that most recently housed Webster Bank was in part built around the church, and demolition is revealing the old bones. From Orange Street, you can now see the church's original brownstone walls and slate roof. (Before demolition, you could see parts of the roof from Elm and Orange, but that's all.) Julie has asked the contractor to look out for a time capsule that was buried with the foundation stone. You should go take a peek before it all comes tumbling down. The church left that site for its present location in 1939. There have been stories about this in the New Haven Independent and the New Haven Register. And, Keri was interviewed about it by NBC Connecticut. Check the Enews or Facebook for links.

Season of Racial Justice and Reconciliation Book Group. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 15, at 7:30 p.m., in the Lounge. We will discuss the book *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson.

Malawi Christmas Collection. For the past few years, the children have gathered coins for the Anglican Diocese of Norther Malawi's Orphan Feeding Program. Although Katherine and Derek have moved to a new parish, we are doing one more collection that they can take to Malawi in late January. **TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO DONATE. Thank you to all who have contributed!**

Christian Community Action. The Sunday School children are putting together "Blessing Bags" for people who lack reliable housing. Help by donating new long athletic socks, individually wrapped standard size bars of soap, individual tubes of toothpaste, deodorant, and travel size shampoos and lotions.

Adult DIY Bible Study: Meet in the Day School Lobby every Sunday at 9 a.m. All are welcome for informal conversation about the Bible readings of the day. It's always interesting and fun.

Loaves & Fishes. Please donate non-perishable food items.

Our Little Free Library always needs books. 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
Choir Director: Hannah Goodwillie
Organist: Gabriel Rhys Simerson
Eucharistic Minister: Chris Martinez
Crucifer: Michael Dunlap
Chalice: Sally Edwards
Lectors: Kathryn Scherer, Randy Derrick
Intercessor: Don Edwards
Poem Reader: Luca D'Andrea
Vestry Host:
Ushers: Greg D'Andrea, Katie Coleman, Gail Curran
Oblationers: The Morrison Family
Sacristans: Val & Greg Echols
Counters: Bob Herdt, Erika Nemeti
Coffee Hour Hosts: Don & Sally Edwards
Flowers: Sally Edwards

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:
Bonnie, Drew, Dwight, Franklin, John, Sally, Sue

Pray for those who have died.

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

Holy Advent, Clinton; Trinity Church, Collinsville; St. James', Danbury; Wardens, treasurers, clerks, and all vestry members; elected delegates; annual parish meetings

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:
the Anglican Church of Australia

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

Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

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
Elizabeth Peters
Alexandria Robison
Catherine Stricklan
Joann Sweasy
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 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)
Alexander Babbidge
Christopher Cavallaro
Don Edwards
William English
Jeralyn Fantarella
Kenneth Paul
Tony Reyes
Kathryn Crabb Scherer
Denise Terry
Heather Tookes Alexopoulos

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511

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

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Gina Panza, Head of Day School ♦ gpanza@stthomasday.org
Will Parker, Day School Chaplain ♦ wparker@stthomasday.org