



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B

Liturgy of the Word

May 9, 2021 10 A.M.

INTROIT

For the beauty of the earth

For the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower,
Sun and moon and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine
To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine,
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.

Words: Foliott Sandford Pierpoint (1835–1917), 1864 Music: John Rutter (b. 1945), 1980

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

HYMN

All things bright and beautiful (111, *Voices Found*)

Descant

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

Refrain

G C Am D C D G

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.

G E D Am D C D G

all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

he made their glow - ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - mighty - y, who has made all things well.

OPENING ACCLAMATION, SALUTATION, AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen!
People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Presider: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

PSALM 98

Walter Parratt

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 JOHN 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ALLELUIA

(9, *Enriching Our Music 1*)



Setting: David Hurd, from *Music for the Eucharist*, © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
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Cantor: A new commandment I give to you:
love one another as I have loved you.

The People sing the Gospel Alleluia again.

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 15:9-17

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

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

Jesus said to his disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [*The Rev. Kay Sylvester, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Tustin, CA*]

Presider and People

**We give our hearts to God,
who is making the heavens and the earth.**

**We see God’s handiwork
in the smallest and greatest,
in the drop of water and
the galaxies arrayed in starry beauty.
We are part of God’s good work.**

**We give our hearts to Jesus,
who walked softly on the earth
to show us the Way.
He lived a life of compassion,
and died at the hands of those who chose domination.
His new, risen life calls us to embody resurrection,
for one another and for the world.**

**We give our hearts to God’s restless Spirit,
who renews us, remakes us,
and teaches us the way of Jesus,
enabling us to do God’s work in the world.**

**We believe that it is time
for the earth to depend upon us for salvation
as we have so long depended upon her.
We give our hearts to faith in God’s love
and God’s power to renew all creation. Amen.**

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

Intercessor and People

Our Savior is resurrected from the dead, bringing renewal to Christians around the globe. With joyful gratitude, we pray for the church and for the world.

We pray for the church universal: guide the ministers of your Word as they honor the traditions of the past, tend the cares of the present, and build the communities of the future. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the leaders of the world: plant wisdom and compassion in their hearts, and teach them to sow seeds of righteousness and mercy. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this wondrous creation: continue to reveal its bountiful complexity and fragile beauty, and inspire us to safeguard these gifts for all posterity. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your human family: take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this holy gathering of the faithful: strengthen us to continue in the way of the apostles, proclaim the Good News of God in Christ, seek and serve Christ in all persons, and strive for justice and peace among all people. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in any need or trouble: feed the hungry, tend the sick, relieve the weary, bless the dying, and soothe the suffering. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for people around the globe as the coronavirus pandemic continues: comfort the grieving, protect the vulnerable, and heal the healers. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died: give them Christ's triumph over death, and bring them into your perpetual light. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the concerns that we now lift to you, either aloud or in the stillness of our hearts. [*You may unmute yourself to offer a prayer intention.*]

Presider

Risen Christ, hear the prayers offered by these your gathered people; instill in our hearts the assurance of your resurrected life, that we may follow your Way in faith, hope, joy, and love; in the name of the one Holy and undivided Trinity. **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

As those of old their first fruits brought (705, *The Hymnal* 1982)

Unison or harmony

1 As those of old their first fruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and
*2 A world in need now sum - mons us to la - bor, love, and
3 With grat - i - tude and hum - ble trust we bring our best to

field to God, the giv - er of all good, the
give; to make our life an of - fer - ing to
thee to serve thy cause and share thy love with

source of bount-eous yield; so we to - day our
God that all may live; the Church of Christ is
all hu - man - i - ty. O thou who gav - est

first fruits bring, the wealth of this good land, of
call - ing us to make the dream come true: a
us thy - self in Je - sus Christ thy Son, help

farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind, and heart, and hand.
world re - deemed by Christ - like love; all life in Christ made new.
us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Words: Frank von Christiernson (b. 1900), alt. Copyright ©1961 by The Hymn Society of America. Music: *Forest Green*, English melody; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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.**

EASTER BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Presider: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

ANTHEM

Laudate Dominum

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes
laudate eum omnes populi
quoniam confirmata est super nos misericordia ejus
et veritas Domini manet in aeternum.

Gloria Patri et Filio
et Spiritui Sancto
sicut erat in principio
et nunc et semper
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Praise the LORD, all you nations;
laud him, all you peoples.
For his loving-kindness toward us is great,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Words: Psalm 117 Music: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791), *Vesperae solennes de confessore*, KV 339 (1780)

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.

Yale Bible Study: Acts of the Apostles. Thursday, May 13, 7:30 p.m. Week 2: Community and Mission. See the Enews for details.

Rogation Liturgy for Dispersed People: It’s Rogation Sunday! Take your faith outside, with this do-it-yourself service of scripture, poetry, and prayer. Download it from the Enews or the bulletin archive on the parish website.

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Music Director: Dr. Noah Horn

Lectors: Max Ballardo, Madeleine Anderson

Intercessor:

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

Pray for those have died.

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

St. Mark’s, New Britain; St. Mark’s, New Canaan; Christ Church, New Haven; Parish prayer groups; intercessory prayer chains; healing prayer groups, and parish and community bible studies

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

The Anglican Church of Kenya

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

India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

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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Gina Panza (Head of School)

ST. THOMAS’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

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