

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, YEAR A Service of Holy Eucharist February 12, 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.

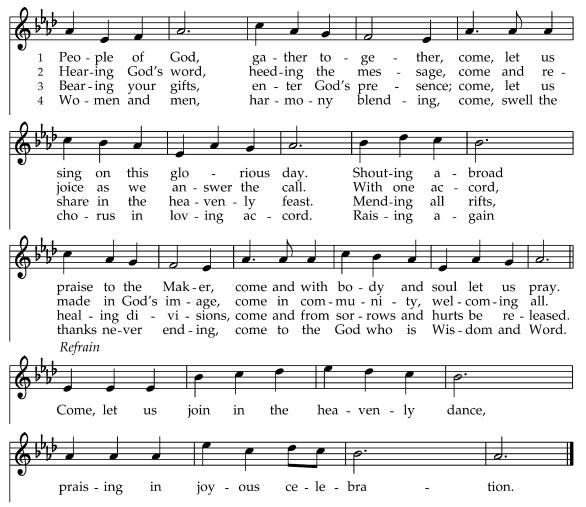
Wireless access in the Sanctuary is accessible by connecting to wireless network STEC – Guest. Your device will open a web browser and the St. Thomas's website. Bulletins are posted in the website's Bulletin Archive. To reduce printing, we encourage worshippers to use their smart devices to follow the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

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

HYMN

People of God, gather together (109, Voices Found)



Words: Patricia B. Clark © 2003 Selah Publishing Company, Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3306.

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Music: Earth and All Stars, David N. Johnson © Augsburg Fortress Publishers.

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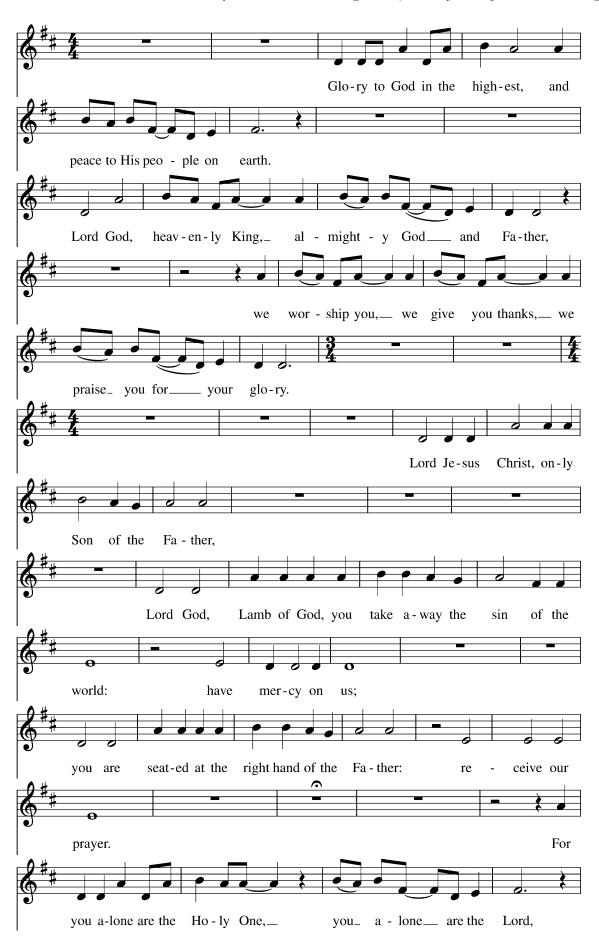
OPENING ACCLAMATION

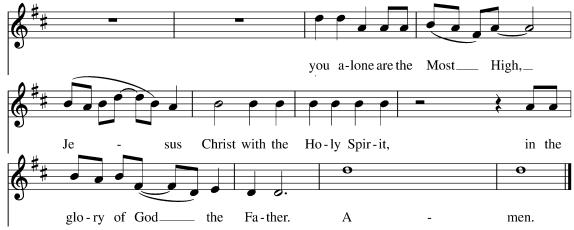
Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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.**





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.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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

DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

Moses said, "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

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

PSALM 119:1-8 (sung by the Choir)

- 1 Happy are they whose way is blameless, * who walk in the law of the LORD!
- 2 Happy are they who observe his decrees * and seek him with all their hearts!
- 3 Who never do any wrong, * but always walk in his ways.
- 4 You laid down your commandments, * that we should fully keep them.
- 5 Oh, that my ways were made so direct * that I might keep your statutes!
- 6 Then I should not be put to shame, * when I regard all your commandments.
- 7 I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, * when I have learned your righteous judgments.
- 8 I will keep your statutes; * do not utterly forsake me.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-9

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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

All stand.



Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878), alt. Music: Wer nur den lieben Gott, Georg Neumark (1621-1681).

THE GOSPEL MATTHEW 5:21-37

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go;

first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

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

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

Presider and People

This is what we know to be true:
out of the chaos of the waters,
God spoke light and life into the world,
creating all things to contain God's glory
and display God's love.

This is what we know to be true:

In the midst of the chaos and beauty of human life,
Jesus was born.
He lived a life completely full of God.
He fed and healed, taught and turned the world upside down.
He spoke the truth of love to power
and died with that truth intact.

The Risen Christ lives among us and within us, that we might do even greater things.

This is what we know to be true:

The Holy Spirit, like breath, like wind,
is the power of God moving over and through us.

By the power of the Spirit,
we proclaim God's kingdom and serve God's world.

This is what we know:

We are God's, because God loves us. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[A Resource from the Episcopal Church Standing Commission on Liturgy & Music]

Presider

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Intercessor and People

God of love, we pray for your church: For all lay and ordained ministers, and for all who seek you in the community of the faithful. Equip us with compassion and love, to carry out your work of reconciliation in the world. God of love, **Hear our prayers for the church.**

God of freedom, we pray for our nation, and all the nations of the world: For peace and unity across barriers of language, color, and creed; for elected and appointed leaders, that they would serve the common good. Inspire all people with courage to speak out against hatred, to actively resist evil. Unite the human family in bonds of love. God of freedom, **Hear our prayers for the world.**

God of justice, we pray for the earth, your creation entrusted to our care: For the animals and birds, the mountains and oceans, and all parts of your creation that have no voice of their own. Stir up in us a thirst for justice that protects the earth and all its resources, that we may leave to our children's children the legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us. God of justice, **Hear our prayers for the earth.**

God of peace, we pray for this community: For our local leaders; for our schools and markets; for our neighborhoods and workplaces. Kindle in every heart a desire for equality, respect, and opportunity for all. Give us courage to strive for justice and peace among all people, beginning here at home. God of peace, **Hear our prayers for this community.**

God of mercy, we pray for all in any kind of need or trouble: For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, and those connected to us as part of the human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and suffering, the lonely and despairing; for those facing violence; for all held down by prejudice or injustice. Awaken in us compassion and humility of spirit, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons. God of mercy, **Hear our prayers for all who are in need.**

God of grace, we pray for those who have died: For the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who called us to racial reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints. Make us faithful to your call to

proclaim your Good News, by word and example, and bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light. God of grace, **Hear our prayers for those who have died.**

God of understanding, we pray also for those things that we now offer to you either silently or aloud. [You are invited to offer your prayer intentions.]

Presider

Hear our prayers, Holy God. Breathe your Spirit over us and all the earth, that barriers would crumble and divisions cease. Make us more fully your co-healers of the broken world. Unite us with all people in bonds of love, that the whole earth and all its peoples may be at peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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**.

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 <u>CLICK HERE</u>. Thank you!

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Rise, heart; thy Lord is risen

Rise heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his Praise Without delays,

Who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise With him may'st rise:

That, as his death calcined thee to dust, His life may make thee gold, and much more just.

Awake, my Lute, and struggle for thy part With all thy art.

The Cross taught all wood to resound his name, Who bore the same.

His stretched sinews taught all strings, what Key Is best to celebrate this most high Day.

Consort both heart and lute, and twist a song
Pleasant and long.

Or, since all Music is but three parts vied, And multiplied;

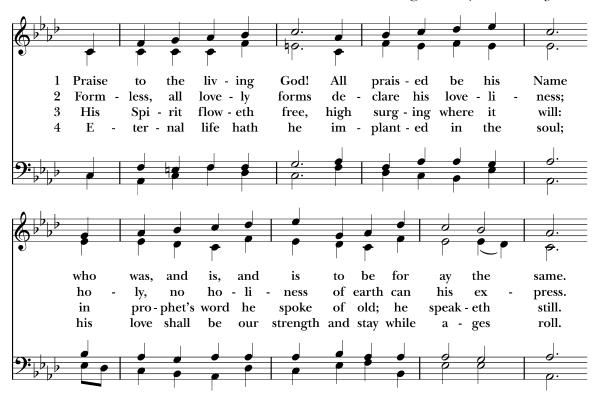
O let thy blessed Spirit bear a part, And make up our defects with his sweet art.

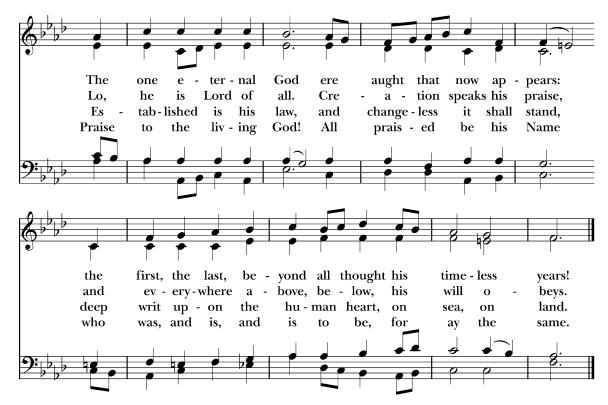
Words: George Herbert (1593–1633), The Temple, 1633 Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958), 5 Mystical Songs, 1911

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

Praise to the living God! (372, The Hymnal 1982)





Words: Medieval Jewish liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845-1928) and Newton M. Mann (1836-1926). Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1985, alt.

THE HOLY COMMUNION THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP 1



Presider

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



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

Presider

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Presider

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your children, that with [______ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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.

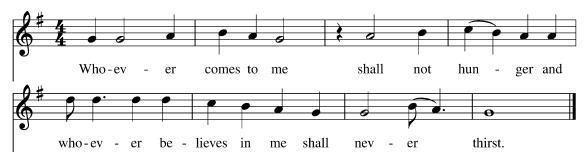
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,

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

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

FRACTION ANTHEM



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 receiving communion or a blessing, please return to your original seat.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Ave regina caelorum

Ave Regina caelorum,
Ave Domina Angelorum
salve radix sancta
ex qua mundo lux est orta
gaude gloriosa
super omnes speciosa
vale valde decora
et pro nobis semper Christum exora.

Hail, Queen of Heaven!
Hail, Mistress of Angels!
Hail, holy root,
from which the Light for the world has risen.
Rejoice, glorious,
beautiful above all others.
Farewell, most gracious,
and pray for us to Christ.

Words: Marian antiphon Music: Orlande de Lassus (1532–1594), à 6 (1582)

After all have received communion, all stand.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Presider: | The Presider blesses the People.]

People: Amen.

HYMN

God of grace and God of glory (594, The Hymnal 1982)



Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), alt. By permission of the author. Music: Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes (1873-1932).

[The Presider dismisses the People.] Thanks be to God.

Presider: **People:**

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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.

IRIS Run for Refugees: It's in progress! Thanks to Jennifer Herdt and all donors to the St. Thomas's Team.

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. Remember, Meg serves as missional curate at St. Thomas', Bethel; she will continue in that role as she begins her priestly ministry.

We had a great Parish Annual Meeting last Sunday. We had a great parish annual meeting this past Sunday. See Thursday's Enews for details.

Inquirers Class: Are you interested in participating this year? To participate, email Keri ASAP.

Thursday Night Study Group, 7:30 p.m. We're discussing the upcoming Sunday readings. Details in the Enews.



Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Music Director: Dr. Noah Horn

Eucharistic Minister: Madeleine Anderson

Lector: **Intercessor:**

Sacristan: Madeleine Anderson

Usher: Gary Robison

Coffee Hour Hosts: The Robisons

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Vestry

Jennifer Herdt (Senior Warden) Linda Meyer (Junior Warden) Bill English (Treasurer) Denise Terry (Clerk) Madeleine Anderson Max Ballardo 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:

St. David's, Gales Ferry; St. James', Glastonbury; St. Luke's, Glastonbury; Christ Church, Greenwich; The Union of Black Episcopalians CT and the Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation Ministry Network

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

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

Austria, Liechtenstein, Switzerland

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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