



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT, YEAR B

Liturgy of the Word

March 21, 2021 10 A.M.

VOLUNTARY

Aria

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), *Goldberg-Variationen*, BWV 988

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

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Presider

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider

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

Presider and People

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

Presider

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

KYRIE

William Byrd, *Mass for Four Voices*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

JEREMIAH 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51:1-13

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.

- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

THE SECOND LESSON

HEBREWS 5:5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

When I survey the wondrous cross (474, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross where the young
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were an
 Prince of Glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 cross of Christ, my God: all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
 of - fering far too small; love so a - maz - ing,
 count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748) Music: *Rockingham*, from *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, ca. 1780; harm. Edward Miller (1731-1807)

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 12:20-33

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

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

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the

earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

Presider and People

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

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

Intercessor and People

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

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

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

We pray for all that you have created and named good, especially the land, sea, sky, and life surrounding us, that it may be cherished in the present and preserved for the future. Lord, have mercy; **Christ, have mercy.**

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

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

We pray for the children and youth of this and every community, that they may know love and safety, and grow in wisdom and kindness. Lord, have mercy; **Christ, have mercy.**

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

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

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

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

Presider

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

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

HYMN

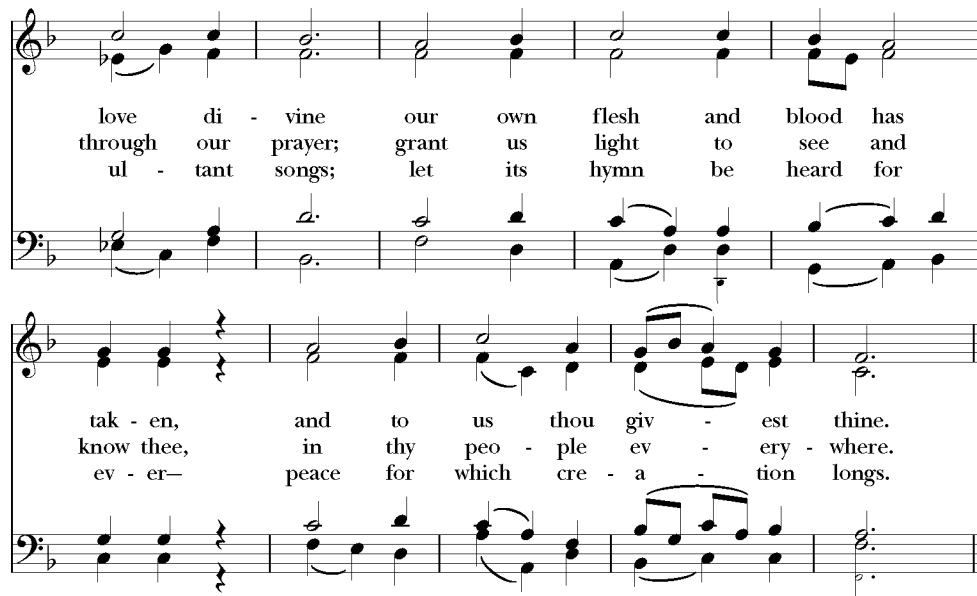
Come with us, O blessed Jesus (336, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 Come with us, O bless - ed Je - sus, with us ev - er -
*2 Come with us, O might - y Sa - vior, God from God, and
*3 Come with us, O King of glo - ry, by an - gel - ic

more to be; and though leav - ing now thine
Light from Light; thou art God, thy glo - ry
voic - es praised; in our hearts as in thy

al - tar, let us nev - er - more leave thee.
veil - ing, so that we may bear the sight.
hea - ven, be en - rap - tured an - thems raised.

Be thou one with us for ev - er, in our life thy
Now we go to seek and serve thee, through our work as
Let the might - y cho - rus ev - er sing its glad ex -



love di - vine our own flesh and blood has
through our prayer; grant us light to see and
ul - tant songs; let its hymn be heard for

tak - en, and to us thou giv - est thine.
know thee, in thy peo - ple ev - ery - where.
ev - er - peace for which cre - a - tion longs.

Words: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891); sts. 2-3, Charles P. Price (b. 1920) Copyright ©1982, Charles P. Price. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: *Werde munter*, Johann Schop (d. 1665?); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,**

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

A PRAYER OF COMMUNION *[The Rev. Keri Aubert]*

Presider and People

**Holy God, we are your people,
bound to you by Jesus Christ,
through whom you assumed our fleshly vulnerability,
and in whom we find salvation and reconciliation.**

**We remember his birth, and grow in joy;
we remember his life, and grow in love;
we remember his passion, and grow in compassion;
we remember his resurrection, and grow in hope;
for all this, we give thanks.**

**As we course through our days,
make us ministers of your abiding Word,
with the power of your eternal Spirit. Amen.**

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Presider

Bow down before the Lord. [*Silence is kept.*] Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Schafe können sicher weiden

Schafe können sicher weiden,
wo ein guter Hirte wacht.

Sheep can graze securely
where a good shepherd watches.

Wo Regenten wohl regieren,
kann man Ruh und Friede spüren
und was Länder glücklich macht.

Where rulers govern well
quiet and peace can be experienced
and all that makes countries happy.

Words: Salomon Franck (1659–1725) Music: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), *Was mir behagt* (1713), BWV 208

After the Anthem, you are invited to stay online for virtual Coffee Hour. Please see the Parish Enews for the latest announcements and information.

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Announcements

Stay in touch! Subscribe to the Weekly Parish Enews and “like” St. Thomas’s on Facebook.

Bible Study, Thursday, March 25, 7:30 p.m. – Psalms, Week 7: The Character of God AND Week 8: The Psalms of Poetry. It’s our final week with the Psalms. Details are in the Enews. Keep a look out for what’s next.

Holy Week Worship. For each of the Triduum services (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil), we are offering two worship options: (1) a do-it-yourself "Liturgy for Dispersed People" for use any time at home, and (2) an online Zoom service at 8 p.m. (On Good Friday, you might also consider using one of the Way of the Cross resources provided.) We’ll also provide a “Liturgy for Dispersed People” for use during the day on Holy Saturday. On Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, worship will be as usual via Zoom at 10 a.m. Details are in the Enews

Lenten Almsgiving. Remember, the three traditional Lenten practices are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. If you need some Lenten almsgiving ideas, the Connecticut Food Bank continues to have pressing need during the pandemic. You might also consider Episcopal Relief & Development’s US Disaster Fund. Remember, 100% of your ERD donation goes to program.

Save the dates: 9th Annual ECCT Spring Training and Gathering: Tuesday, April 6 - Saturday, April 17.

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Musician: Dr. Noah Horn

Lectors: Jenny Chavira, Don Edwards

Intercessor: Claire Scully

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those on our Parish prayer list:

Cynthia (Sally Edwards' sister-in-law), Franklin (Heather and Alexandria Robison's grandfather), Sally (Edwards)

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:

those most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, including all who have lost loved ones, all frontline workers, and all who lack the income necessary for adequate food and shelter

Pray for those have died.

In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer, pray for: Grace Church, Hartford; St. Martin's, Hartford; St. Monica's, Hartford; ECCT Joint Leadership members of the Mission Council, Missionary Society, Standing Committee, Commission on Ministry and Donations & Bequests

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

The Church of England

In the World Council of Churches Ecumenical

Prayer Cycle, pray for: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Vestry

Greg D'Andrea (Senior Warden)

Linda Meyer (Junior Warden)

Bill English (Treasurer)

Denise Terry (Clerk)

Valerie Garlick

Claire Scully

Sara Zampierin

The Rev. Keri Aubert (Rector)

Church (Volunteer) Associate Priests

The Rev. Canon K. Dexter Cheney

The Rev. Jakki Flanagan

Day School Board of Trustees

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John Forrest (Vice-Chair)

Heather Tookes Alexopoulos (Treasurer)

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Denise Terry (Church Junior Warden)

The Rev. Keri Aubert (President, Day School Corp.)

Gina Panza (Head of School)

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

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