

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT – YEAR A Holy Eucharist

March 12, 2017

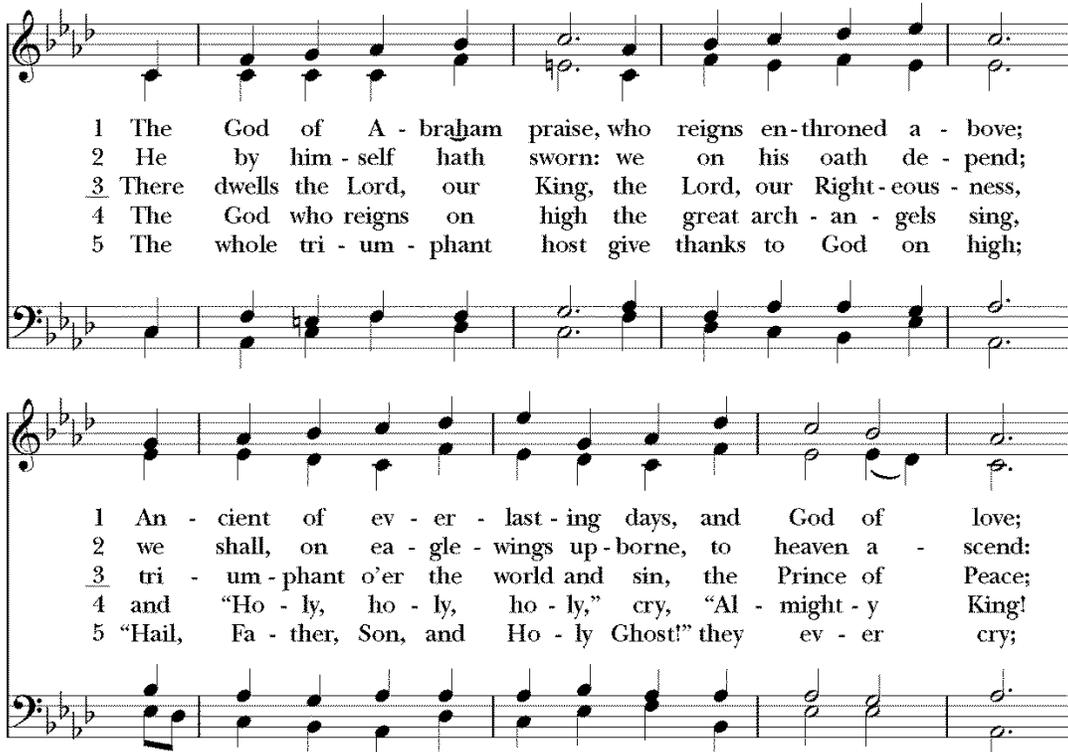
10:00 A.M.

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

PRELUDE Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ, BWV 639 J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN The God of Abraham praise
Hymn 401 (*Leoni*)



1 The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 He by him - self hath sworn: we on his oath de - pend;
3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right - eous - ness,
4 The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing,
5 The whole tri - um - phant host give thanks to God on high;

1 An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love;
2 we shall, on ea - gle - wings up - borne, to heaven a - scend:
3 tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;
4 and "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," cry, "Al - might - y King!
5 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry;

1 the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con - fessed:
 2 we shall be - hold his face, we shall his power a - dore,
 3 on Zi - on's sa - cred height his king - dom he main - tains,
 4 Who was, and is, the same, and ev - er - more shall be:
 5 hail, A - braham's Lord di - vine! With heaven our songs we raise;

we bow and bless the sa - cred Name for ev - er blest.
 and sing the won - ders of his grace for ev - er - more.
 and, glo - rious with his saints in light, for ev - er reigns.
 e - ter - nal Fa - ther, great I AM, we wor - ship thee."
 all might and ma - jes - ty are thine, and end - less praise.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: God's mercy endures for ever.

Presider

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

THE CONFESSION

Presider

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be 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.**

Priest

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.**

KYRIE ELEISON (*sung by the choir*)

Missa Brevis

Zoltán Kodály (1882-1967)

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Christe eleison.

Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

GENESIS 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121 (*sung by the choir*)

Levavi oculos

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The Lord himself watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

THE SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 4:1-5; 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN

I call on thee, Lord Jesus Christ
Hymn 634 (*Ich ruf zu dir*)

Unison or harmony

I call on thee, Lord Je - sus Christ, I have none o - ther

help but thee. My heart is nev - er set at rest till

thy sweet word have com-fort - ed me. And stead - fast faith grant

me there-fore, to hold by thy word ev - er-more, a-bove all thing,

nev-er re - sist - ing but to in-crease in faith more and more.

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 3:1-17

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

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

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

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

Priest

The season of Lent reminds us that seeds of life are found in even the most barren desert. With faith that the Holy Spirit is with us, we offer our prayers for the church and for the world.

Intercessor

We pray for Christ's one holy catholic church, that all who minister in Jesus' name may find unity of purpose in service to him. **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray for all in authority around the world, and especially for the elected officials of this nation, that they may see in every person the image of God. **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray for all that you have created and named good, especially the land, sea, sky, and life surrounding us, that it may be cherished in the present and preserved for the future. **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray for all immigrants and refugees, that they may know the wellbeing that is possible only with physical security. **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray for St. Thomas's Church and Day School, that we may help one another to cultivate gifts for cultivating virtue in the world. **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray for the children and youth of this and every community, that they may know love and safety, and grow in wisdom and kindness. **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, that they may find solace, strength, and healing. **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may join the saints in your eternal glory. **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray for the intercessions and thanksgivings that we now name before you, either silently or aloud.

Presider

God of all creation, hear the prayers of your people: lead us from the wilderness of earthly trials into the garden of your abundance, where we will no longer hunger or thirst, but be filled with your life forever; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

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 the announcements, the People remain seated for the **Offertory Anthem**, during which the collection is taken.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Geistliches Lied

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

*Laß dich nur nichts nicht dauren mit Trauren,
sei stille, wie Gott es fügt,
so sei vergnügt mein Wille!*

Do not be sorrowful or regretful;
Be calm, as God has ordained,
and thus my will shall be content.

*Was willst du heute sorgen auf morgen?
Der Eine steht allem für,
der gibt auch dir das Deine.*

What is there to worry about day to day?
There is One who stands above all
who gives you, too, what is yours.

*Sei nur in allem Handel obn Wandel,
steh feste, was Gott beschleußt,
das ist und heißt das Beste.
Amen.*

Only be steadfast in all you do,
stand firm; what God has decided,
that is and must be the best.
Amen.

Text: Paul Flemming (1609-1640)

*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. 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

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Hymn 473 (*Crucifer*)

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff. It begins with a 'Descant' section, followed by a 'Refrain' section. The lyrics are: 'Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred Name.' The score includes a descant and a refrain, with lyrics provided below the notes.

Descant
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.

Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
 bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

Repeat Refrain

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

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 him 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.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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

Hymnal S-129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 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._____

Presider

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Presider

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 for ever. **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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

FRACTION ANTHEM

WLP 871

The musical score is for the Fraction Anthem, WLP 871. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 3/4. The vocal line begins with a rest, followed by the lyrics: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the". The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and a more active treble line with triplets. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat signs.

world: have mer-cy on us. — Lamb of God, you

take a-way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Presider

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

Das Blut Jesu Christi

J. M. Bach (1648-1694)

*Das Blut Jesu Christi, des Sohnes Gottes,
machtet uns rein von allen Sünden.*

The blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
makes us pure from all sin.

Chorale

*Dein Blut, der edle Saft,
Hat solche Stärke und Kraft,
Daß auch ein Tröpflein kleine
Die ganze Welt kann reine,
Ja, gar aus Teufels Rachen
Frei, los und ledig machen.*

Chorale

Your blood, the precious juice
has such power and force
that even a small drop
can cleanse the whole world
yes, even free us, release us and make us
unbound from the devil's throat.

Text: 1 John 1:7 and Johann Heermann (1585-1647)

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

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider

Let us pray.

Presider and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Priest

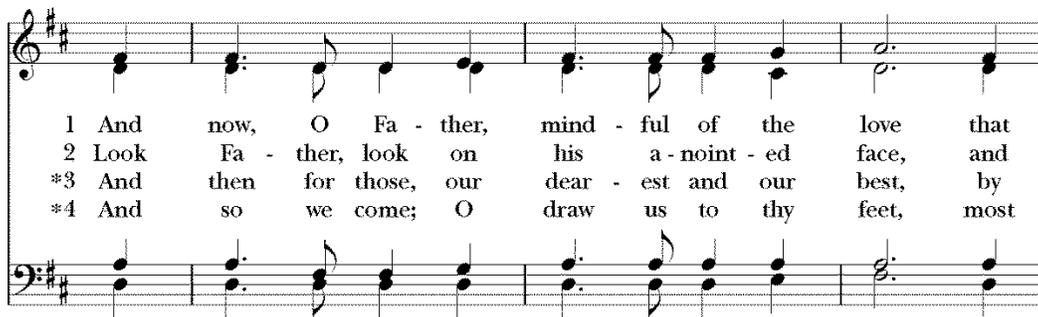
Bow down before the Lord.

Presider

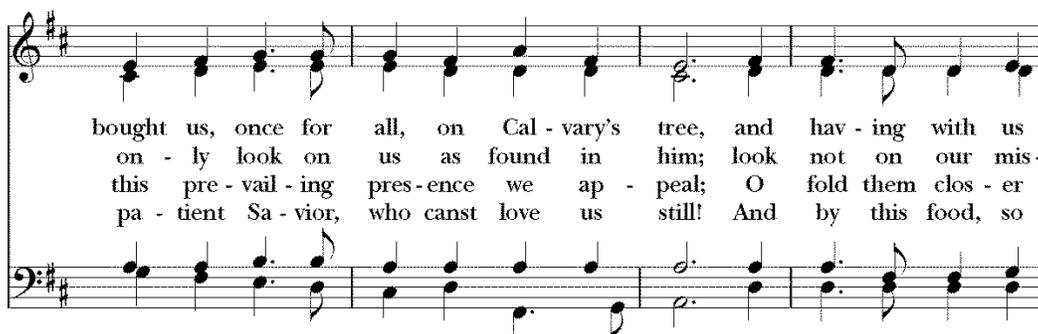
Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FINAL HYMN

And now, O Father, mindful of the love
Hymn 337 (*Unde et memores*)



1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that
2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and
*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by
*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most



bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us
on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -
this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er
pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.
 ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.
 clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.
 free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Litanies

Jehan Alain (1911-1940)

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Announcements

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

Please check the Weekly Parish Enews for this week's announcements.

Serving Today

Presider: The Rev. Jakki Flanagan
Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Dr. Lynda Tyson
Organist and Choirmaster: Simon Jacobs
Emcee: Dorothy Asch
Eucharistic Minister: Chris Martinez
Crucifer: Sara Misgen
Torchbearers: Ricardo Chavira, Peter Piech
Lectors: Drew McDermott, Laura Bower-Phipps
Intercessor: Dawn Lorentson
Sacristans: Jennifer & Michael Fournier
Ushers/Greeters: Gary Robison, Mary Ann Nelson
Coffee Hour Hosts: Valerie & Greg Echols, Ken & Deborah Hilliard, Bill & Sally Nanfeldt

Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, including:
Bill R., Bob H., Jane, Jonathan, Lee, Marilyn, Meg, Paul, Phil, Suzanne, Timothy

Pray for those who have died, including: Peter

In St. Thomas's Parish Cycle of Prayer, pray for:
Amy Cicero, Mark Cicero, Paige, Jillian, Henry, Katie Coleman, Frank Coppola

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for:
Grace & St. Peter's, Hamden; Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford; Good Shepherd, Hartford; Bishops, ECCT staff, and parish employees, and their families

Collect for Stewardship of Creation (BCP, p. 259)
O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Church Leadership

Staff

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

Officers and Vestry

Joann Sweasy (Senior Warden)
Don Edwards (Junior Warden)
Alexander Scherer (Treasurer)
Marj Robison (Clerk)
Anne Harrison (Assistant Treasurer)
Laura Bower-Phipps
Michael Fournier
Daniel Harrison
Martha Deeds Hogan
Kevin Johnson
Chris Martinez
Tom Radice
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
Marsha Ackerman—Children and Youth Ministries

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.
Jonathan Macey (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)
Jennifer McTiernan (Parish Rep)
Greg Mokotoff (PTO Rep)
Kenneth Paul (Community Rep)
Kathryn Scherer (Parish Rep)

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

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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
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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! After the service, you are invited to attend Coffee Hour (in the Lounge on the second floor).

Education for all ages: On most Sundays during the academic year, education for all ages takes place from 9 to 9:45 A.M. Sunday school is offered for children pre-K through grade 8; adult education takes place in The Lounge.

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); and 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.

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)** in the Vesting Room, located opposite the red double doors at the front of the 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.

All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Baptism is not required. There are usually two Communion stations, located at the front corners of the altar. **Gluten-free bread** is available at each station. **Non-alcoholic wine** is available only from the server at the center of the altar. Any difference will be explained during the announcements.

To receive Holy Communion: The server will place the bread in your hands. Wine is sipped from the common cup; please use both hands to guide the chalice to your lips. This is the most sanitary option. 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:

- Speak to a clergyperson
- Receive parish emails
- Have a permanent name tag
- Explore becoming a member

- Get involved with _____
- Enroll my child(ren) in Sunday School
- Learn about joining the Adult Choir
- Enroll my child(ren) in the St. Thomas's Choristers (Junior Choir)