



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST,
CHRIST THE KING, YEAR C

Service of Holy Eucharist

November 24, 2019 10 A.M.

If you are new or visiting ...

Welcome! After the service, please come to Coffee Hour (in the Lounge on the 2nd floor) for food and fellowship. Please consider filling out a blue visitor information card (located in the pew rack). You can use the form to request a nametag, and next Sunday it will be waiting for you on the table just inside the main church entrance.

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.

Education for All Ages takes place from 9 to 9:45 A.M. on most Sundays during the academic year.

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)** is 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.

To follow along with the service you will need this service bulletin as well as The Hymnal 1982 (the blue book in the pew racks). In The Hymnal 1982, hymn numbers beginning with "S" are in the front section of the book.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude in E minor
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), BWV 533/1

INTROIT

Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel

Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel
qui fecit mirabilia magna solus a saeculo
suscipiant montes pacem populo tuo
et colles justitiam. Alleluia.

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous deeds!
That the mountains may bring peace to the people,
and the little hills bring righteousness. Alleluia.

Jubilate Deo omnis terra
servite Domino in laetitia. Alleluia.

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
serve the Lord with gladness. Alleluia.

Words: Psalm 72:3,18; Psalm 100:1 Music: Joseph Rheinberger (1839–1901), Op. 163, 1885

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Crown him with many crowns (494, *The Hymnal 1982*)

OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

Presider and People

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

S-236, *The Hymnal 1982*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

JEREMIAH 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 16 (*sung by the Choir*)

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 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

COLOSSIANS 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN

King of glory, King of peace (382, *The Hymnal 1982*)

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All are seated.

THE SERMON

All stand.

THE NICENE CREED

Presider 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

Presider

As the leaves fall and the days shorten, we remember the uncertainties of our age, and we pray to God for the church and for the world.

Intercessor and People

Lend your unity to all Christians, and inspire churches everywhere to proclaim the Good News of your justice and mercy. Christ, have mercy; **Lord, have mercy.**

Lend your vision to those whose political and business decisions affect people around the globe, and help them to prioritize equity and peace. Christ, have mercy; **Lord, have mercy.**

Lend your strength to all who seek to ensure that no one is marginalized or oppressed, and help them to find joy in their work. Christ, have mercy; **Lord, have mercy.**

Lend your vision to the human stewards of the living Earth, and help them to safeguard its health for the future our children. Christ, have mercy; **Lord, have mercy.**

Lend your gifts for ministry to all the members of the St. Thomas's community, and help us to serve and uphold one another and the people around us. Christ, have mercy; **Lord, have mercy.**

Lend your comfort to all who lack adequate employment, housing, health care, or food, and help all citizens strive to more fairly share our nation's abundant wealth. Christ, have mercy; **Lord, have mercy.**

Lend your holy light to all our loved ones who have died, and help us to follow their pathway to your eternal presence. Christ, have mercy; **Lord, have mercy.**

Hear our prayers [for _____ and] for those intercessions and thanksgivings that we now offer silently or aloud.

Presider

God of rest and renewal, during this turn of the seasons, help us to remember that the cycle of birth and death is the means by which you cultivate new life, and send the peace of your assurance to all who seek and serve you, through Christ, in the Spirit of your blessed Church. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION

Presider

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

Presider 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.

Presider

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **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, after which the People remain seated for the **Offertory Anthem**, and during which the collection is taken.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ride On, King Jesus

Ride on, King Jesus,
ride on, the conquerin' king.
Oh, ride on, King Jesus, ride on.
No man can a-hinder thee.
I was but young when I begun.
But now my race is almost done.

King Jesus rides a milk white horse.
The river of Jordan he did cross.
He's the King and the Lord of all.
Jesus is the first and he's the last.
Jesus is the Lord of Lords.
Jesus is the Prince of peace.

Words: Traditional Music: Moses Hogan (1957–2003), 1999

*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. 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

A mighty fortress is our God (688, *The Hymnal* 1982)

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood
 los - ing; were not the right man on our side,
 do us; we will not fear, for God hath willed
 bid - eth; the Spi - rit and the gifts are ours

of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing; for still our an - cient foe
 the man of God's own choos - ing; dost ask who that may be?
 his truth to tri - umph through us; the prince of dark - ness grim,
 through him who with us sid - eth: let goods and kin - dred go,

doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,
 Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sa - ba - oth his Name,
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bo - dy they may kill:

and, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 for lo! his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.
 God's truth a - bid - eth still, his king - dom is for ev - er.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546); tr. Frederick Henry Hedge (1805-1890); based on Psalm 46
 Music: *Ein feste Burg*, melody Martin Luther (1483-1546); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

Celebrant *People*
 The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
 It is right to give God 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.

Here a proper preface is sung or said.

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

S-127, *The Hymnal 1982*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, — hea - ven and earth are full of your
glo - ry. 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.

Presider

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Presider

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

FRACTION ANTHEM

S-169, *The Hymnal 1982*

Cantor or Choir

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -
deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my
flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. My
flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

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 most conveniently located station to receive communion, and then return to your seat via a side aisle. Gluten-free bread is available at each station; non-alcoholic wine is available from the chalice bearer at the center. To receive a blessing instead of communion, approach the priest with your arms crossed over your chest.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Lift up your heads

Lift up your heads, O ye gates;
and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory?
The Lord strong and mighty in battle.
The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Words: Psalm 24:7-10 Music: George Frideric Handel (1685–1759), *Messiah*, HWV 56, 1741

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

**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

Presider

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in the world. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine (477, *The Hymnal* 1982)

DISMISSAL

Presider: [*The Presider dismisses the People.*]

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fugue in E minor
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), BWV 533/2

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Announcements

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

A Service of Choral Evensong Celebrating a New Season of Ministry and installing the Rev. Keri Aubert as the Sixth Rector of St. Thomas’s Church. We had a lovely celebration Wednesday night! Keri thanks the many who participated in making it happen!

Next Delight Night: Friday, December 6, 6 p.m., in the Lounge. Join us for a POTLUCK followed by a CAROL SING. Hot chocolate, anyone? A good time should be had by all!

The Connecticut Gay Men’s Chorus Holiday Show. December 7 at 4 pm and 8 pm at the Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center and December 14 at 8pm at the new theater at West Haven High School. Tickets are available on their website, www.ctgmc.org.

Season of Racial Justice and Reconciliation Book Group. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 15, at 7:30 p.m., in the Lounge. (We’re taking December off.) We will be discussing the book *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. Look for details next week.

Christian Community Action. The Sunday School children are putting together “Blessing Bags” for people who lack reliable housing. Help by donating new long athletic socks, individually wrapped standard size bars of soap, individual tubes of toothpaste, deodorant, and travel size shampoos and lotions.

Loaves & Fishes. Please donate non-perishable food items.

Alternative Giving for the Holidays. As you plan your Christmas/holiday gift list, please consider alternative giving - that is, consider making a donation in the recipient's honor to the charitable organization of your choice. One great option is the Episcopal Relief & Development Gifts for Life program. If you're interested in food insecurity, consider Loaves & Fishes or the Connecticut Food Bank.

Our Little Free Library always needs books. Just pop them in yourself.

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

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert
Choir Director & Organist: Dr. Noah Horn
Eucharistic Minister: Michael Dunlap
Crucifer: Ricardo Chavira
Chalice: Chris Martinez
Lectors: Sally Edwards, Jenny Chavira
Intercessor: Madison Thompson
Vestry Host:
Ushers: Claire Scully, Gary Robison
Sacristans: Judy & Madison Thompson
Counters: Erika Nemeti
Coffee Hour Hosts: Kyle & Ginger Holton, Chris Keys & Sara Zampierin

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:
Bonnie, Drew, Dwight, Franklin, John, Sally

Pray for those who have died.

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

St. Paul's, Woodbury; St. John the Evangelist, Yalesville; Grace Church, Yantic; the health and well-being of persons employed by The Episcopal Church; the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies of The Episcopal Church

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:
the Falklands Island

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

Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore

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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