



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B

Service of Holy Eucharist

December 24, 2017 10 A.M.

If you are new or visiting ...

Welcome! After the service, please come to Coffee Hour (in the Lounge on the 2nd floor) for food and fellowship. Though other churches make the claim, ours really is the Best Coffee Hour in Connecticut. Please consider filling out a blue visitor information card (found in your pew rack). You can request a name tag using the form in the pew rack or the sheet at the entrance. Next Sunday your new name tag will be waiting for you on the table in the foyer inside the main church entrance.

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

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

Education for all ages takes place from 9 to 9:45 A.M. on most Sundays during the academic year.

Wireless access in the Sanctuary is accessible by connecting to wireless network STEC – Guest. Your device will open a web browser and St. Thomas's website. Sunday bulletins are posted on the website's Bulletin Archive. We aim to reduce printing by encouraging worshippers to use their smart devices to follow the order of service.

Restrooms for men and women are located on the second floor. Go through the red double doors at the front of the church, up the stairs to the left, and to the far end of the hallway. An **all-gender restroom (with baby changing table)** in the Vesting Room, located opposite the red double doors at the front of the church.

For the celebration of Holy Eucharist, the People gather around the altar. While this may be unfamiliar to you, most find it to be a powerful experience of true communion at our common table.

All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Baptism is not required; church membership is not required. There are usually two communion stations, one at each front corner of the altar. **Gluten-free bread** is available at each station. **Non-alcoholic wine** is available only from the single server at the center of the altar. Any difference will be explained during the announcements.

To receive Holy Communion hold out your hands, and the server will place bread in them. If you wish to receive wine, please sip it from the common cup, using both hands to guide the chalice to your lips.

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL
830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511

Church Phone: (203) 777-7623 www.stthomasnewhaven.org
Day School Phone: (203) 776-2123 www.stthomasday.org

The Rev. Keri Aubert—Priest-in-Charge pastor@stthomasnewhaven.org
Simon Jacobs—Director of Music and Organist music@stthomasnewhaven.org
Julie Kelly—Administrator, Parish and Property administrator@stthomasnewhaven.org
Gina Panza—Head of Day School gpanza@stthomasday.org
Eric Gregory Snow—Day School Chaplain chaplain@stthomasday.org

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Advent (Winter)
Hillary Tann (b. 1957)

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hymn 267: Praise we the Lord this day, *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Praise we the Lord this day, this day so long fore - told, whose
 2 The pro - phet gave the sign for faith - ful folk to read: a
 3 Ask not how this should be, but wor - ship and a - dore, like
 4 She meek - ly bowed her head to hear the gra - cious word, Ma -
 5 Most blest shall be her name in all the Church on earth, through

1 prom - ise shone with cheer - ing ray on wait - ing saints of old.
 2 vir - gin born of Da - vid's line shall bear the prom - ised seed.
 3 her whom hea - ven's Ma - jes - ty came down to sha - dow o'er.
 4 ry, the pure and low - ly maid, the fa - vored of the Lord.
 5 whom that won - drous mer - cy came, the in - car - nate Sa - vior's birth.

Words: Anon., *Hymns for Festivals and Saints' Days of the Church of England*, 1846, alt.;
 Music: *St. George*, Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

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

A parishioner says this prayer as another lights four Advent candles

Come, O Holy One, as the beloved child, Emmanuel! Soften our hearts and open our arms for your coming that we may make this a place worthy and warm, kindly and safe for all your children, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON

S-91, *The Hymnal 1982*

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

FIRST LESSON

2 SAMUEL 7: 1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 89:1-4, 19-26 (*said by all*)

Misericordias Domini

- 1 Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 'I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"
- 19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: *
"I have set the crown upon a warrior
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- 20 I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21 My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him, *
nor any wicked man bring him down.
- 23 I will crush his foes before him *
and strike down those who hate him.
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
and he shall be victorious through my Name.
- 25 I shall make his dominion extend *
from the Great Sea to the River.
- 26 He will say to me, 'You are my Father, *
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Hymn 66: Come, thou long-expected Jesus, *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788); Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

GOSPEL

LUKE 1:26-38

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

After the Sermon, there follows a short period of silent reflection. 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

Intercessor

Dear children on God, as we joyfully await the full manifestation of God's reign in Christ, let us pray for the needs of the Church, and our world, responding to "God, in your mercy" with "hear our prayer."

Delightful God, who animates Christ's body the church, help us to see your coming light in this season of preparation. Let your light grow ever stronger as this congregation is called to live into your Gospel. Behold and bless your church, remembering especially: Michael our presiding bishop, Ian our bishop, Keri our priest, Don and JoAnn our wardens, our vestry, and all the people of this church. Guide us all in your love and grace. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, your free gift of grace calls us to make straight your path in the wilderness of our lives. Let your word emblazon our hearts, that we may speak your truth in the darkest corners of our society. We pray for Donald our President, Dannel our Governor, Toni our mayor, and all elected officials who have been called to serve your people. May they hear, in this season of preparation, the cries of those whose lands are ravaged by violence and war. May they see the heartbreak of those who are crushed under the weight of systematic oppression. May they seek love and justice in serving the least among us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Nourishing God, we experience your majesty in the creation that surrounds us. Grant us your wisdom in confronting the devastating reality of climate change in our global community. Give us strength to withstand the greed which allows us to stand idly by as sacred lands are decimated and protected lands are destroyed in the name of progress. Renew in us our call to stewardship, in caring for our world as a reflection of your love. God, in your mercy, **hear our Prayer.**

Comforting God, you welcome us just as we are. Pierce our hearts and let your love pour forth, as we recognize those areas of our lives that are not a reflection of your grace. Let your peace surround those who suffer from physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, and let this congregation be a place of safety for those who suffer. Guide us in opening the doors of opportunity for the unemployed, for the homeless, for prisoners, and for all who are oppressed; and lead us in closing the doors that lead to poverty, bigotry, and injustice. Let all who suffer in any way be healed in the light of your heavenly countenance especially: Dorothy, Greg, Katie, Lee, Luann, Marilyn, and Parke. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Victorious God, who died that we may know eternal life, touch those who have died and those who mourn them, and help us to remember all those seasoned saints who have gone before us, that we may find comfort in this life and life after death. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thoughtful God, who promised that, when two or three are gathered, you will be among them, receive now our prayers of need and praise, offered in our hearts or on our lips.

Presider

Almighty God, hear these our prayers, and grant their fulfilment as you desire. Cradle us in the palm of your hand, as we prepare for the coming of your Holy Child, Jesus, the Messiah. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Priest

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept.

Priest 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.**

The People greet one another with a sign of peace, and then are seated for brief announcements.

*Please remain seated for the beginning of the **Offertory Hymn**. The Oblationers come forward immediately, presenting the bread and wine for communion. The Ushers follow but turn and take the collection from the front to the back of the church. The Ushers then bring the collection forward. Follow them up the center aisle, and then join with the congregation to encircle the altar. You are invited to position children where they can see. Small children may sit with a caregiver on the floor in front of the altar. Standing time is approximately 15 minutes. If you are unable to stand, you may sit in one of the chairs near the altar, move to the front row of pews, or remain where you are.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

Hymn 278: Sing we of the blessed mother, *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Sing we of the bless - ed Mo - ther who re - ceived the an - gel's
 2 Sing we, too, of Ma - ry's sor - rows, of the sword that pierced her
 3 Sing a - gain the joys of Ma - ry when she saw the ris - en
 4 Sing the chief - est joy of Ma - ry when on earth her work was

word, and o - be - dient to the sum - mons bore in
 through, when be - neath the cross of Je - sus she his
 Lord, and in prayer with Christ's a - pos - tles, wait - ed
 done, and the Lord of all cre - a - tion brought her

love the in - fant Lord; sing we of the joys of
 weight of suf - fer - ing knew, looked up - on her Son and
 on his prom - ised word; from on high the blaz - ing
 to his heaven - ly home; where, raised high with saints and

Ma - ry at whose breast the child was fed who is
 Sa - vior reign - ing from the aw - ful tree, saw the
 glo - ry of the Spi - rit's pres - ence came, heaven - ly
 an - gels, in Je - ru - sa - lem a - bove, she be -

Son of God e - ter - nal and the ev - er - last - ing Bread.
 price of our re - demp - tion paid to set the sin - ner free.
 breath of God's own be - ing, man - i - fest in wind and flame.
 holds her son and Sa - vior reign - ing as the Lord of love.

Words: George B. Tims (b. 1910), alt.; Music: *Rustington*, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

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 [_____ 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

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

You are invited to say the Lord's Prayer in the language of your choice.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,	as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.
---	---

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

FRACTION ANTHEM

S-160, *The Hymnal 1982*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
 have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: Anaphora chant; Mass 18; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991)

Presider

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to receive Holy Communion at God's table in this church. Please proceed to the most conveniently located station to receive communion, and then return to your seat via a side aisle. Gluten-free bread is available at any station. Non-alcoholic wine is available from the server at the center of the altar. To receive a blessing instead of communion, approach the priest with your arms crossed over your chest.

COMMUNION HYMN

Hymn 265: The angel Gabriel from heaven came, *The Hymnal 1982*

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)

After all have received communion, the people remain seated for a period of silence. Then all stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION 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.**

THE BLESSING

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.**

FINAL HYMN

O come, O come, Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em-man - u - el, and ran - som cap-tive Is - ra - el,
 2. O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - d'rest all things might - i - ly;
LOWER VOICES 3. O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from Sa-tan's ty - ran - ny
UPPER VOICES 4. O come, thou Day-spring from on high, and cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh;
 5. O come, O come, Em-man - u - el, and ran - som cap-tive Is - ra - el,



that mourns in lone-ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 to us the path of know - ledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 that trust thy might y power to save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
 dis - perse the gloom y clouds of night, and death's dark sha-dows put to flight.
 that mourns in lone-ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

DISMISSAL

Priest: *[A priest dismisses the people.]*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Tocatta on 'Veni Emmanuel'

Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

*Unless otherwise indicated, all printed music and anthem texts are used by permission.
 Reprinted under CCLI License #11291249. All rights reserved.*

Announcements

Stay in touch! Subscribe to the Weekly Parish Enews and "like" St. Thomas's on Facebook.

It's Stewardship Season! Don't forget to return your pledge card. If you've already returned it, thank you!

Help is needed after the service today... to decorate the church for Christmas. Because time is so short, it will be simple and quick. Please stay after church to help if you can. There will be no coffee hour this week, but there will be fun decorating fellowship!

Speaking of fellowship... You old-timers may have noticed the huge influx of newcomers and visitors this fall. Y'all have done a great job of welcoming and including them, and of generally making sure that St. Thomas's shows itself at its best. **Thank you!**

Parents of young children... As you know, there is a small selection of children's books in the children's seating areas. We don't keep toys in these areas, for several reasons. But perhaps we should be clear that we are not anti-toy. **Please feel free to bring quiet toys for your children to play with during church.**

Christmas Office Closing. The church office will be closed Friday, December 22, through Monday, January 1. There will be no Enews this week.

Little Free Library. St. Thomas's has a new Little Free Library (see the photo in the Enews)! It was constructed by Gary Robison and Bill Nanfeldt. It has three shelves (one each for adult, young adult, and children's books) and will be mounted in front of the church in early January. We will have a dedication service one Sunday after church. Meanwhile, if you're clearing space on your shelves to make room for the books you received for Christmas, save your old books for give-away in our library. Books for all ages are needed!

Alternative Giving for Christmas. Looking for a gift for the person who has everything? Please consider making a donation in their honor to the nonprofit of your choice. One easy option is to click on the DONATE button on our website - from there you can donate to some of our favorite groups: Episcopal Relief & Development, Loaves & Fishes, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the St. Thomas's Day School Scholarship Fund. In addition, Katherine Vaillancourt & Derek Stefanovsky are collecting funds for the Anglican school and hospital we have joined them in supporting in Northern Malawi—contact them directly. **Let's see how far St. Thomas's can spread Christmas cheer!**

Let's start a new St. T's Christmas tradition: Bring your "family photo" holiday greeting cards! Send or bring your Christmas Cards/Holiday Greetings/Blessings to the Church, for display on the bulletin board in the office hallway. We hope it is the start of a new Holiday Tradition at St. T's. And a great way for those who have moved away to come back! (Thanks to the Ritacco family for the great idea and for getting it started!)

Our Next Parish Social: Friday, January 5, 6 p.m. Potluck and ? Games? Movie? Craft project? If you have an idea, contact Keri.

Evening Prayer at St. Thomas's – Every Tuesday at 6 p.m. Are you interested in deepening your life of prayer while building relationship with our community? Please join us every Tuesday night in the Lady Chapel, as we lift the joys and concerns of our community. Our service begins at 6:00PM, and all are invited.

Confirmation/Reception/Reaffirmation Class. Have you yet to be confirmed? Were you confirmed in another tradition, and would you like to explore more deeply what it means to be an Episcopalian? Were you confirmed in The Episcopal Church but wish to reaffirm your statement of faith? If you're at all interested, contact Keri .

For more information and announcements, see our website and last week's Weekly Parish Enews.

Serving Today

Presider: The Rev. Jakki Flanagan
Preacher: The Rev. Julie Kelsey
Assisting Clergy: The Rev. Keri Aubert
Organist: Simon Jacobs
Emcee: Dr. Dorothy Asch
Seminarian Intern: Matthew Babcock
Eucharistic Minister: Sara Misgen
Crucifer: Michael Dunlap
Lectors: Constance Cahill, Robert Herdt
Intercessor: David Kelsey
Vestry Host: Michael Fournier
Sacristans:
Ushers/Greeters: Bob & Lorna Herdt

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, including:
Dorothy, Greg, Katie, Lee, Luann, Marilyn, Parke

Pray for those who have died.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

Calvary St. George's, Bridgeport; St. Luke/St. Paul, Bridgeport; St. John's, Bridgeport; Ministries to the homeless, for parishes that offer a temporary or permanent shelter. For Chapel on the Green, New Haven, Church by the Pond, Hartford, and all Ecclesia ministries. For the ministry of the Midnight Runs

Prayer for Knowledge of God's Creation (BCP, p. 827): Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Officers and Vestry

Joann Sweasy (Senior Warden)
Don Edwards (Junior Warden)
Alexander Scherer (Treasurer)
Sarah Insley (Clerk)
Anne Harrison (Assistant Treasurer)
Laura Bower-Phipps
Michael Fournier
Daniel Harrison
Martha Deeds Hogan
Kevin Johnson
Chris Martinez
Tom Radice
Jennifer Regan
Christopher Ritacco
The Rev. Keri Aubert (Priest-in-Charge)

Church (Volunteer) Associate Priests

The Rev. Dexter Cheney
The Rev. Jakki Flanagan
The Rev. Julie Kelsey
The Rev. Bill Loutrel
The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Sharp
The Rev. Lee McGee Street
The Rev. Dr. Parke Street
The Rev. Dr. Lynda Z. Tyson

Church Ministry Coordinators

Dr. Dorothy Asch—Volunteer Lay Assistant

Day School Board of Trustees

Gina Panza—Head of School
The Rev. Keri Aubert—President, Day School Corp.
Jonathan Macey (Chair)
Gina Criscuolo (Vice-Chair)
Tracey Meares (Treasurer)
Jeralyn Fantarella (Secretary)
Alex Babbidge
Frank Chang
Don Edwards
John Forrest
Jennifer McTiernan
Eileen O'Donnell
Kenneth Paul
Kathryn Scherer
Denise Terry

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL
830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511
(203) 777-7623
www.stthomasnewhaven.org