



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, YEAR B

Liturgy of the Word

January 24, 2021 10 A.M.

INTROIT

If God be for us

If God be for us, who can be against us?

Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect?

Words: Romans 8:31,33 Music: George Frideric Handel (1685–1759), *Messiah*, 1742

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

HYMN

How wondrous and great thy works (533, *The Hymnal* 1982)

1 How wondrous and great thy works, God of praise!
2 To na-tions of earth thy light shall be shown;

How just, King of saints, and true are thy ways!
their wor-ship and vows shall come to thy throne:

O who shall not fear thee, and hon-or thy Name?
thy truth and thy judg-ments shall spread all a-broad,

Thou on-ly art ho-ly, thou on-ly su-preme.
till earth's ev-ery peo-ple con-fess thee their God.

Words: Henry Ustick Onderdonk (1759-1858), alt.; para. *The Song of the Redeemed* Music: Lyons, att. Johann Michael Haydn (1737-1806)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider

Let us confess our sins to God. [*Silence is kept.*]

Presider and People

God of all mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Presider

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

JONAH 3:1-5,10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

- 6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; *
truly, my hope is in him.
- 7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, *
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
- 8 In God is my safety and my honor; *
God is my strong rock and my refuge.
- 9 Put your trust in him always, O people, *
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.
- 10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, *
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.
- 11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, *
all of them together.
- 12 Put no trust in extortion;
in robbery take no empty pride; *
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.
- 13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, *
that power belongs to God.
- 14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, *
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ALLELUIA

(121, *Enriching Our Music 2*)

1
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

3
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: Adapt. from *Exsultate, Jubilate* by W.A. Mozart (1756-1791).

Cantor: The LORD is King, the earth may be glad thereof:
yea, the multitude of the isles may be glad thereof.
The Kingdom of God is near; repent and believe the gospel.

The People sing the Gospel Alleluia again.

THE GOSPEL

MARK 1:14-20

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

This is what we know to be true:

out of the chaos of the waters,
God spoke light and life into the world,
creating all things to contain God's glory
and display God's love.

This is what we know to be true:

In the midst of the chaos and beauty of human life,
Jesus was born.
He lived a life completely full of God.
He fed and healed, taught and turned the world upside down.
He spoke the truth of love to power
and died with that truth intact.
The Risen Christ lives among us and within us,
that we might do even greater things.

This is what we know to be true:

The Holy Spirit, like breath, like wind,
is the power of God moving over and through us.

**By the power of the Spirit,
we proclaim God's kingdom and serve God's world.**

This is what we know:

We are God's, because God loves us. Amen.

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

Presider

Joining our hearts in hope and faith, let us pray to God, saying, "Light of Christ, shine on all creation."

Intercessor and People

Flame of abundant love, give us joy in proclaiming your Good News to the world. We pray for your universal church and for all ministers of your Word. Light of Christ, **shine on all creation.**

Ember of steadfast presence, fuel our passion to challenge injustice and violence, and to pursue peace and reconciliation. We pray for this nation and for all the nations of the world. Light of Christ, **shine on all creation.**

Star of wondrous glory, lead us to care for this fragile earth, our island home. We pray for the land on which we stand, the waters that surround us, and the creatures that inhabit them. Light of Christ, **shine on all creation.**

Lamp of eternal wisdom, guide us as we seek and follow you. We pray for St. Thomas's Church and Day School, and especially for the leaders who are listening to hear the guidance of your Spirit. Light of Christ, **shine on all creation.**

Radiance of boundless compassion, direct our hands to your loving service. We pray for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the homeless, and for all those in any need or trouble. Light of Christ, **shine on all creation.**

Spark of true liberation, send us your redeeming and reconciling grace. We pray for the dying and the dead. Light of Christ, **shine on all creation.**

We pray for the appreciations and concerns that we now share aloud or carry in our hearts.
[*You may unmute yourself to offer a prayer intention.*]

Presider

Holy God, you embrace the whole universe and sanctify all you have created: continually manifest in our hearts the constant awareness of your affection and the persuasive revelation of your desire, and thereby prepare us to offer our voices and bodies as courageous and confident bearers of the Good News of your light and love; through Christ our Savior. **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!

HYMN

There's a wideness in God's mercy (469, *The Hymnal* 1982)

Introduction

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy like the wide - ness
2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure

of the sea; there's a kind - ness in his jus -
up in heaven; there is no place where earth's fail -
of the mind; and the heart of the E - ter -

tice, which is more than lib - er - ty. There is wel - come
ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given. There is plen - ti -
nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were

for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good; there is mer - cy
ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for
but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word; and our life would

Interlude/Conclusion

with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

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Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt.
Music: *St. Helena*, Calvin Hampton (1938-1984) Copyright ©1977, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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 *[The Rev. Keri Aubert]*

Presider and People

God of abundant love, we thank you for nurturing us with this holy gathering of holy people. When we are alone, remind us of the communion we share with one another and with you. When we are hungry, show us the banquet that you are preparing for the redemption of the world. Keep peace in our hearts, so that we can sow peace in the world, walking in gladness the way of your beloved child, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Presider

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Presider: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C-sharp major

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), BWV 848, from *Das wohltemperierte Klavier*

After the Voluntary, 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.

Our Racial Reconciliation Book Club is sponsoring a two-part discussion of "Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents" by Isabel Wilkerson. We will meet **Tuesday evenings, January 26 and February 2 at 7 p.m. by ZOOM.** (Yes, we mean 7 p.m.! This is a different time than Thursday Bible study.) Denise Terry will moderate the discussion. Use the usual church Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/5185223842>.

St. Thomas's Parish Annual Meeting: Sunday, January 31, following worship, via Zoom. You'll elect parish leaders and get a report on the 2021 parish budget, all with a streamlined agenda. Please plan to grab a drink and a snack and join us.

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Musician: Dr. Noah Horn

Lectors: Jocelyn Tidwell, Wesley Anderson

Intercessor: Jennifer Herdt

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those on our Parish prayer list:
Sally, Bonnie, Franklin

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

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

Saint Luke's, Darien; St. Paul's, Darien; Immanuel St. James, Derby; ministries to, with, and for the deaf

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:
The Church of Bangladesh

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

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

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