

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (PROPER 12, YEAR A)

Service of Morning Prayer

July 26, 2020 10 A.M.

INTROIT

If God be for us, who can be against us?

If God be for us, who can be against us?  
Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect?

Words: Romans 8:31,33 Music: George Frideric Handel (1685–1759), *Messiah*, 1742

HYMN

Seek ye first the kingdom of God (711, *The Hymnal* 1982)

1  
Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,  
and its right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be  
seek, and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be  
add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
*Refrain*  
2  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

OPENING SENTENCE

*Officiant*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

THE CONFESSION

*Officiant*

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

*Officiant 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.

*Officiant*

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

### THE INVITATORY

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant and People*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### VENITE

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture  
and the sheep of his hand. \*

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

## PSALM 105:1-11,45

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; \*  
make known his deeds among the peoples.
  - 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
and speak of all his marvelous works.
  - 3 Glory in his holy Name; \*  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
  - 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face.
  - 5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
  - 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.
  - 7 He is the LORD our God; \*  
his judgments prevail in all the world.
  - 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, \*  
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
  - 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, \*  
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
  - 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, \*  
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
  - 11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan \*  
to be your allotted inheritance."
- 45 Hallelujah!  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## THE FIRST LESSON

GENESIS 29:15-28

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we

will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## CANTICLE 16

The Song of Zechariah

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear, \*  
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.  
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

MATTHEW 13:31-33,44-52

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*Officiant and People*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS**

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

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

<b>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,</b>	<b>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, forever and ever. Amen.</b>
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Officiant: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**People: And grant us your salvation.**

Officiant: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**People: Let your people sing with joy.**

Officiant: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**People: For only in you can we live in safety.**

Officiant: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**People: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Officiant: Let your way be known upon earth;

**People: Your saving health among all nations.**

Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**People: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**People: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

*Officiant*

*(The Collect of the Day)* O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*(Collect for Peace)* Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of you love; 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.**

*(A Prayer for Mission)* Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*The Officiant will add prayers of intercession and thanksgiving.*

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*Officiant and People*

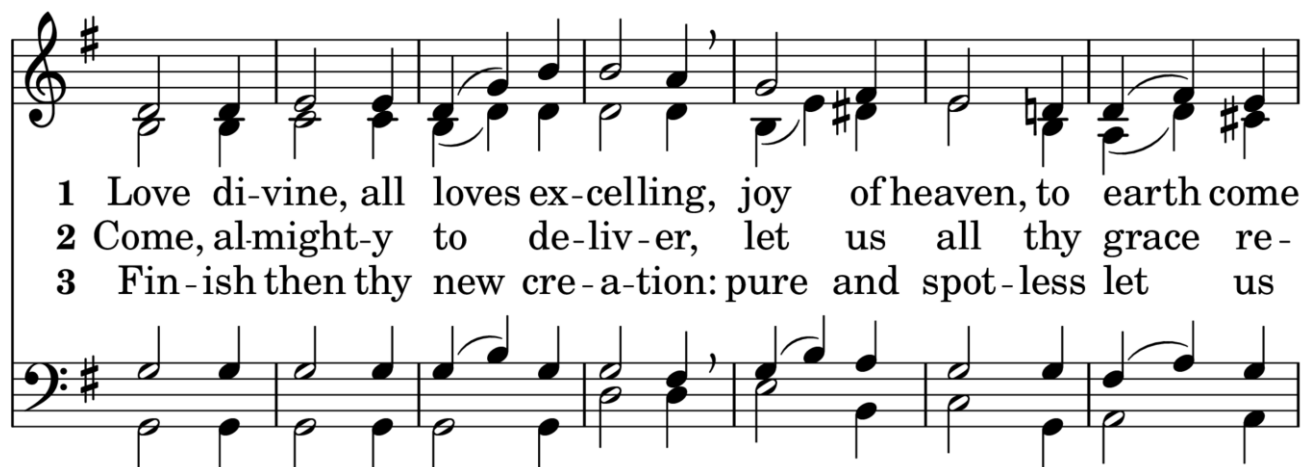
Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## 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](http://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

Love divine, all loves excelling (721b, *Hymns Ancient and Modern*)



The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Love divine, all loves excelling". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-celling, joy of heaven, to earth come  
2 Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er, let us all thy grace re-  
3 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion: pure and spot-less let us

8

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

15

mer - cies crown. Je - su, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 stored in thee; Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry

21

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

27

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.



## DISMISSAL AND CONCLUDING SENTENCE

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Romans 15:13*

## VOLUNTARY

Invention in F major  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), BWV 779

*After the Voluntary, 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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### Serving Today

**Officiant:** Ricardo Chavira

**Musician:** Dr. Noah Horn

**Lectors:** William English, Bob Herdt

### This Week's Prayer Intentions

**Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:**  
all who are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially those who work in healthcare and those who have lost their livelihood

**Pray for those who have died.**

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

Christ Church, Roxbury; St. John's, Salisbury; Trinity, Seymour; Christ Church, Sharon; Parish office volunteers; curates; seminary interns; parish assistants and associates; missional curacies

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:**

the team responsible for preparing the Lambeth Conference, which was due to be taking place now – please pray for them as they consider the implications of its postponement in light of the Covid-19 pandemic

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

Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principev

### Leadership at St. Thomas's

#### Church Vestry

Kyle Holton (Senior Warden)  
Denise Terry (Junior Warden)  
Ricardo Chavira (Treasurer)  
Linda Meyer (Clerk)  
Greg D'Andrea  
Bill English  
Chris Martinez  
Alexandria Robison  
Catherine Stricklan  
The Rev. Keri Aubert (Rector)

#### Church (Volunteer) Associate Priests

The Rev. Canon K. Dexter Cheney  
The Rev. Jakki Flanagan

#### Day School Board of Trustees

Gina Criscuolo (Chair)  
John Forrest (Vice-Chair)  
Heather Tookes Alexopoulos (Treasurer)  
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Alexander Babbidge      Christopher Cavallaro      Don Edwards  
William English      Jeralyn Fantarella  
Linda Meyer      Kenneth Paul      Tony Reyes  
Denise Terry (Parish Junior Warden)  
The Rev. 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](http://www.stthomasnewhaven.org)  
Day School: (203) 776-2123 ♦ [www.stthomasday.org](http://www.stthomasday.org)