



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT, YEAR B

Liturgy of the Word

March 7, 2021 10 A.M.

VOLUNTARY

Rêverie

Claude Debussy (1861–1918), 1891

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

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 OF SIN

Presider

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

Presider and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider

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

KYRIE

S 96, *The Hymnal 1982*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; 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

EXODUS 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 19

Samuel Sebastian Wesley & Ivor Algernon Atkins

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

Christ is made the sure foundation (518, *The Hymnal 1982*)

Descant

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
 God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
 Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
 hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.
 Music: *Westminster Abbey* Henry Purcell (1659-1695), adapt.; desc. James Gillespie (b. 1929) Copyright © by permission of Church Society,
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THE GOSPEL

JOHN 2:13-22

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

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

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The

Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

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 *[The Rev. Keri Aubert]*

Intercessor and People

Even the most barren landscapes contain seeds of life awaiting a season favorable for emergence. With gratitude for God's creative and re-creative power, we pray for the church and for the world.

We pray for Christ's one holy catholic and apostolic church, that all who proclaim Jesus' name may find unity of purpose in humble service to others. Lord, have mercy; **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray for all in authority around the world, including the elected and appointed officials of this nation, that they may see in every person the image of God. We pray especially for the President and Vice-President, Congress, Supreme Court, governors of all states, and mayors of all towns. Lord, have mercy; **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. Lord, have mercy; **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray that our nation will continue the turning necessary to resolve its sinful legacy of slavery and racism, that all Americans may at last attain the promise of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Lord, have mercy; **Christ, have mercy.**

We pray for St. Thomas's Church and Day School, that we may continue to cultivate our unique gifts for making this a better world. Lord, have mercy; **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. Lord, have mercy; **Christ, have mercy.**

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

We pray for all who been most touched by the coronavirus pandemic, especially those who have lost loved ones, those suffering from lingering health effects, and those who work in health care, that they may know peace. Lord, have mercy; **Christ, have mercy.**

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

We pray for the intercessions and thanksgivings that we now name before you, either silently or aloud. *[You may unmute yourself to offer a prayer intention.]*

Presider

God of compassion, hear the prayers of your people: help us look past the temporary desolation of our earthly trials, and reach toward the eternal majesty of your heavenly kingdom, where all divisions dissolve, all creation prospers, and all believers rejoice; we pray through our redeemer Jesus Christ, in our advocate the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

HYMN

There is a balm in Gilead (203, *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*)

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed

whole; There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1. Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged, And think my work's in vain, But
2. If you can - not preach like Pet - er, If you can - not preach like Paul, You can
3. Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged For Je - sus is your friend, And

1. then the ho - ly spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.
2. tell the love of Je - sus, And say He died for all.
3. if you lack for know - ledge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Fine

D.C.

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

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.

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Presider

Bow down before the Lord. [*Silence is kept.*] Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C major
Johann Ludwig Krebs (1713–1780), BWV 553/1

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 Parish Racial Justice Group will meet today after worship. All are invited.

Bible Study, Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. - March 11, Week 5: Wisdom Psalms. Details are in the Enews.

Holy Week Worship. For each of the Triduum services (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil), we expect to offer two options both a "Liturgy for Dispersed People" that you can do anytime yourself at home, and an online Zoom service at a set time. Look for the schedule in next week’s Enews.

Serving Today

Presider: The Rev. Keri Aubert
Preacher: The Rev. Canon K. Dexter Cheney
Musician: Dr. Noah Horn
Lectors: Jenny Chavira, Madeleine Anderson
Intercessor: Bob Herdt

This Week’s Prayer Intentions

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

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:
those most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, including all who have lost loved ones, all frontline workers, and all who lack the income necessary for adequate food and shelter

Pray for those have died.

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

St. Barnabas’, Greenwich; Christ Church, Guilford;
St. John’s, Guilford; All ministries to, with, and for
women and the Girl’s Friendly Society

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

Province de L’Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

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

Ireland; United Kingdom: England, Northern Ireland,
Scotland, Wales

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

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The Rev. Keri Aubert (President, Day School Corp.)
Gina Panza (Head of School)

ST. THOMAS’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511

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

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