

# ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## CHRISTMAS DAY Holy Eucharist

December 25, 2016

10:00 A.M.

*Information for newcomers and visitors is located on the back page of this service bulletin.*

**VOLUNTARY**      In dulci jubilo, BuxWV 197      Dietrich Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707)

*At the ringing of the bell, please stand.*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

Once in royal David's city  
Hymn 102 (*Irby*)

**VERSES 3 & 5 ARE OMITTED**

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a  
2 He came down to earth from hea - ven, who is  
\*3 We, like Ma - ry, rest con - found - ed that a  
4 For he is our life - long pat - tern; dai - ly,  
\*5 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his  
6 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the

1 low - ly cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her  
2 God and Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a  
3 sta - ble should dis - play hea - ven's Word, the world's cre -  
4 when on earth he grew, he was tempt - ed, scorned, re -  
5 own re - deem - ing love; for that child who seemed so  
6 ox - en stand - ing round, we shall see him; but in

1 ba - by in a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry  
 2 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall; with the  
 3 a - tor, cra - dled there on Christ - mas Day, yet this  
 4 ject - ed, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he  
 5 help - less is our Lord in heaven a - bove; and he  
 6 hea - ven, where his saints his throne sur - round: Christ, re -

1 was that mo - ther mild, — Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child. —  
 2 poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.  
 3 child, our Lord and bro - ther, brought us love for one an - oth - er.  
 4 feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.  
 5 leads his chil - dren on — to the place where he is gone. —  
 6 vealed to faith - ful eye, — set at God's right hand on high. —

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

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

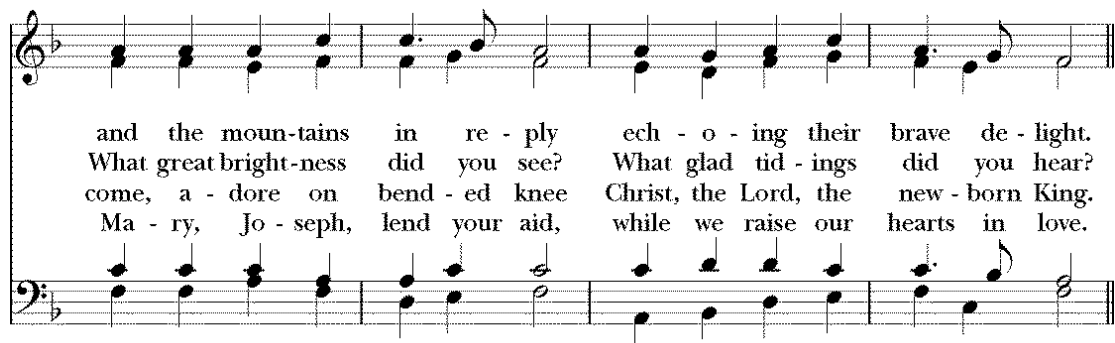
*The presider says the following while the Christmas candle is lit.*

Glory to you, Giver of all good gifts! We offer you glad thanks and praise for every blessing from your love, and especially for the best gift of yourself in the child Jesus.  
**Amen.**

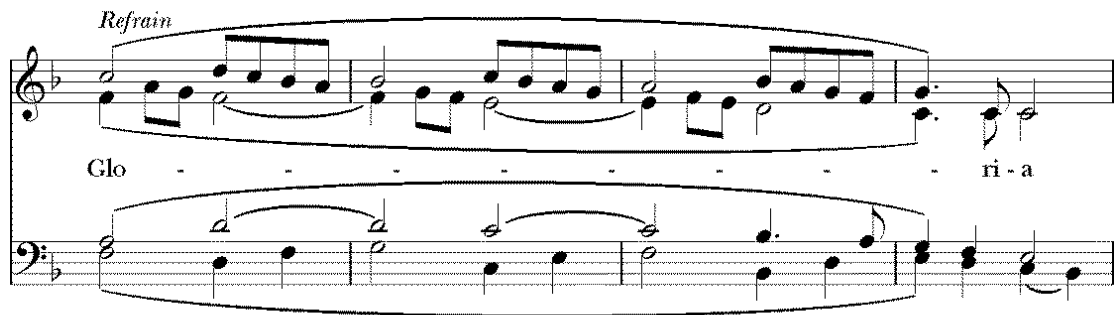
**SONG OF PRAISE**

Angels we have heard on high  
 Hymn 96 (*Gloria*)

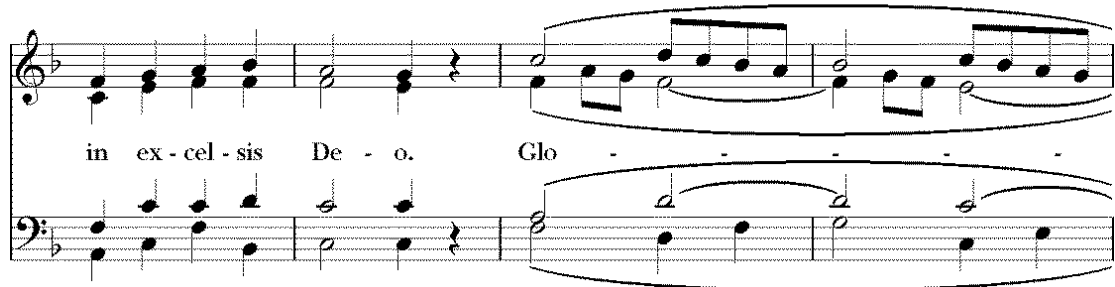
1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,  
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
 4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



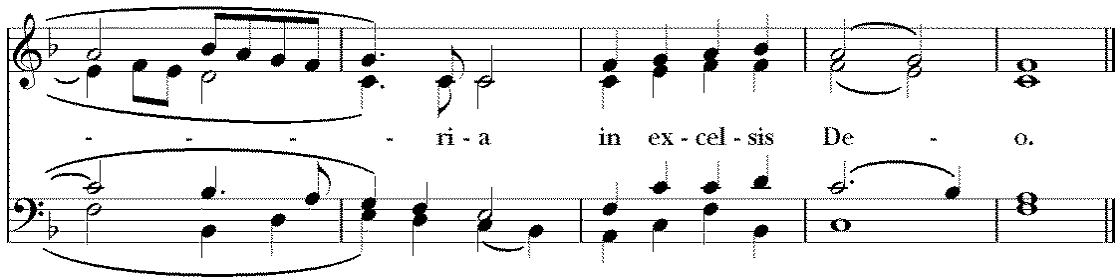
and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.  
 What great bright-ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.  
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.



*Refrain*  
 Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

**THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 98 *(said by all)*

*Cantate Domino*

- 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

HEBREWS 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son;  
today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father,  
and he will be my Son"?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds,  
and his servants flames of fire."

But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

And,

"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands;  
they will perish, but you remain;  
they will all wear out like clothing;  
like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed.  
But you are the same,  
and your years will never end."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

Of the Father's love begotten  
Hymn 82 (*Divinum mysterium*)



1 Of the Fa-ther's love be-got-ten, ere the worlds be-  
2 O that birth for ev-er bless-ed, when the Vir-gin,  
3 Let the heights of heaven a-dore him; an-gel hosts, his  
4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa-ther, and, O Ho-ly

gan to be, he is Al-pha and O-me-ga,  
full of grace, by the Ho-ly Ghost con-ceiving,  
prais-es sing; powers, do-min-ions, bow be-fore him,  
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks-giv-ing,

he the source, the end-ing he, of the things that  
bore the Sa-rior of our race; and the Babe, the  
and ex-tol our God and King; let no tongue on  
and un-wea-ried prais-es be; hon-or, glo-ry

are, that have been, and that fu-ture  
world's Re-deem-er, first re-vealed his  
earth be-si-lent, ev-ery voice in  
and do-min-ion, and e-ter-nal

years shall see, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!  
sa-cred face, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!  
con-cert ring, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!  
vic-to-ry, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 1:1-14

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of

God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*All are seated.*

## STORY TIME AND CAROL SING

*All stand.*

## THE NICENE CREED

*Celebrant 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**

*Priest*

In the stillness of this holy season of Christmas, let us pray to God, saying, “God of love, hear our prayer.”

*Intercessor*

Christians around the world are celebrating the birth of your son, Jesus. Unite us in faith, that we may shine with one light, and scatter all darkness. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

You pierced the cosmic silence with the utterance of your Word made flesh. Inspire leaders everywhere with your message of compassion and reconciliation. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

By joining heaven and earth in your son, you affirmed the holiness of our earthly habitation. Encourage all people to bless it, and keep it a hallowed home for all its occupants. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

The Messiah is born, and we are born anew. Show us how we are being renewed, individually and as a community, and strengthen the bonds between us. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

Lowly shepherds heard and conveyed your angel’s good news of great joy. Give us grace to understand and share your gospel of joy and liberation. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

Multitudes of heavenly host proclaimed glory to you and peace on earth. Kindle in our hearts the courage and strength to work for justice and peace. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus came to us as a baby cradled in a borrowed bed of straw, because there was no room at the inn. Open our eyes and hearts to the needs of the homeless and the hungry. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

You sent Jesus to illuminate all who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Tend the embers of comfort and hope for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

By making Jesus incarnate in the world, you offered to all people the blessing of holiness. Lend your glory to those who have died, and at the last day gather us all in your eternal life. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

Please offer your own prayers of intercession and thanksgiving, either silently or aloud.

*Presider*

God of love, the feast of Christmas reminds us that you are with us at all times and in all places; hear our prayer, and send your Holy Spirit to guide us more certainly upon the way of your Holy Child, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**



## THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

*The People greet one another with a sign of peace, and then are seated for brief announcements. During the singing of the Offertory Hymn, the Ushers carry the gifts forward. The People follow and encircle the altar. You are encouraged to position children where they can see. Small children may sit with a caregiver on the floor in front of the altar. Standing time is approximately 15 minutes. If you are unable to stand, you may sit in one of the chairs arranged near the altar, move to the front row of pews, or remain where you are.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

On this day earth shall ring  
Hymn 92 (*Personet bodie*)

*Introduction*



1 On this day earth shall ring  
2 His the doom, ours the mirth;  
3 God's bright star, o'er his head,  
4 On this day an - gels sing;

with the song child - ren sing to the Lord, Christ our King,  
when he came down to earth Beth - le - hem saw his birth;  
Wise Men three to him led; kneel they low by his bed,  
with their song earth shall ring, prais - ing Christ, hea - ven's King,

born on earth to save us; him the Fa - ther gave us.  
ox and ass be - side him from the cold would hide him.  
lay their gifts be - fore him, praise him and a - dore him.  
born on earth to save us; peace and love he gave us.

*Refrain*



Id - e - o - o - o, Id - e - o - o - o,



Id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Presider*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS**

Hymnal S-130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Presider*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Presider and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*Presider*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Thomas and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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,**

**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.**

### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

### **FRACTION ANTHEM**

Hymnal S-164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

The first line of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second line of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first line. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:  
 give us your peace, give us your peace.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system of music is for the first line of the hymn, and the second system is for the second line. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

*Celebrant*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. [Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.]

*All are invited to receive Holy Communion at God's table in this church. Please proceed to the servers to receive communion, and then return to your seat via a side aisle. Gluten-free bread is available at any station. Non-alcoholic wine is available from the server holding the smaller chalice. To receive a blessing instead of communion, approach the priest with your arms crossed over your chest.*

## ORGAN MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

The Holy Boy  
 John Ireland (1879-1962)

*After all have received communion, the people remain seated for a period of silence. Then all stand.*

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.  
**Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**FINAL HYMN**

Joy to the world! the Lord is come  
Hymn 100 (*Antioch*)

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our  
 \*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 as the curse is found, far - as the curse is  
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and  
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -  
 3 far as the curse is found, far  
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,  
 peat the sound - ing joy,  
 as the curse is found,  
 won - ders of his love,

**DISMISSAL**

Priest: *[A priest dismisses the people.]*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**VOLUNTARY**

Postlude on 'Adeste Fideles'

Eric Thiman (1900-1975)

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# ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

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www.stthomasnewhaven.org  
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www.stthomasday.org

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## If you are new or visiting ...

**Welcome!** Thank you for attending worship at St. Thomas's. Please consider returning the information slip below, signing the guest register near the main entry, and introducing yourself to a clergy person or usher. After the service, you are invited to join the congregation for Coffee Hour (in the Lounge on the second floor).

**Families with children:** On most Sundays during the school year, Sunday School is offered for children from pre-K through grade 8. All children are invited to attend. On three Sundays a month, Sunday School takes place both before and during the service; on one Sunday a month, it follows the service. On any given Sunday, the bulletin announcements and worship instructions provide additional information.

**Families with small children:** Two seating areas at the front of the church are reserved for families with small children: the area under the array of paper cranes (for children age 3 and under); and the area in front of the left side of the pews (for children age 10 and under). For safety, every child should be accompanied by a caregiver.

**At St. Thomas's, the people gather around the altar for the celebration of the Eucharist.** While this may be unfamiliar to you, most find it to be a powerful experience of true communion.

**At St. Thomas's, all are invited to receive Holy Communion.** There are usually two stations, located at the front corners of the altar, where you may receive Holy Communion. **Gluten-free bread** is available at both stations. **Non-alcoholic wine** is available only from the server at the center of the altar. Any difference in orientation will be explained during the announcements.

**To receive Holy Communion:** The server will place the bread in your hands. Wine is sipped from the common cup; please use both hands to guide the chalice to your lips. This is the most sanitary option. Some people 'intinct' (dip the bread into the wine), or receive bread only, or request only a blessing. Additional instructions for communion and for worship more generally are included at appropriate points in the bulletin.

*Tear along dotted line, and then place in the offering plate or give to a member of the parish*

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail & Phone \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about St. Thomas's? \_\_\_\_\_

### I would like to:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speak to a clergy person  | <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll my child(ren) in Sunday School                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Receive parish emails     | <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about joining the Adult Choir                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have a permanent name tag | <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll my child(ren) in the St. Thomas's<br>Choristers (Junior Choir) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Explore becoming a member |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get involved with _____   |  |