

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, YEAR A Service of Holy Eucharist January 29, 2023 10 A.M.

Whether you are new or returning, WELCOME!

To follow along with the service all you need is this bulletin.

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. 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.

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.

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.

VOLUNTARY

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

HYMN

Blessed Jesus, at thy word (440, The Hymnal 1982)



Words: Tobias Clausnitzer (1619-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878); alt. Music: *Liebster Jesu*, melody Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625-1673); alt. *Das grosse Cantional: oder Kirchen-Gesangbuch*, 1687; harm. George Herbert Palmer (1846-1926).

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

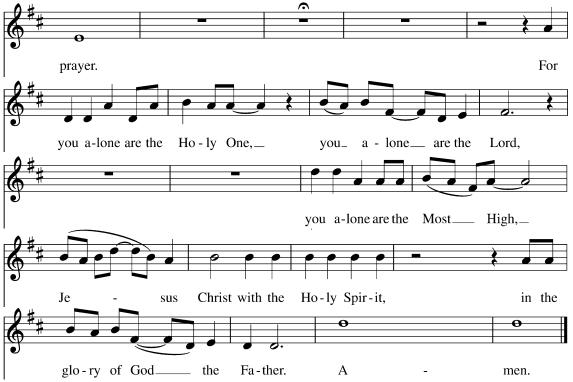
PRAYER FOR THE ANNIVERSARY OF A CHURCH

Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the 175th anniversary of this house of prayer: We give you thanks for the fellowship of those who have worshiped in this place, and we pray that all who seek you here may find you, and be filled with your joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest (241, Lift Every Voice and Sing II)





Music: David Hurd (b. 1950), Intercession Mass. Copyright © 1979, 1983, G.I.A. Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL. All Rights Reserved.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON MICAH 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth;

for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery;

and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him,

and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

PSALM 15 (sung by the Choir)

David Hurd

- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? * who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, * who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; * he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, * but he honors those who fear the LORD.
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong * and does not take back his word.
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, * nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does these things * shall never be overthrown.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

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.

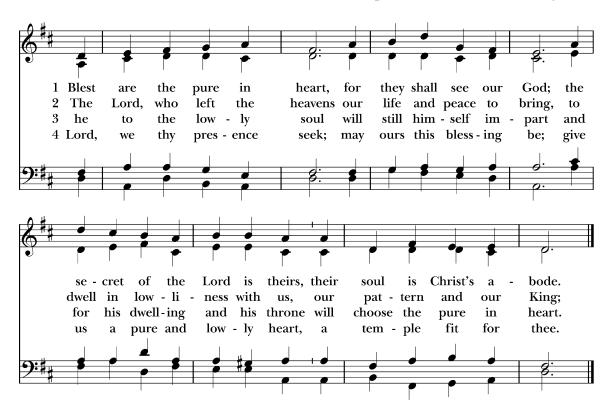
Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

All stand.

HYMN

Blest are the pure in heart (656, The Hymnal 1982)



THE GOSPEL MATTHEW 5:1-12

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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.

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]

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 are invited to offer your prayer intentions.]

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 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.**

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**.

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), and click GIVE NOW. If viewing this document electronically, simply CLICK HERE. Thank you!

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

The sun shall no longer be your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you by night; but the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory. Your sun shall no more go down, or your moon withdraw itself; for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended. Your people shall all be righteous; they shall possess the land for ever. They are the shoot that I planted, the work of my hands, so that I might be glorified. The least of them shall become a clan,

and the smallest one a mighty nation; I am the LORD;

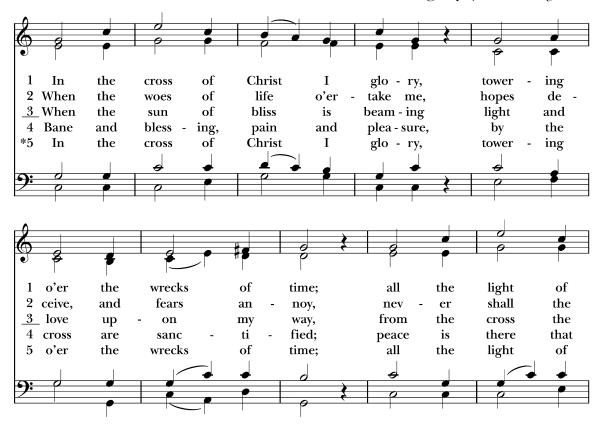
in its time I will accomplish it quickly.

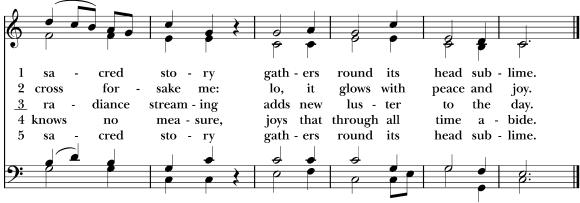
Words: Isaiah 60:1-5,19-22 Music: Noah Horn, 2020

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 the front row of pews. You may also remain where you are.

OFFERTORY HYMN

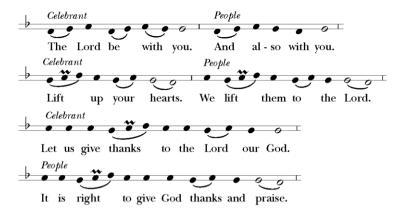
In the cross of Christ I glory (441, The Hymnal 1982)





Words: John Bowring (1792-1872). Music: Rathbun, Ithamar Conkey (1815-1867).

THE HOLY COMMUNION THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B



Presider

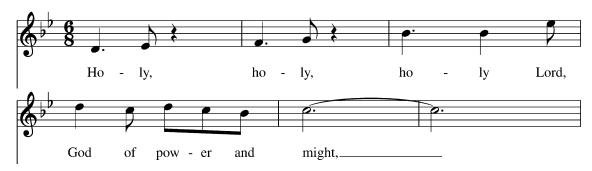
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

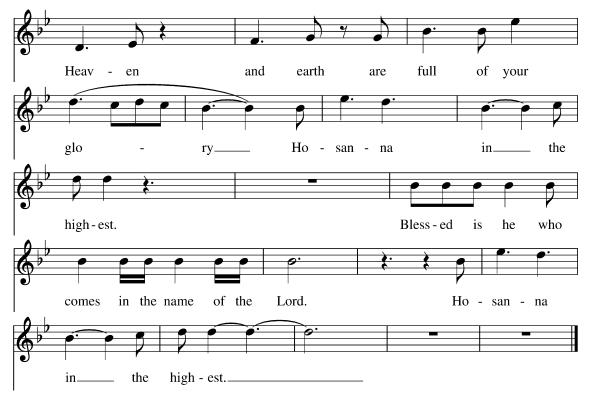
Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Holy, holy, Lord (254, Lift Every Voice and Sing II)





Music: Carl MaultsBy, The Saint Mary Mass. Copyright © 1989 Malted Milk Music. Used by permission. All Rights Reserved.

Presider

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

Presider

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever. **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,

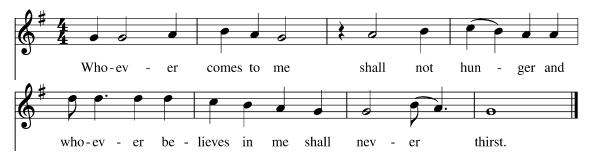
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

FRACTION ANTHEM

Whoever comes to me (878, Wonder, Love, and Praise)



Music: Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from Fraction Anthems, Canticles, and Chants. Copyright © 1997 Carl Haywood.

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. To receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms over your chest.

After all have received communion, all stand.

THE POSTCOMMUNION 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.

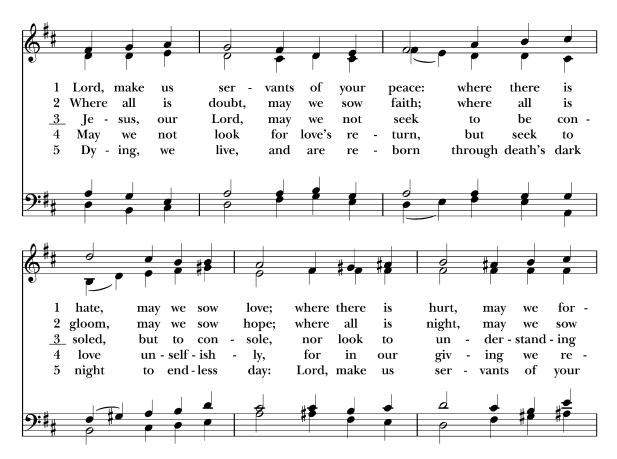
THE BLESSING

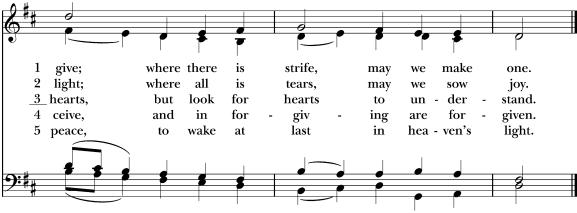
Presider: | The Presider blesses the People.]

People: Amen.

HYMN

Lord, make us servants of your peace (593, The Hymnal 1982)





Words: James Quinn (b. 1919), based on a prayer att. to St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226). Copyright © James Quinn, SJ, printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division on Cassell Ltd. Music: *Dickinson College*, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923-1979). Copyright © 1962, Theodore Presser Co. used by permission of the publisher.

DISMISSAL

Presider: | The Presider dismisses the People. |

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C major Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), BWV 545

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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), click **Enews Archive** for the latest edition or **Enews (subscribe)** to subscribe.

175th Anniversary Concert: TODAY, January 29, 4 p.m. Please come! Bring a friend!

IRIS Run for Refugees: Sunday, February 12, 10 a.m., Wilbur Cross High School. Help support new Americans in the New Haven area! The annual Run for Refugees is a major fundraiser for IRIS (Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services). St. Thomas's is hosting a short pre-run 8 a.m. worship service for participants and supporters, with Bishop Laura Ahrens presiding. (We will still have regular worship at 10 a.m.) Jennifer Herdt has set up a St. Thomas's Team. Find the link in the Enews to join or donate through our team.

Meg Stapleton Smith's Ordination! Meg Stapleton Smith, this Parish's sponsee for ordination, will be ordained priest on Tuesday, February 14, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Thomas' Church, Bethel, CT. Your prayers and presence are requested.

Inquirers Class Forming. This class is required for those seeking confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation in the Episcopal Church, but it's open to anyone. The class will get started around February 15. If you're interested or have questions, email Keri.

Thursday Night Study Group, 7:30 p.m. We're currently discussing the readings appointed for the following Sunday. See the Enews for details.

Sunday School classes meet on the second floor at 9 a.m. Classes will be held February 5 and 12. There will be no Sunday morning classes scheduled after 2/12. See the Enews for details.

St. Thomas's Parish Annual Meeting Notice. In accord with Canon I, Section II of the Canons of the Diocese of Connecticut, the Annual Parish Meeting will be held **Sunday, February 5, 2022.** Purpose: Electing the Vestry members and officers, and transacting such other business as may legally come before the Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting will be called to order following the 10:00 a.m. service. - Denise A. Terry, Clerk

Decolonizing the Body of Christ: Our Continued Journey with Dr. Christena Cleveland. This is offered in conjunction with the ECCT Racial Healing, Justice, & Reconciliation Ministry Network. The six-month journey begins in March. See the Enews for a link where you can learn more and register.

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.

Camp Washington: Summer Camp 2023 Early Bird Registration Now Open. Camp Washington hosts summer camps for children and youth of all ages and interests. Registration is open, with discounts offered through January. For more information, check out the Camp Washington website.

Save the Date: ECCT 10th Annual Spring Training & Gathering: April 29, 2023. Details to come.



Serving Today

Presider: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Preacher: The Rev. Canon Tim Hodapp **Music Director:** Dr. Noah Horn

Eucharistic Minister: Madeleine Anderson

Lector: Ben Schafer

Intercessor: Jennifer Herdt Sacristan: Madeleine Anderson

Usher:

Coffee Hour Hosts: Bob & Lorna Herdt

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

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those on our Parish prayer list:

Dan (Keri Aubert's brother-in-law)

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:

Christ & the Epiphany, East Haven; St. John's, East Windsor; Christ's Church, Easton; Holy Trinity, Enfield; Comite Hispano, Spanish-language Cursillo, Latino/Hispanic ministries in CT

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

The Church of Pakistan (United)

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

Morocco, Western Sahara, Tunisia

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

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Gina Panza, Head of School ◆ gpanza@stthomasday.org