



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, YEAR C

Liturgy of the Word

February 20, 2022 10 A.M.

Whether you are new or returning, WELCOME!

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.

INTROIT

Oculi omnium

Oculi omnium in te sperant Domine
et tu das escam illorum in tempore opportuno.
Gloria tibi Domine. Amen.

The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,
and you give them their food in due season.
Glory be to God. Amen.

Words: Psalm 145:16 Music: Charles Wood (1866–1926)

HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (390, *The Hymnal* 1982)

Descant

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -
dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with
a reign - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
fend - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall

prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his
 health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.
 or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
 People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

GENESIS 45:3-11,15

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, “Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.”

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 37:1-12,41-42

Presider and People

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.**
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.**

- 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the LORD, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38,42-50

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Before the Lord's eternal throne (391, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 Be - fore the Lord's e - ter - nal throne, ye
2 His sov - ereign Power with - out our aid formed
3 We are his peo - ple, we his care, our
4 We'll crowd thy gates with thank - ful songs, high
5 Wide as the world is thy com - mand, vast

1 na - tions, bow with sa - cred joy; know that the Lord is
2 us of clay and gave us breath; and when like wan - dering
3 souls, and all our mor - tal frame: what last - ing hon - or
4 as the heavens our voic - es raise; and earth, with her ten
5 as e - ter - ni - ty thy love; firm as a rock thy

1 God a - lone; he can cre - ate, and he des - troy.
2 sheep we strayed, he saved us from the power of death.
3 shall we rear, al - might - y Ma - ker, to thy Name?
4 thou - sand tongues, shall fill thy courts with sound - ing praise.
5 truth must stand, when roll - ing years shall cease to move.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 100
Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 6:27-38

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and

you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

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 *[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 may unmute yourself to offer a prayer intention.]

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 PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

You are invited to exchange with one another a sign of peace.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your ongoing financial support of St. Thomas's Church is sincerely appreciated. 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 may simply [CLICK HERE](#). Thank you!

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887)

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

God of abundant love, we thank you for nurturing us with this holy gathering of holy people. When we are alone, remind us of the communion we share with one another and with you. When we are hungry, show us the banquet that you are preparing for the redemption of the world. Keep peace in our hearts, so that we can sow peace on the Earth, walking in gladness the way of your beloved child, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Presider [*The Presider blesses the People.*] **Amen.**

Presider: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C# major

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), BWV 848, from *Das wohltemperierte Klavier*

After the Voluntary, you are invited to stay online for virtual Coffee Hour.

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Announcements

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

To keep up with the latest parish events and information, please see the most recent edition of the Weekly Parish Enews. From the Home page of the Parish website (www.stthomasnewhaven.org), you can go to the Enews archive or subscribe to have future editions delivered to your email inbox.

Ash Wednesday is March 2—and on that day we expect to **return to in-person worship** with our 7 p.m. liturgy that day. Stay tuned for information.

Our preacher today is parishioner Denise Terry. Thank you, Denise!

Thanks to all for a great Annual Parish meeting last Sunday! Thanks especially to all who stood for election to parish leadership, and most especially to outgoing Senior Warden **Greg D'Andrea** and incoming Senior Warden **Jennifer Herdt**!

See the news for a request for volunteers to run food to Loaves & Fishes, for information about the Episcopal Church 101 and Inquirers Class, and more.



Serving Today

Presider: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Preacher: Denise Terry

Music Director: Dr. Noah Horn

Lector: Jenny Chavira

Intercessor: Madeleine Anderson

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those on our Parish prayer list:

Cynthia (Sally Edwards' sister-in-law), Katie (Coleman), Leon (Denise Terry's brother-in-law), Lily (Madeleine Anderson's mother), Sally (Edwards)

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Pray for those who have died.

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

St. Barnabas', Greenwich; Christ Church, Guilford; St. John's, Guilford; Grace & St. Peter's, Hamden; All parish-based mission partnerships; ECCT-wide mission partnership networks; the Companions in Mission Network

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East

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

France, Germany, Monaco

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Vestry

Jennifer Herdt (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

Seminarian Intern

Ike Harijanto

Day School Board of Trustees

John Forrest (Chair)

Greg Mokotoff (Vice-Chair)

Heather Tookes Alexopoulos (Treasurer)

Eileen O'Donnell (Secretary)

Christopher Cavallaro Luk De Volder

Don Edwards William English

Jeralyn Fantarella Robert Herdt

Otoniel Reyes Chris Vigilante

Linda Meyer (Church Junior Warden)

Keri Aubert (President, Day School Corp.)

Gina Panza (Head of School)

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

The Rev. Keri Aubert, Rector ♦ k.aubert@stthomasnewhaven.org
Dr. Noah Horn, Music Director ♦ n.horn@stthomasnewhaven.org
Julie Kelly, Administrator ♦ j.kelly@stthomasnewhaven.org
Gina Panza, Head of School ♦ gpanza@stthomasday.org