

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



CHRISTMAS EVE Christmas Pageant & Holy Eucharist

December 24, 2016

4:00 P.M.

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

Beginning at 3:30pm, the children will offer a variety of musical selections as a prelude.

ORGAN PRELUDE Pastoral Symphony (from *Messiah*) G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

HYMN

O come, all ye faithful
Hymn 83 (*Adeste Fideles*)

[VERSES 1, 2 & 3 ONLY]

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

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.**

The presider says the following when the Baby Jesus is added to the Creche.

Holy One, you have entered our dangerous world as a baby, entrusted to the care of human arms and hearts; you call us to walk your way of vulnerability and tenderness, with firm resolve, by the grace of your indwelling Spirit. Lead us to serve and protect all your beloved children, with thankfulness and courage, in the name of your child Jesus, our Redeemer. **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

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 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 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The congregation is invited to join in the singing of the hymns during the Pageant, except for the verses indicated otherwise. Please remain seated throughout.

READING

LUKE 2:1-5

At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child.

HYMN

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM (VERSE 1)

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

READING

LUKE 2:6-7

And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

HYMN

AWAY IN A MANGER (VERSES 1 & 2)

Children Only

1. Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

All Sing

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

READING**LUKE 2:8-14**

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying,

ALL: "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased!"

HYMN**ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH (VERSES 1 & 2)**

1. Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

READING**LUKE 2:15-16**

When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger.

HYMN**SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT****Children Only**

1. Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.

All Sing

2. Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born.

3. Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

READING

LUKE 2:17-20

After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.

HYMN

ON THIS DAY EARTH SHALL RING (VERSE 1)

1. On this day earth shall ring
with the song children sing
to the Lord, Christ our King,
born on earth to save us;
him the Father gave us.
Ideo, ideo, ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!

READING

MATTHEW 2:1-2

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him."

HYMN

WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE

All Children

1. We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain,
moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

All Sing

*O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!*

Solo Verse

2. Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever,
ceasing never
over us all to reign.

Refrain (All Sing)

Solo Verse

3. Frankincense to offer have I:
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising,
gladly raising,
worship him God Most High.

Refrain (All Sing)

Solo Verse

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing,
bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone cold tomb.

Refrain (All Sing)

All Children

5. Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
Heaven sings Alleluia:
Alleluia the earth replies.

Refrain (All Sing)

READING

MATTHEW 2:7-12

Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!" After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and

myrrh. When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

HYMN

HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1. Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see:
hail, the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.
3. Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace:
hail, the Sun of Righteousness.
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.
Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.

All stand.

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 Jesus. Unite us in faith, that we may scatter all darkness. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

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

Jesus joined Heaven to Earth, affirming the holiness of all creation. Encourage all people to bless and keep it. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

Lowly shepherds heard and shared your angel's good news of great joy. Help us understand and spread that message of liberation. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

Multitudes of heavenly host proclaimed glory to you and peace on earth. Give us courage and strength to work for justice and harmony. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

The baby Jesus was cradled in a borrowed bed of straw. Show us the needs of the homeless and the hungry. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

You sent Jesus to all who dwell in the shadow of night. Be the lamp of comfort and hope for all who suffer. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus took human form, to show your love for all people. Grant your glory to those who have died. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

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

Presider

God of love, you are with us at all times and in all places; graciously accept the prayers we offer in the name of Jesus Christ, your Holy Child. **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. If the children have been in Sunday School, they return at this time. After the announcements, the People remain seated for the **Offertory Anthem**, during which the collection is taken.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Angel Band

Negro Spiritual
arr. James Simon Lee (b. 1987)

There was one, there were two,
There were three little angels
There were four, there were five,
There were six little angels
There were seven, there were eight,
There were nine little angels
Ten little angels in the band.

Oh, wasn't that a band, Christmas
morning
Christmas morning, Christmas morning,
Wasn't that a band, Christmas morning
Ten little angels in the band.

Text: American Traditional

Our usual practice is for the People to encircle the altar for Holy Communion, but for this service we ask you to remain in the pews. Even so, you are encouraged at this time to position children where they can see, and small children are invited to sit with a caregiver on the floor in front of the altar.

OFFERTORY HYMN

It came upon the midnight clear
Hymn 89 (Carol)

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that
2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with
3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the
4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly
world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly
pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;
cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they
and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn
 bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its
 tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and
 an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!
 back the song which now the an - gels sing.

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

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

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, guarded with care by our brother Joseph, Jesus came among us as a baby, humbly born, cradled beside the beasts and warmed by their breath, human as we are, in need of human love. Yet kings bowed down before him bringing gifts, and emperors were troubled by his reign—this Child in whom all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

This Word of God made flesh and full of grace was sent to deliver us from our sin, from the power of evil, and from the fear of death.

As a servant, Jesus emptied himself of might upon the cross, and as the risen Anointed One is enthroned at God's right hand to bring mercy and justice to all the earth at the end of days.

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!

Holy God, as you visited us in the birth of Jesus, visit us now by the power of your Spirit in these creatures of bread and wine, making them for us the Body and Blood of Christ, the banquet of heaven here on earth, as we remember how Jesus took bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take, eat, This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And after supper, took a cup of wine and blessed 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 for the remembrance of me."

Blessed God, shed your grace brighter than starlight on 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 we give honor and glory in joy, now and for ever. **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.

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.

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 as the ushers direct 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 at the center of the altar. To receive a blessing instead of communion, approach the priest with your arms crossed over your chest.


COMMUNION HYMNS

What child is this?
Hymn 115 (*Greensleeves*)

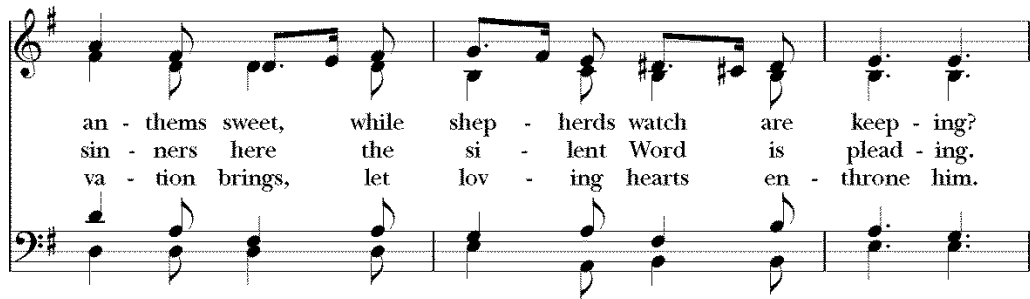
Unison or harmony



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 -

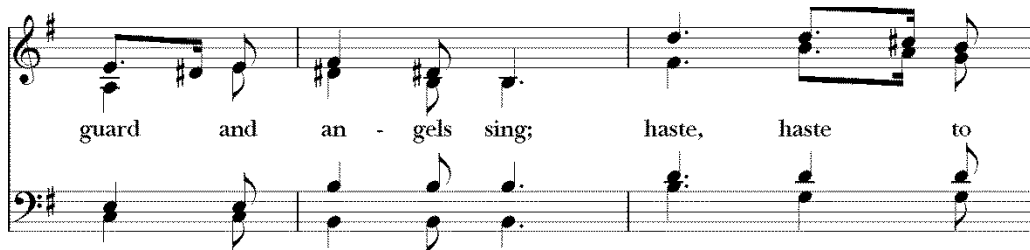


an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

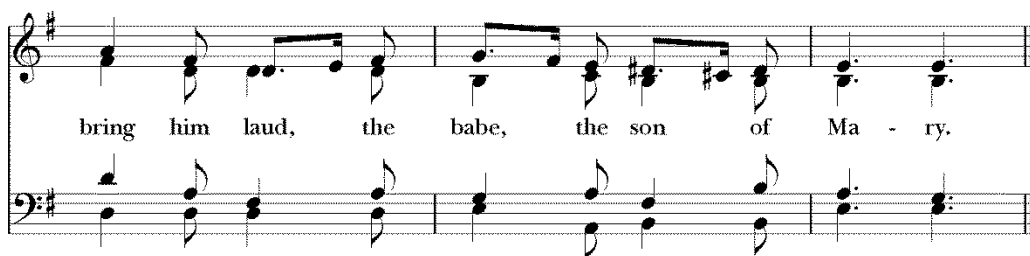
Refrain



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.

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.—

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

THE POST-COMMUNION 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 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,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is
 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

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

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Christmas at St. Thomas's Church – All Are Welcome!
Please come, and invite a friend

Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24

10:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist with St. Thomas's Choir

9:30 P.M. Pre-service Program of Organ Music for Christmas

Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25

10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist and Pajama Social

Wear your PJs. Hot cider, cold eggnog, and cookies provided.

Christmas flower offerings were made by:

Don & Sally Edwards

Greg & Valerie Echols, in memory of Milton Cooper

Jakki Flanagan & Keri Aubert, in memory of Mary Ann & Patrick Flanagan and Joe Aubert

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

Don & Denise Terry, in memory of Terry & Franklin Family Saints

Charlie and Lynda Tyson, in memory of their parents

Anonymous donor, in memory of Julia Williams Davis

During this Christmas season, we give thanks to the St. Thomas's Choir and Choristers:

(section leaders are marked with an asterisk)

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass	Chorister
Carolyn Brunelle	Stephanie Burette	Adam Ackerman	Paul Fanto	Cora Hagens
Mary Rose Garych	Constance Cahill	Mark Branch	Dan Harrison	Adam Hagens
Jennifer Herdt	Isabel Dunlap	Simon Lee *	Tom Hogan	Isabel Dunlap
Maggie Lieberman *	Diana Empsall	Dawn Lorentson	Emerson Katz-Justice	Ryan Nemeti
Sherry Panthaki *	Cora Hagens	Chandler Riker	Robbie Laughton	Madison Thompson
Kathryn Scherer	Anne Harrison	Alex Scherer	Matt Sullivan *	Alicia Gopal
Carolyn Sharp	Sarah Insley-Say		Charlie Tyson	Rosalie Ricker
Rebecca Stoll	Caroline Loeffers			
	Erika Nemeti			
	Hannah Nemiah			

Serving Today

President: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Assisting Priest—Word: The Rev. Julie Kelsey

Assisting Priest—Table: The Rev. Jakki Flanagan

Assisting Priests—Communion: The Revs. Dexter Cheney, Barbara Cheney, David Kelsey

Organist and Choirmaster: Simon Jacobs

Crucifer: Sara Misgen

Pageant Director: Marsha Ackerman

Pageant Narrators: Adam Ackerman, Kathleen Bower-Phipps

Intercessor: Marsha Ackerman

Sacristans: Bill & Sally Nanfeldt

Ushers/Greeters: Mark Branch, Jennifer Herdt, Mel & Judy Thompson

“Thank You!” to all who make possible our Christmas worship: acolytes, sacristans, and ushers; lectors and intercessors; the parents and children involved with the Pageant; the Choir and Choristers; the church decorators; and more. Thanks also to Joseph’s Tree Farm in Hamden for donating greens.

A very merry Christmas and a blessed New Year to all! We hope to see you in 2017!

Church Leadership

Officers and Vestry

Ricardo Chavira (Senior Warden)

Mark Branch (Junior Warden)

Alexander Scherer (Treasurer)

Sarah Insley-Say (Clerk)

Dorothy Asch (Deanery Representative)

Anne Harrison (Assistant Treasurer)

Laura Bower-Phipps

Michael Fournier

Daniel Harrison

Jennifer Herdt

The Rev. Julie Kelsey

Chris Martinez

Erika Nemeti

Jennifer Regan

Christopher Ritacco

Associate Priests

The Rev. Dexter Cheney

The Rev. Jakki Flanagan

The Rev. Julie Kelsey

The Rev. Bill Loutrel

The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Sharp

The Rev. Lee McGee Street

The Rev. Dr. Parke Street

The Rev. Dr. Lynda Z. Tyson

Ministry Coordinators

Dr. Dorothy Asch— Volunteer Lay Assistant

Marsha Ackerman— Children and Youth Ministries

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511

Church Phone: (203) 777-7623

Day School Phone: (203) 776-2123

www.stthomasnewhaven.org

www.musicatstthomas.org

www.stthomasday.org

The Rev. Keri Aubert—Priest-in-Charge

Simon Jacobs—Director of Music and Organist

Julie Kelly—Administrator, Parish and Property

Gina Panza—Head of Day School

Eric Gregory Snow—Day School Chaplain

pastor@stthomasnewhaven.org

music@stthomasnewhaven.org

administrator@stthomasnewhaven.org

gpanza@stthomasday.org

chaplain@stthomasday.org



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

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail & Phone _____

How did you hear about St. Thomas's? _____

I would like to:

Speak to a clergy person

Receive parish emails

Have a permanent name tag

Explore becoming a member

Get involved with _____

Enroll my child(ren) in Sunday School

Learn about joining the Adult Choir

Enroll my child(ren) in the St. Thomas's
Choristers (Junior Choir)