



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHRISTMAS DAY

Service of Holy Eucharist

December 25, 2019

10 A.M.

If you are new or visiting ...

To follow along with the service all you need is this service bulletin.

Families with small children: Three 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 areas in front of the two 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 St. Thomas's website. Sunday bulletins are posted on the website's Bulletin Archive. We aim to reduce printing by encouraging worshippers to use their smart devices to follow the order of service.

Restrooms for men and women are located on the second floor. Go through the red double doors at the front of the church, up the stairs to the left, and to the far end of the hallway. An **all-gender restroom (with baby changing table)** in the Vesting Room, located opposite the red double doors at the front of the church.

All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Baptism is not required; church membership is not required. **Gluten-free bread** is available at each communion station; **non-alcoholic wine** is available from the chalice bearer at the center. Any difference will be explained during the announcements.

To receive Holy Communion hold out your hands, and the server will place bread in them. If you wish to receive wine, please sip it from the common cup, using both hands to guide the chalice to your lips.

The **Eucharistic Prayer** we are using today was written as a family-friendly alternative for Christmas by the Rev. Dr. Jennifer Phillips. She currently serves as Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Westwood, MA.

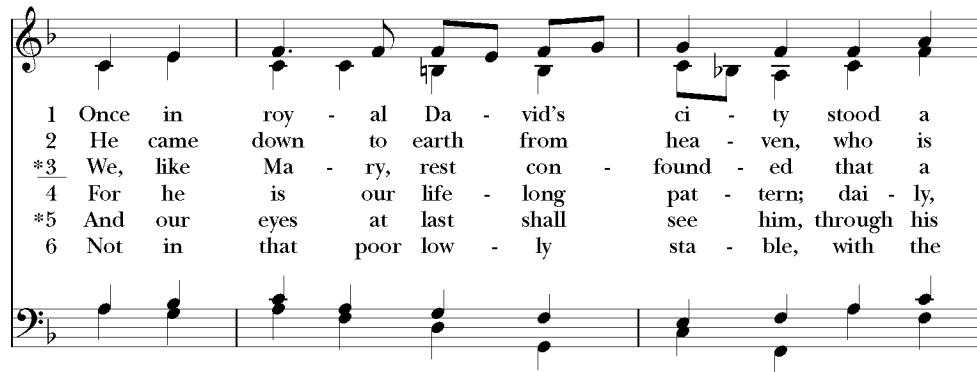


ORGAN VOLUNTARY

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Once in royal David's city (102, *The Hymnal 1982*)
(omit verses 3 & 5)



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.

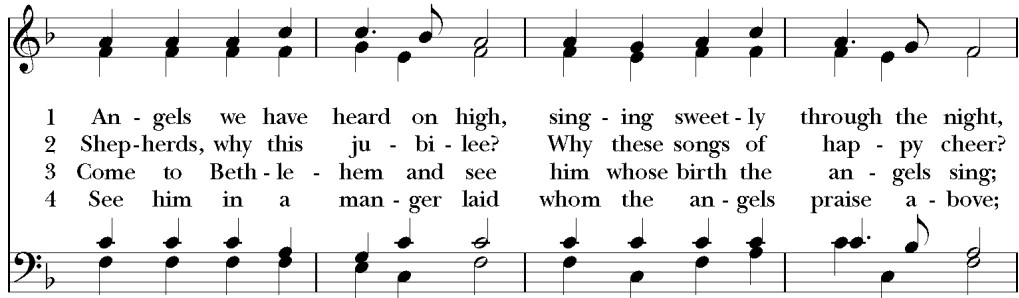
People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Presider says the following while the Advent and Christmas candles are lit

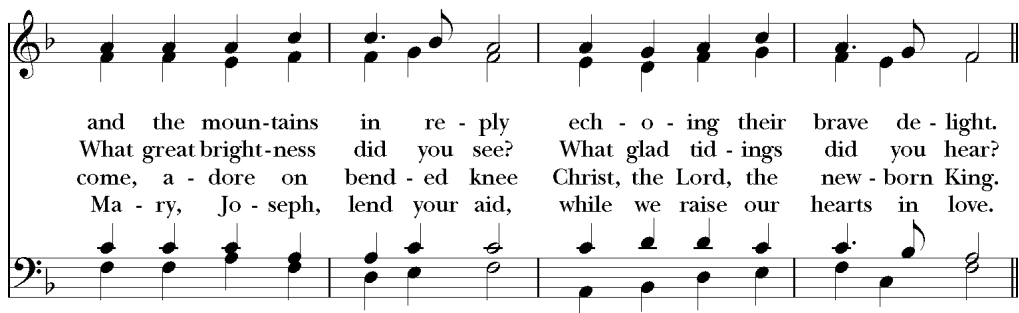
Glory to you, Giver of all good gifts! We offer you glad thanks and praise for every blessing from your love, and especially for the best gift of yourself in the child Jesus. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Angels we have heard on high (96, *The Hymnal 1982*)



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;



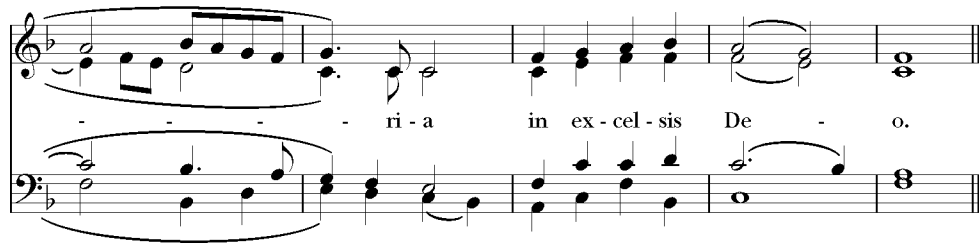
and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.



Refrain
Glo - - - - - ri - a



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



Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Copyright © by permission of Fleming H. Revell Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958)

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: 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 young girl: 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*)

- 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 1:1-4

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN

What child is this (115, *The Hymnal 1982*)

Unison or harmony

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898) Music: *Greensleeves*, English melody; harm. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 1:1-14

Presider: 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.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All are seated.

THE SERMON

All stand.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider

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

Intercessor and People

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 to keep it a hallowed home for all its occupants. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

The Messiah is born, and promise is born anew. Renew our hope, individually and as a community, and strengthen the bonds we share with others, both within and beyond these walls. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

Shepherds heard and conveyed your angel's good news of great joy. Give us grace to understand and share your gospel of love. 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 liberation. 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 healing 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.**

Hear the concerns and gratitude of your people here gathered, offered 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

Presider: 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 altar is prepared, and the People encircle the altar. You are encouraged to position children where they can see. 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

Joy to the world (100, *The Hymnal* 1982)

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,

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

THE HOLY COMMUNION
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:
A FAMILY-FRIENDLY EUCHARISTIC PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

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 God thanks and praise.

Presider

Holy God, our Source and Ending, Alpha and Omega, we give thanks to you! You have called all creation into being! You set the earth on its foundations, spread out the heavens like a tent, set a boundary to the seas, filled the world with your creatures, and then called all things good. The heavenly beings are your messengers night and day, and with them we give glory to you and sing:

Presider and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Presider

In these latter days, God leaned toward the earth and spoke to us by a Son, Jesus the Beloved. Born of our sister Mary and the Holy Spirit, cared for by our brother Joseph, Jesus came among us as a baby, human as we are, in need of human love. Though humbly born, kings honored him, and emperors feared him.

The Word of God made flesh and full of grace, a child in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, was sent to deliver us from sin, from the power of evil, and from the fear of death. As a man, Jesus surrendered his might upon the cross. As the risen Anointed One, he is enthroned at God's right hand. At the end of days, he will bring mercy and justice to all the earth.

And so, rejoicing in all God has done for us, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again!

Presider

We remember that Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take, eat, This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me."

After supper, Jesus took a cup of wine, blessed it, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink this, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

Holy God, as you visited us in the birth of Jesus, visit us now by the power of your Spirit in this bread and wine. Make them for us the Body and Blood of Christ, the banquet of heaven here on earth. Shed your grace brighter than starlight upon us, that we may bear your good tidings to all, and renew the weary world in your name: the name of Emmanuel, God-With-Us, to whom in joy we give honor and glory, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

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.
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THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

Presider: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

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. Please proceed to the station to receive communion, and then return to your seat via the center aisle. Gluten-free bread and non-alcoholic wine are available. To receive a blessing instead of communion, approach the priest with your arms crossed over your chest. After all have received communion, the People remain seated for a period of silence. Then all stand.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider and People

Mysterious God,

we thank you for feeding us with yourself;

and for making yourself known to us

in the holy child Jesus, the Christ.

Let us carry within our hearts your Holy Spirit,

that same Spirit which was in Jesus,

so that that we may help bring your peace

to all the earth in Jesus' Name. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

Hark! the herald angels sing (87, *The Hymnal* 1982)

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

DISMISSAL

Presider: *[The Presider dismisses the People.] [Alleluia, Alleluia!]*

People: **Thanks be to God. [Alleluia, Alleluia!]**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fugue in C major, BuxWV 174
 Dieterich Buxtehude (c1637-1707)

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Christmas Offerings

Max Ballard

Ricardo & Jenny Chavira, in memory of Maria & Rosario Gonzalez

Dexter Cheney

Jakki Flanagan & Keri Aubert, in memory of Mary Ann & Pat Flanagan and Ginny & AJ Aubert

Robert & Lorna Herdt

*James Mansfield, in memory of Robert & Sharon Mansfield, Roy Graham & Sally Lawson,
and Kenneth & Caroline Mansfield*

Dwight Miller

Gary Robison

Don & Denise Terry, in memory of Dorothy Asch

St. Thomas's Choir

(* Section Leader)

Soprano

Carolyn Brunelle
Jenna Freudenburg
Jennifer A. Herdt
Genevieve Nuttall
Alexandria Robison
Madison Thompson
* Maggie Lieberman
* Sherezade Panthaki

Alto

Isabel Dunlap
Cora Marieke Hagens
Linda Meyer
Erika V. Nemeti
Elizabeth Peters
Heather Robison
* Joy Wang

Tenor

* Hannah Goodwillie

Bass

* Peter Lifland



*Wishing you a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a
BLESSED NEW YEAR!*

*We look forward
to seeing you
in 2020!*

Announcements

Stay in touch!

*Subscribe to the Weekly Parish Enews and
"like" St. Thomas's on Facebook.*

Office Closing. With the Day School, the Church office is closed until Monday, January 6.

Next Delight Night (Parish Social): Friday, January 10, 6 p.m.

THANK YOU to all who make possible our Christmas worship: acolytes, sacristans, and ushers; lectors and intercessors; all involved with the Pageant; the Choir; the Church decorators; and the Church staff.

For more information and announcements, see our website and last week's Weekly Parish Enews.

Serving Christmas Eve at 4 p.m.

Presider: The Rev. Keri Aubert
Assisting Priests: The Rev. Canon K. Dexter Cheney, The Rev. Jakki Flanagan
Organist: Dr. Noah Horn
Pageant Director: Denise Terry
Eucharistic Minister: Kyle Holton
Crucifer: Eden Holton
Chalice: Judy Thompson
Intercessor: Judy Thompson
Ushers: Greg D'Andrea
Sacristans: Judy Thompson, Val & Greg Echols
Flowers: Sally Edwards & Judy Thompson

Serving Christmas Eve at 10 p.m.

Presider and Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert
Assisting Priests: The Rev. Jakki Flanagan
Choir Director & Organist: Dr. Noah Horn
Eucharistic Minister: Sally Edwards
Crucifer: Michael Dunlap
Lectors: Jennifer Herdt, Don Edwards
Intercessor: Craig Bottiger
Ushers: Gary Robison, Catherine Stricklan
Sacristans: Judy Thompson, Val & Greg Echols
Flowers: Sally Edwards & Judy Thompson

Serving Christmas Day

Presider: The Rev. Keri Aubert
Organist: Dr. Noah Horn
Flowers: Sally Edwards & Judy Thompson

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Officers and Vestry

Kyle Holton (Senior Warden)
Denise Terry (Junior Warden)
Ricardo Chavira (Treasurer)
Linda Meyer (Clerk)
Thomas Hogan
Elizabeth Peters
Alexandria Robison
Catherine Stricklan
Joann Sweasy
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 Panza (Head of School)
The Rev. Keri Aubert (President, Day School Corp.)
Gina Criscuolo (Chair)
John Forrest (Vice-Chair)
Tracey Meares (Treasurer)
Eileen O'Donnell (Secretary)
Alexander Babbidge
Christopher Cavallaro
Don Edwards
William English
Jeralyn Fantarella
Kenneth Paul
Tony Reyes
Kathryn Crabb Scherer
Denise Terry
Heather Tookes Alexopoulos

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

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Julie Kelly, Parish & Property Administrator ♦ j.kelly@stthomasnewhaven.org

Gina Panza, Head of Day School ♦ gpanza@stthomasday.org

Will Parker, Day School Chaplain ♦ wparker@stthomasday.org