



# ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A

Service of Holy Eucharist

December 11, 2022

10 A.M.

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**Whether you are new or returning, WELCOME!**

**Please remain masked and observe social distancing** throughout the service and any time you are inside, regardless of vaccination status. Our expectation is that everyone who can be has been vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19. Very young children and people who are immunocompromised lack vaccine protection, so your continued diligence is appreciated.

**There is no mechanical air exchange in the church portions of the building.** We are eager to limit occupancy of smaller spaces, so please avoid the Sacristy and Vesting Room, and please do not linger in the narthex (the area inside the main doors), restrooms, or hallways. The Lounge has high efficiency air filters but no mechanical air exchange.

**All church spaces are accessible.** Handicapped parking and a wheelchair ramp are located in back of the building; a lift for access to the second floor is located at the stairway.

**Restrooms** are located on the second floor. Go through the double doors near the pulpit, upstairs to the second floor, and to the far end of the hallway. A **restroom with baby changing table** is in the Vesting Room, located opposite the double doors near the pulpit. All restrooms are all-gender single-use.

**ALL are invited to receive Holy Communion.** Baptism is not required; church membership is not required. As a pandemic safety precaution, the People will be offered bread but not wine. Remember, the sacrament is complete and efficacious even when received in one kind only. Instructions for Holy Communion are included below at the appropriate point.

**After the service,** please stay for food and fellowship. Coffee hour is hosted either outside behind the building (exit via the side door facing Cliff Street and walk around to the back) or in the Lounge (exit via the double doors near the pulpit and go upstairs to the second floor; the Lounge is at the end of the hall). Children may unwind in the kindergarten playground behind the building.

If you are new, please consider filling out a **blue information card** (located in the pew rack). You can use it to request a nametag, and next Sunday it will be waiting on the table inside the main entrance.

Three seating areas at the front of the nave are reserved for **families with small children**: the area under the array of paper cranes (for children age 3 and under), and the two areas in front of the front pews (for children age 10 and under). For safety, every child should be accompanied by a caregiver.

**Wireless access in the Sanctuary** is accessible by connecting to wireless network STEC – Guest. Your device will open a web browser and the St. Thomas's website. Bulletins are posted in the website's Bulletin Archive. To reduce printing, we encourage worshippers to use their smart devices to follow the service.

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**St. Thomas's Church is located on Eansketambawg (Quinnipiac) land.** This acknowledgment compels us to pause: in gratitude for the Quinnipiac and other Algonquin-speaking stewards of the territory that is now Connecticut; in regret for Christianity's participation in the colonization of the Americas; and in faith that God's reconciling power will bring true healing to the Earth and all its inhabitants.

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## VOLUNTARY

How fair and how pleasant art thou, O holy Mother of God

Marcel Dupré (1886–1971), Op. 18, No. 5 (1919)

*At the ringing of the bell, please stand.*

## HYMN

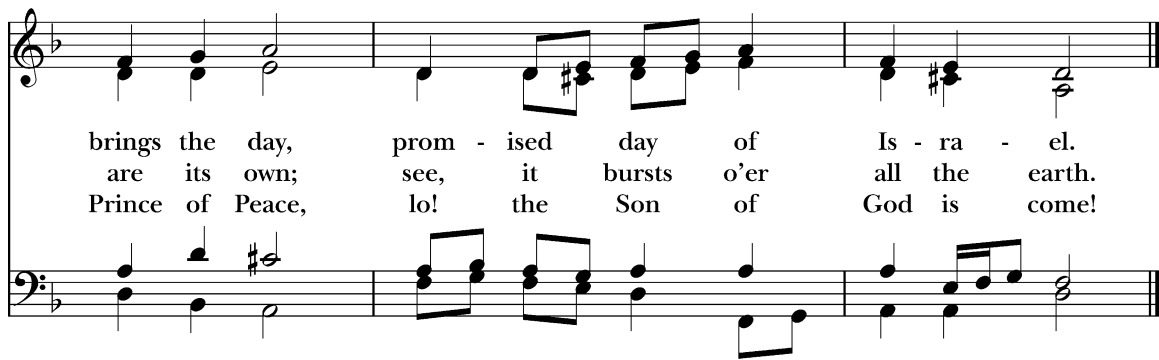
Watchman, tell us of the night (640, *The Hymnal* 1982)

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise  
 2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -  
 3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, see that glo - ry -  
 scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its  
 dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray  
 course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone  
 are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

aught of joy or hope fore - tell? Trav - eler, yes; it  
 gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav - eler, a - ges  
 hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav - eler, lo! the



brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.  
are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.  
Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

*Two groups may sing antiphonally, alternating by sentences.*

Words: John Bowring (1792-1872). Music: *Aberystwyth*, Joseph Parry (1841-1903).

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

**Presider:** Blessed are you, holy and living One.

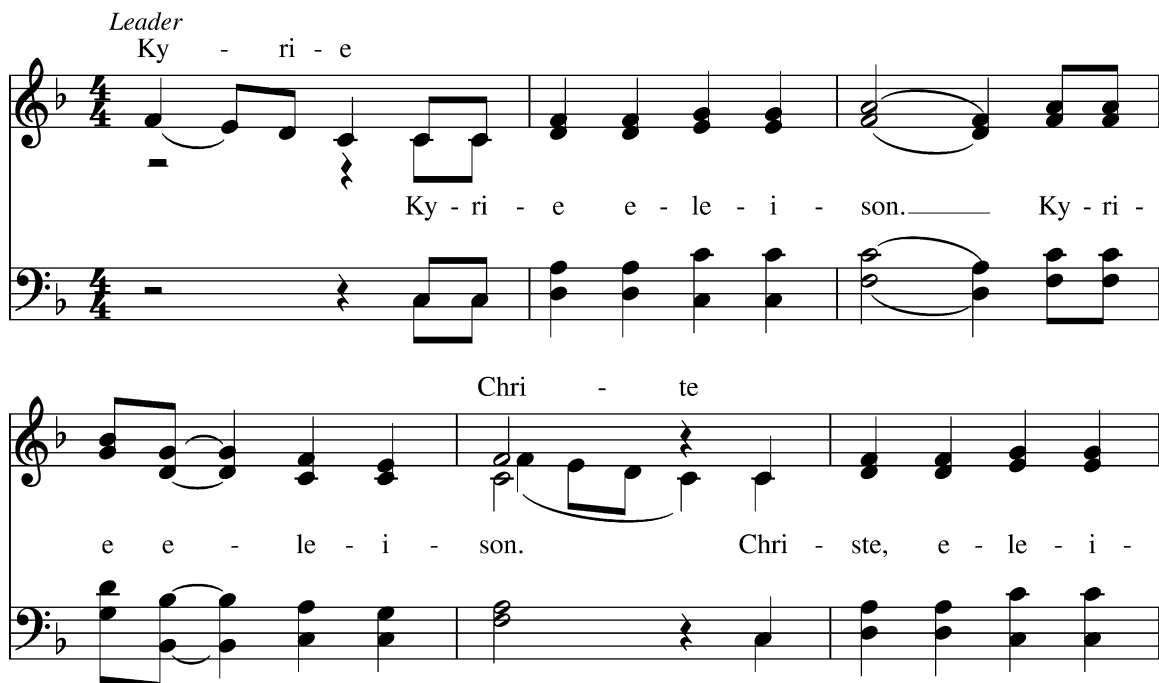
**People:** You come to your people and set them free.

Come, O Holy One, breaker of chains and renewer of life! Open our eyes to your presence in all the earth. Stir us to proclaim gladly the signs of your love: the liberation of those oppressed, the healing of those frail and broken, springs of water in all the parched places, and Jesus Christ risen and alive, through whom we pray. **Amen.**

## KYRIE ELEISON

239, *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*

*Leader*  
Ky - ri - e



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri -

Chri - te

e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste, e - le - i -

Ky - ri - e

son. Chri - ste, e - le - i - son. Ky - ri -

e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1938), *Freedom Mass*. Based on traditional African melodies. Copyright © 1975 Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. Used by permission.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,

with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God’s people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **THE SONG OF MARY** *(sung by the Choir)*

Canticle 15

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
 and the rich he has sent away empty.  
 He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
 for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
 The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
 to Abraham and his children for ever.  
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## THE SECOND LESSON

JAMES 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*All stand.*

## HYMN

The angel Gabriel from heaven came (265, *The Hymnal* 1982)

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in a four-part setting. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, corresponding to the four voices. The first line of lyrics is: '1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,'. The second line is: '2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,'. The third line is: '3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,'. The fourth line is: '4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born'. The fifth line of lyrics is: 'his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;'. The sixth line is: 'all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,'. The seventh line is: '"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,'. The eighth line is: 'in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,'.

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,  
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,  
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,  
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born  
 his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;  
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,  
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,  
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

“All hail,” said he, “thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,  
thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
“my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name.”  
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,” Glo - ri - a!  
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,” Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!  
“Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,” Glo - ri - a!

Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924). Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943). Copyright © 1961 B. Feldman and Co Ltd., trading as H. Freeman & Co. Reproduced by permission of EMI Music Publishing Ltd. 138-140 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 9LD, England.

## THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 11:2-11

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

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

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

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

*All are seated.*

## THE SERMON

*After the sermon, all remain seated for a period of silence. Then all stand.*

## AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR ADVENT

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

*Presider and People*

**Because of You, O God,  
we are people of hope,  
even though the night of winter is upon us.**

**Because of You, Divine Presence,  
we are people of peace,  
even though violent speech  
and bared teeth surround us.**

**Because of You, Christ who is coming,  
we are people of joy,  
even though the leaves have fallen  
and the music has stopped.**

**Because of You, Spirit of Life,  
we are people of love,  
even though we see  
the diminishment of human dignity  
all around us.**

**We call upon You, ever-blessed One,  
for strength and purpose,  
for gratitude and generosity,  
for the grace to bring light,  
and the nourishment of your grace,  
and the thirst-quenching stream of your justice  
into the world that You love  
with an everlasting love.**

**Come among us and set us free. Amen.**

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

*Intercessor and People*

O Wisdom from on high, holy Word of God, you sustain the universe with infinite love. In this Advent season of longing and anticipation, we pray to you, saying, “O come, O come, Emmanuel.”

Unite and uphold your universal church. Help your ministers, lay and ordained, carry the Good News of salvation to all who await a sign of your coming. **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**



Lend your wisdom and compassion to those in authority around the world. Help them lead those held captive by oppression and strife, into the freedom of justice and peace. **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Inspire all people to be grateful occupants and devoted caretakers of your wondrous creation. Help us preserve Earth's lands, waters, and atmosphere, and protect the creatures who inhabit them. **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Accompany us as we navigate the losses and uncertainties in our lives and our society. Help us find courage and companionship for all that lies ahead. **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Comfort those who are grieving, lonely, discouraged, or depressed this holiday season. Help them find peace, joy, hope, and love. **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Restore those suffering from sickness, poverty, violence, or addiction. Help them overcome adversity and find fullness of life. **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Gather into your glorious presence those who have died. Help all Christians find resurrection in you. **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Hear our additional prayers of thanksgiving and intercession, which we now offer either silently or aloud. *[You are invited to offer your prayer intentions.]*

*Presider*

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, shine on those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death; Emmanuel, God with us, come and save us, O Lord our God. **Amen.**

## **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.**

## THE PEACE

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

**People:** And also with you.

*Please remain in place while greeting your neighbors with a sign of peace. You may then be seated for brief announcements and the **Offertory Anthem**, during which the altar is prepared.*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Your financial support is sincerely appreciated. We will not pass a collection plate today; collection plates are located at the doors. To give online, go to the Church website Home page ([www.stthomasnewhaven.org](http://www.stthomasnewhaven.org)), and click GIVE NOW. If viewing this document electronically, simply [CLICK HERE](#). Thank you!*

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Thou the central orb

O Thou the central orb of righteous love,  
Pure beam of the most High, eternal Light  
Of this our wintry world, Thy radiance bright  
Awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let Thy glory shine,  
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays Divine.

Thy saints with holy lustre round Thee move,  
As stars about Thy throne, set in the height  
Of God's ordaining counsel, as Thy sight  
Gives measured grace to each, Thy power to prove.  
Let Thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,  
Our nature all shall feel eternal day,  
In fellowship with Thee, transforming day  
To souls erewhile clean, now pure within. Amen.

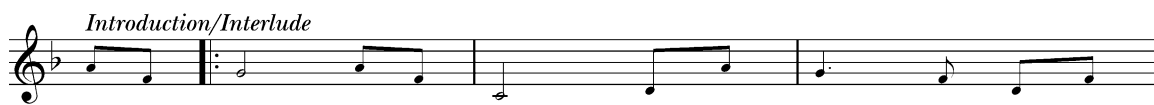
Words: Henry Ramsden Bramley (1833–1917) Music: Charles Wood (1866–1926), 1915

*During the singing of the **Offertory Hymn**, the Presider sets the table, and the People come forward to encircle the altar for the Eucharistic prayer. You are encouraged to position children where they can see. Standing time is approximately 15 minutes. If this is difficult for you, please feel free to sit in a chair near the altar or in the front row of pews. You may also remain where you are.*

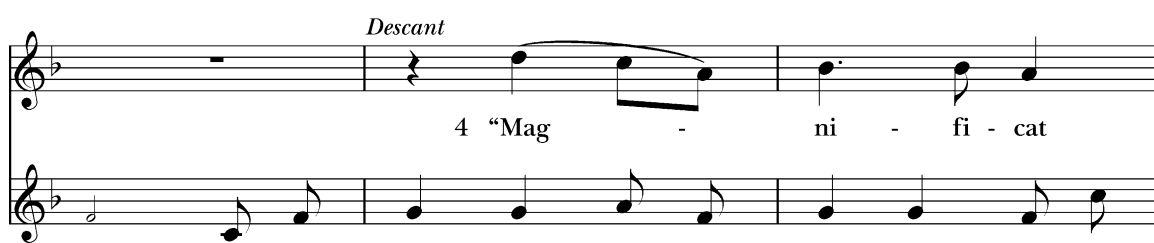
### OFFERTORY HYMN

Ye who claim the faith of Jesus (268, *The Hymnal* 1982)

*Introduction/Interlude*



*Descant*



4 "Mag - ni - fi - cat

1	Ye	who	claim	the	faith	of	Je - sus,	sing	the
2	Bless - ed	were	the	cho - sen	peo - ple	out	of		
3	There-fore	let	all	faith - ful	peo - ple	sing	the		
4	"Mag - ni -	fy,	my	soul, God's	great - ness;	in	my		

an - i - ma me - a

won - ders that were done when the love of God the  
 whom the Lord did come; bless - ed was the land of  
 hon - or of her name; let the Church, in her fore -  
 Sa - vior I re - joice; all the a - ges call me

Do - mi - num. Mag -

Fa - ther o - ver sin the vic - tory won, when he  
 prom - ise fa - shioned for his earth - ly home; but more  
 shad - owed, part in her thanks - giv - ing claim; what Christ's  
 bless - ed, in his praise I lift my voice; he has

ni - fi - cat, mag - ni - fi - cat."

made the Vir - gin Ma - ry mo - ther of his on - ly Son.  
 bless - ed far the mo - ther, she who bore him in her womb.  
 mo - ther sang in glad - ness let Christ's peo - ple sing the same:  
 cast down all the might - y, and the low - ly are his choice."

*Conclusion*

Words: Sts. 1-3, Vincent Stucky Stratton Coles (1845-1929), alt.; st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984) metrical *Magnificat*.  
 Copyright © Church Pension Fund., Music: *Julion*, David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1983, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP 2

<p><i>Celebrant</i></p> <p>The Lord be with you.</p> <p><i>Celebrant</i></p> <p>Lift up your hearts.</p> <p><i>Celebrant</i></p> <p>Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.</p>	<p><i>People</i></p> <p>And al - so with you.</p> <p><i>People</i></p> <p>We lift them to the Lord.</p> <p><i>People</i></p> <p>It is right to give God thanks and praise.</p>
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### *Presider*

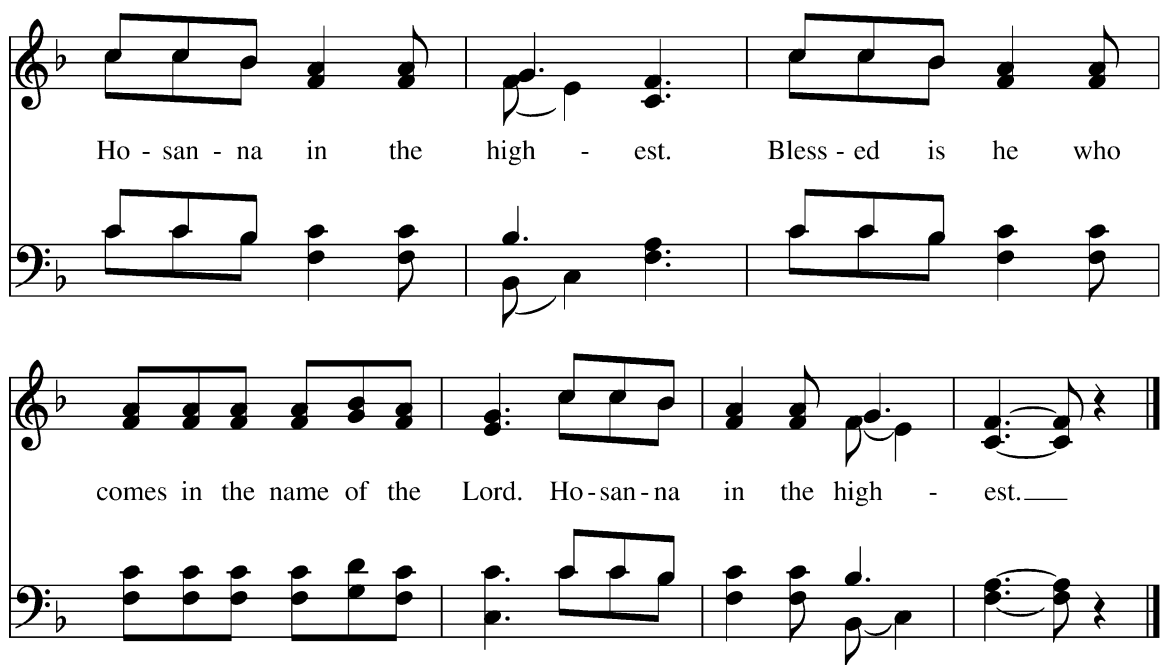
We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

### SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy, Lord (256, *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*)

<p><i>Leader</i></p> <p>(piano) Ho - ly,</p> <p>Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of</p> <p>pow'r_ and might,</p>	<p>Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of</p> <p>pow'r_ and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.</p>
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Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928), *Freedom Mass*. Based on traditional African melodies. Copyright © 1989 Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. Used by permission.

### *Presider*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Mary, Thomas, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

## 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.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

## FRACTION ANTHEM

Lamb of God (271, *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*)

The musical score for the Fraction Anthem is written in 6/8 time and G major. It consists of four staves. The first staff is the Leader's part, with lyrics 'Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have'. The second staff is the Response, with lyrics 'mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have'. The third staff is the Leader's part, with lyrics 'mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world:'. The fourth staff is the Response, with lyrics 'grant us peace.'.

Music: Eugene W. Hancock (b. 1929). Copyright © 1992 Eugene W. Hancock.

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. For the distribution of communion, the priest will come to you. Extend your hands, and the priest will place the bread in them. Please return to your seat before you raise your mask to consume it. To receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms over your chest.***

## COMMUNION ANTHEM

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen  
aus einer Wurzel zart,  
als uns die Alten sangen:  
von Jesse kam die Art  
und hat ein Blümlein bracht  
mitten im kalten Winter  
wohl zu der halben Nacht.

A Spotless Rose is blowing,  
sprung from a tender root,  
of ancient seers' foreshowing,  
of Jesse promised fruit;  
its fairest bud unfolds to light  
amid the cold, cold winter,  
and in the dark midnight.

Words: Anonymous, 1599    Music: Hugo Distler (1908–1942), *Die Weihnachtsgeschichte*, Op. 10 (1933)

*After all have received communion, all stand.*

## THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider:     Let us pray.

*Presider and People*

**God of abundance,  
you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us  
with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth  
in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever  
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## ADVENT BLESSING

*Presider*

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## HYMN

Tell out, my soul (438, *The Hymnal* 1982)

1 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord!  
 2 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his Name!  
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his might!  
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;  
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
 Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.  
 Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;  
 his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;  
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,  
 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.  
 his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.  
 the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.  
 to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926); based on *The Song of Mary*. Copyright © 1962 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Woodlands*, Walter Greatorex (1877-1949), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press.

## DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*You may be seated for the voluntary or exit the church.*

## VOLUNTARY

Magnificat: Gloria

Marcel Dupré (1886–1971), Op. 18, No. 15 (1919)

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## Announcements

*For all the latest news and information, see last week's edition of the Weekly Parish Enews. From the Parish website Home page ([www.stthomasnewhaven.org](http://www.stthomasnewhaven.org)), click **Enews Archive** for the latest edition or **Enews (subscribe)** to subscribe.*

**We have returned to our pre-pandemic practice of gathering around the altar for the Eucharistic Prayer.** Please follow the instructions at the appropriate point in the bulletin.

**Christmas Offerings to St. Thomas's.** Please consider making a seasonal gift to the church. You may designate it as general donation, or direct it to the flower fund or the music fund. All memorial and honorarial gifts will be acknowledged in the Christmas bulletin and the Enews. Giving envelopes are in the pews and at the doors; you can also donate by check or online using [this link](#). **For inclusion in the Christmas bulletin, we must have your donation by MONDAY, DECEMBER 19.**

**Baptism Next Sunday!** Next Sunday we will baptize toddler Cooper during our regular 10 a.m. service. Congratulations to parents Chris and Rose!

**Christmas Eve Worship.** We'll have **one service on Christmas Eve, at 5 p.m.** It will include both a pageant and the choir. See the full holiday service schedule below. And see the Sunday School note about pageant prep.

**Sunday School.** The children of St. Thomas's will present a pageant on Christmas Eve at the 5 p.m. service. We will have one practice on Sunday, December 18 from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m. Please meet in church in the area under the cranes. Please be in touch with **Denise Terry** if you have any questions.

**It's Nominations Season.** Our Parish Annual Meeting will be held immediately after worship on Sunday, February 5. An important task is electing parish leadership, and to that end we're recruiting Vestry members and Diocesan Convention delegates. If you are interested or would like to nominate someone else, contact Senior Warden Jennifer Herdt or Keri+.

**Thursdays during Advent: Advent Unbound: A Companion to Pádraig Ó Tuama's "Poetry Unbound": 7:30pm, December 1, 8, 5, & 22.** See the Enews for details.

**Winter Weather is Coming!** In case of inclement winter weather, rather than cancel church altogether, we will switch to Zoom only. See the Enews for details.

**Register today for a 2-Day VISIONS, Inc. Workshop.** VISIONS Inc. is offering three 1.5 day workshops for those within the Episcopal Church in Connecticut community who are interested in expanding ideas and creating community around concepts of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. The workshops will take place on Zoom and there are three sessions to choose from: January 10-11, 2023, January 18-19, 2023, February 23-24, 2023. VISIONS, Inc. is one of the various programs ECCT is offering to satisfy the requirement in Resolution 7 from our 2020 diocesan convention that calls for all clergy, lay leaders, vestries, church and diocesan staff, and those appointed to diocesan committees to complete a course on dismantling racism. See the Enews for registration links.

A graphic for Christmas at St. Thomas's. The top half features a night scene with a starry sky, a bright star, and silhouettes of a nativity scene (shepherds, camels, and a manger) and a town. The text "Christmas at St. Thomas's" is centered, with "St. Thomas's Episcopal Church, 830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven" below it. The bottom half is a white box with black text providing service details.

**Christmas at St. Thomas's**  
St. Thomas's Episcopal Church, 830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven

**Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24, 5:00 P.M.**  
Christmas Pageant & Holy Eucharist with St. Thomas's Choir  
In person (face masks required) & on Zoom (meeting ID: 2506069964)

**Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25 – No Worship**

**Feast of the Holy Name: Sunday, January 1, 10:00 A.M.**  
Holy Eucharist (simple service without formal music)



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## Serving Today

**Presider:** The Rev. Keri Aubert  
**Preacher:** The Rev. Keri Aubert  
**Music Director:** Dr. Noah Horn  
**Eucharistic Minister:** Madeleine Anderson  
**Lector:** Bob Herdt  
**Intercessor:** William English  
**Sacristan:** Claire Scully  
**Usher:** Claire Scully  
**Coffee Hour:** Bob & Lorna Herdt

## This Week's Prayer Intentions

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

Cynthia (Sally Edwards' sister-in-law), Dwight (Miller), Katie (Coleman), Leon (Denise Terry's brother-in-law), Lily (Madeleine Anderson's mother),

**Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:**  
the people of Ukraine

**Pray for those who have died.**

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

St. Stephen's, Bloomfield; St. George's, Bolton; Trinity, Branford; Calvary St. George's, Bridgeport; those who advocate at the local, state, national, or global level for the poor, the lonely, and the oppressed

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

The Anglican Church of Kenya

### In the World Council of Churches Ecumenical

#### Prayer Cycle, pray for:

Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam

## Leadership at St. Thomas's

### Church Vestry

Jennifer Herdt (Senior Warden)  
Linda Meyer (Junior Warden)  
Bill English (Treasurer)  
Denise Terry (Clerk)  
Madeleine Anderson  
Valerie Cicero  
Claire Scully  
The Rev. Keri Aubert (Rector)

### Church (Volunteer) Associate Priests

The Rev. Canon K. Dexter Cheney  
The Rev. Jakki Flanagan

### Day School Board of Trustees

John Forrest (Chair)  
Greg Mokotoff (Vice-Chair)  
Christopher Cavallaro (Treasurer)  
Eileen O'Donnell (Secretary)  
Renu Boatwright  
William English  
Robert Herdt  
Ken Paul  
Robert Tait  
Chris Vigilante  
Susan Zhang  
Linda Meyer (Church Junior Warden)  
Keri Aubert (President, Day School Corp.)  
Gina Panza (Head of School)

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ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511

Church: (203) 777-7623 ♦ [www.stthomasnewhaven.org](http://www.stthomasnewhaven.org)

Day School: (203) 776-2123 ♦ [www.stthomasday.org](http://www.stthomasday.org)

The Rev. Keri Aubert, Rector ♦ [k.aubert@stthomasnewhaven.org](mailto:k.aubert@stthomasnewhaven.org)

Dr. Noah Horn, Music Director ♦ [n.horn@stthomasnewhaven.org](mailto:n.horn@stthomasnewhaven.org)

Julie Kelly, Administrator ♦ [j.kelly@stthomasnewhaven.org](mailto:j.kelly@stthomasnewhaven.org)

Gina Panza, Head of School ♦ [gpanza@stthomasday.org](mailto:gpanza@stthomasday.org)