



# ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B

Liturgy of the Word

April 11, 2021

10 A.M.

## INTROIT

Tulerunt Dominum meum

Tulerunt Dominum meum  
et nescio ubi posuerunt eum.

They have taken away my Lord,  
and I know not where they have laid him.

Si tu sustulisti eum  
dicito mihi  
et ego tollam.

If you have taken him away,  
tell me where you have laid him,  
and I will take him away.

Words: John 20:13,15 Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847), Op. 39 (1837)

*The invitation to worship is sounded with the ringing of the bell.*

## HYMN

He is risen, he is risen! (180, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 He is ris-en, he is ris-en! Tell it out with  
2 Come, ye sad and fear-ful-heart-ed, with glad smile and  
\*3 Come, with high and ho-ly hymn-ing, hail our Lord's tri-  
4 He is ris-en, he is ris-en! He hath o-pened

joy-ful voice: he has burst his three days' pris-on;  
ra-diant brow! Death's long sha-dows have de-part-ed;  
um-phant day; not one dark-some cloud is dim-ming  
hea-ven's gate: we are free from sin's dark pris-on,

let the whole wide earth re-joice: death is con-quired,  
Je-sus' woes are o-ver now, and the pas-sion  
yon-der glo-rious morn-ing ray, break-ing o'er the  
ris-en to a ho-li-er state; and a bright-er

we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.  
 that he bore— sin and pain can vex no more.  
 pur - ple east, sym - bol of our Eas - ter feast.  
 Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), alt. Music: *Unser Herrscher*, Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

## OPENING ACCLAMATION, SALUTATION, AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen!

**People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head \*  
that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, \*  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon \*  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: \*  
life for evermore.

**THE SECOND LESSON**

1 JOHN 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

We walk by faith, and not by sight (209, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 We walk by faith, and not by sight; no  
 2 We may not touch his hands and side, nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
 4 that, when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words we hear from him who spoke as  
 fol - low where he trod; but in his prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound, to call on you when  
 realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you

none e'er spoke; but we be - lieve him near.  
 we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
 you are near, and seek where you are found:  
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Words: Henry Alford (1810-1871), alt. Music: *St. Botolph*, Gordon Slater (1896-1979) Copyright © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 20:19-31

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

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and

put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Presider:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE SERMON

**AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** [*The Rev. Kay Sylvester, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Tustin, CA*]

*Presider and People*

**We give our hearts to God,  
who is making the heavens and the earth.**

**We see God's handiwork  
in the smallest and greatest,  
in the drop of water and  
the galaxies arrayed in starry beauty.**

**We are part of God's good work.**

**We give our hearts to Jesus,  
who walked softly on the earth  
to show us the Way.  
He lived a life of compassion,  
and died at the hands of those who chose domination.  
His new, risen life calls us to embody resurrection,  
for one another and for the world.**

**We give our hearts to God's restless Spirit,  
who renews us, remakes us,  
and teaches us the way of Jesus,  
enabling us to do God's work in the world.**

**We believe that it is time  
for the earth to depend upon us for salvation  
as we have so long depended upon her.  
We give our hearts to faith in God's love  
and God's power to renew all creation. Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** [*The Rev. Keri Aubert*]

*Intercessor and People*

Our Savior is resurrected from the dead, bringing renewal to Christians around the globe. With joyful gratitude, we pray for the church and for the world.

We pray for the church universal: guide the ministers of your Word as they honor the traditions of the past, tend the cares of the present, and build the communities of the future. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the leaders of the world: plant wisdom and compassion in their hearts, and teach them to sow seeds of righteousness and mercy. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this wondrous creation: continue to reveal its bountiful complexity and fragile beauty, and inspire us to safeguard these gifts for all posterity. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your human family: take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this holy gathering of the faithful: strengthen us to continue in the way of the apostles, proclaim the Good News of God in Christ, seek and serve Christ in all persons, and strive for justice and peace among all people. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in any need or trouble: feed the hungry, tend the sick, relieve the weary, bless the dying, and soothe the suffering. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for people around the globe as the coronavirus pandemic continues: comfort the grieving, protect the vulnerable, and heal the healers. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died: give them Christ's triumph over death, and bring them into your perpetual light. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the concerns that we now lift to you, either aloud or in the stillness of our hearts. *[You may unmute yourself to offer a prayer intention.]*

*Presider*

Risen Christ, hear the prayers offered by these your gathered people; instill in our hearts the assurance of your resurrected life, that we may follow your Way in faith, hope, joy, and love; in the name of the one Holy and undivided Trinity. **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](http://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!

## HYMN

At the Lamb's high feast we sing (174, *The Hymnal* 1982)

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our vic - to - rious King,  
2 Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword;  
3 Might - y vic - tim from on high, hell's fierce powers be - neath thee lie;  
4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, these a - lone do sin de - stroy.

who hath washed us in the tide flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;  
Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.  
thou hast con - quered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light:  
From sin's power do thou set free souls new - born, O Lord, in thee.

praise we him, whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred Blood for wine,  
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread;  
now no more can death ap - pall, now no more the grave en - thrall;  
Hymns of glo - ry, songs of praise, Fa - ther, un - to thee we raise:

gives his Bo - dy for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.  
with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na from a - bove.  
thou hast o - pened par - a - dise, and in thee thy saints shall rise.  
ris - en Lord, all praise to thee with the Spi - rit ev - er be.

Words: Latin, 1632; tr. Robert Campbell (1814-1868), alt. Music: *Salzburg*, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702), harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

## 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,

as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

A PRAYER OF COMMUNION [*The Rev. Keri Aubert*]

*Presider and People*

Holy God, we are your people,  
bound to you by Jesus Christ,  
through whom you assumed our fleshly vulnerability,  
and in whom we find salvation and reconciliation.

We remember his birth, and grow in joy;  
we remember his life, and grow in love;  
we remember his passion, and grow in compassion;  
we remember his resurrection, and grow in hope;  
for all this, we give thanks.

As we course through our days,  
make us ministers of your abiding Word,  
with the power of your eternal Spirit. Amen.

EASTER BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Presider: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

ANTHEM

Jesus Christus, Gottes Sohn

Jesus Christus, Gottes Sohn,  
an unser Statt ist kommen  
und hat die Sünde weggetan,  
damit dem Tod genommen  
all' sein Reich und sein' Gewalt,  
da bleibet nichts denn Tods Gestalt,  
den Stachel er verloren. Hallelujah!

Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  
has come to our abode  
and cast all sin aside,  
thereby depriving death  
of all his rights and strength,  
naught but death's mere form remained,  
he had lost his sting. Hallelujah!

Words: Martin Luther (1483–1546), 1524 Music: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), *Christ lag in Todesbanden*, BWV 4 (1707)

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

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## Announcements

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

**Next Up for our Thursday Evening Study Group: Easter & Passover. (1) YDS Webinar:** Tuesday, April 13, noon-1: A Conversation About Easter and Passover with YDS Professor Joel Baden and Berkeley Divinity School Dean Andrew McGowan ([see details and sign up here](#)) **(2) Church Zoom Discussion:** Thursday, April 15, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Zoom (usual Church link: <https://zoom.us/j/5185223842>).

**Bishop Diocesan Ian Douglas to Retire in 2022.** On Wednesday, the Rt. Rev. Ian Douglas announced his plan to retire in fall 2022. [Read or watch it here.](#)

**9th Annual ECCT Spring Training and Gathering: Tuesday, April 6—Saturday, April 17.** This year Spring Training will take place during the two weeks immediately following Easter when a variety of engaging workshops will be offered via Zoom. Each workshop is 90-minutes long and most are offered on two different days and times. Learn more about the various workshops on [ECCT's Spring Training and Gathering page](#).

### Serving Today

**Presider & Preacher:** The Rev. Keri Aubert

**Music Director:** Dr. Noah Horn

**Lectors:** Bill English, Jenny Chavira

**Intercessor:** Madeleine Anderson

### This Week’s Prayer Intentions

**Pray for those on our Parish prayer list:**

Cynthia (Sally Edwards' sister-in-law), Franklin (Heather and Alexandria Robison's grandfather), Sally (Edwards)

**Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:**

those most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic

**Pray for those have died.**

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

St. Andrew’s, Madison; St. Mary’s, Manchester; St. Andrew’s, Marble Dale; All Saints’, Meriden; Hospital chaplains; Stephen Ministers; pastoral care groups; ministries of healing; nurses; wellness programs; recovery ministries

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:**

The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

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

Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania

### Leadership at St. Thomas’s

#### Church Vestry

Greg D’Andrea (Senior Warden)

Linda Meyer (Junior Warden)

Bill English (Treasurer)

Denise Terry (Clerk)

Valerie Garlick

Claire Scully

Sara Zampierin

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

Don Edwards              William English

Jeralyn Fantarella        Linda Meyer

Kenneth Paul              Ontoniel Reyes

Denise Terry (Church Junior Warden)

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

Gina Panza (Head of School)

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**ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL**  
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