



# ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: CHRIST THE KING, YEAR A

## Service of Holy Eucharist

November 26, 2017 10 A.M.

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### If you are new or visiting ...

**Welcome!** After the service, please come to Coffee Hour (in the Lounge on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor) for food and fellowship. Though other churches make the claim, ours really is the Best Coffee Hour in Connecticut. Please consider filling out a blue visitor information card (found in your pew rack). You can request a name tag using the form in the pew rack or the sheet at the entrance. Next Sunday your new name tag will be waiting for you on the table in the foyer inside the main church entrance.

**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.

**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)** in the Vesting Room, located opposite the red double doors at the front of the church.

**For the celebration of Holy Eucharist**, the People gather around the altar. While this may be unfamiliar to you, most find it to be a powerful experience of true communion at our common table.

**All are invited to receive Holy Communion.** Baptism is not required; church membership is not required. There are usually two communion stations, one at each front corner of the altar. **Gluten-free bread** is available at each station. **Non-alcoholic wine** is available only from the single server at the center of the altar. 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.

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ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Apparition de l'église éternelle

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hymn 616: Hail to the Lord's Anointed, *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
 2 He comes with suc - cor speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,  
 3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth,  
 4 Kings shall bow down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;  
 5 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest;

1 Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!  
 2 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
 3 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth:  
 4 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing;  
 5 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest:

1 He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;  
 2 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,  
 3 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;  
 4 to him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows a - scend;  
 5 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;

1 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.  
 2 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.  
 3 and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.  
 4 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.  
 5 his Name shall stand for ev - er, his change - less Name of Love.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72; Music: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*, German folk song; adapt. and harm. *A Student's Hymnal*, 1923, after Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)

## OPENING ACCLAMATION AND 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

Gloria in excelsis

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you,

we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, re -

ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spir - it

in the glor - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - - - men.

Music: Daniel Harrison (b. 1959)

## 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.*

## **FIRST LESSON**

EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 100** *(sung by the choir)*

*Jubilate Deo*

- 1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Chant: Arthur Henry Mann (1850-1929)

SECOND LESSON

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Hymn 391: Before the Lord's eternal throne, *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Be - fore the Lord's e - ter - nal throne, ye  
 2 His sov - ereign Power with - out our aid formed  
 3 We are his peo - ple, we his care, our  
 4 We'll crowd thy gates with thank - ful songs, high  
 5 Wide as the world is thy com - mand, vast

1 na - tions, bow with sa - cred joy; know that the Lord is  
 2 us of clay and gave us breath; and when like wan - dering  
 3 souls, and all our mor - tal frame: what last - ing hon - ors  
 4 as the heavens our voic - es raise; and earth, with her ten  
 5 as e - ter - ni - ty thy love; firm as a rock thy

1 God a - lone; he can cre - ate, and he des - troy.  
 2 sheep we strayed, he saved us from the power of death.  
 3 shall we rear, al - might - y Ma - ker, to thy Name?  
 4 thou - sand tongues, shall fill thy courts with sound - ing praise.  
 5 truth must stand, when roll - ing years shall cease to move.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 100;

Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

## GOSPEL

MATTHEW 25:31-46

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

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

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE SERMON

*After the Sermon, there follows a short period of silent reflection. Then 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

### *Intercessor*

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

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 in our nation 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 our leaders determine how our nation's abundant wealth may be shared. Christ, have mercy; **Lord, have mercy.**

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

Hear the prayers of intercession and thanksgiving that we now offer before you, either silently or aloud.

*Presider*

God of rest and renewal, during this autumn turn of the seasons, help us to remember that the cycle of birth and death is the means by which you foster 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.**

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Priest*

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

*Priest 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 the announcements, the People remain seated for the **Offertory Anthem**, during which the collection is taken.*



# OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O sing joyfully

O sing joyfully unto God our strength : make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.  
Take the psalm, bring hither the tabret : the merry harp with the lute.  
Blow up the trumpet in the new-moon : even in the time appointed, and upon our solemn feast-day.

For this was made a statute for Israel : and a law of the God of Jacob.

Words: Psalm 81:1-4, alt.; Music: Adrian Batten (1591-1637)

*During the singing of the **Offertory Hymn**, the Usbers 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

Hymn 481: Rejoice, the Lord is King!, *The Hymnal 1982*



1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore! Mor -  
2 The Lord Sa - vior reigns, the God of truth and love: when  
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven; the  
4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come, and



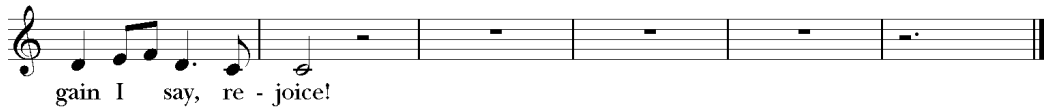
tals, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.  
he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove. Lift  
keys of death and hell to Christ the Lord are given.  
take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.



up your heart! lift up your voice! Re-joyce! a - gain I say, re -



joyce! up your heart! lift up your voice! Re-joyce! a -



gain I say, re - joice!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.; Music: *Gopsal*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); arr. John Wilson (1905-1992)

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

*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 him 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord! God of po - wer and might. Hea - ven and  
 earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Bles - sed is the  
 one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: Daniel Harrison (b. 1959)

*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 Mary, 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.**

## **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.*

<b>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,</b>	<b>as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.</b>
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## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

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

## FRACTION ANTHEM

The musical score for the Fraction Anthem is written in G major and 3/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us. O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us. O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, grant us your peace." The score includes a "Org." marking above the first staff.

Music: Daniel Harrison (b. 1959)

*Presider*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All are invited to receive Holy Communion at God's table in this church. 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 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 ANTHEM

Antiphon (from *Five Mystical Songs*)

Let all the world in every corner sing,  
My God and King!  
The heavens are not too high,  
His praise may thither fly:  
The earth is not too low,  
His praises there may grow.  
Let all the world in every corner sing,  
My God and King!

Let all the world in every corner sing,  
My God and King!  
The church with Psalms must shout.  
No door can keep them out:  
But above all, the heart  
Must bear the longest part.  
Let all the world in every corner sing,  
My God and King!

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633), *Antiphon*, from *The Temple: Sacred Poems and Private Ejaculations*, 1633;  
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

*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*

**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

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

*Descant*

5 Let ev - ery tongue con - fess with one ac - cord

1 All praise to thee, for thou, O King di - vine,  
2 Thou cam'st to us in low - li - ness of thought;  
3 Let this mind be in us which was in thee,  
4 Where - fore, by God's e - ter - nal pur - pose, thou  
5 Let ev - ery tongue con - fess with one ac - cord

Je - sus Christ is Lord;

1 didst yield the glo - ry that of right was thine,  
2 by thee the out - cast and the poor were sought;  
3 who wast a ser - vant that we might be free,  
4 art high ex - alt - ed o'er all crea - tures now,  
5 in heaven and earth that Je - sus Christ is Lord;

and God the Fa - ther be by all a - dored.

1 that in our dark - ened hearts thy grace might shine. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 and by thy death was God's sal - va - tion wrought. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 hum - bling thy - self to death on Cal - va - ry. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 and given the Name to which all knees shall bow. \_\_\_\_\_  
 5 and God the Fa - ther be by all a - dored. \_\_\_\_\_

Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); Music: *Engelberg*, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924); desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

## DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fugue in E flat, BWV 552ii

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

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## Announcements

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

### **NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3: THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**9 a.m. Education for All Ages Resumes**

**10 a.m. Service of Holy Communion**

**11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour with Church Decoration and Care Package Preparation**

**5 p.m. Advent Lessons & Carols**

**It’s Stewardship Season!** Don’t forget to return your pledge card. If you’ve already returned it, thank you!

**Evening Prayer at St. Thomas's – Every Tuesday at 6 p.m.** Are you interested in deepening your life of prayer while building relationship with our community? Please join us every Tuesday night in the Lady Chapel, as we lift the joys and concerns of our community. Our service begins at 6:00PM, and all are invited.

#### **Sunday Forums for Advent**

**December 3 – Julie & David Kelsey: ADVENT: THE “SON OF MAN COMING IN CLOUDS”**

**December 10 – POETRY POTLUCK**

**December 17 – Carolyn Sharp: THE MAGNIFICAT**

**Holiday Kickoff Fundraiser at the G.R.O.W.E.R.S. Greenhouses in Edgerton Park: Thursday, November 30, 5-8 p.m.: Let's have a great turnout from St. Thomas's!** It's that time of year again, when G.R.O.W.E.R.S. decks out the greenhouses in Edgerton Park in all their holiday glory! There will be live jazz, great Spanish wine, excellent food, and wonderful people. You can also order or purchase your live holiday decorations, including custom decorated wreaths and other arrangements, live plants such as poinsettias and cyclamen, or even a Christmas tree! Tickets are \$20 each, available in advance or at the door (advance helps for planning, but last-minute attendees are welcome!). All proceeds go to support the G.R.O.W.E.R.S. vocational and educational horticulture program for adults with disabilities. Call the greenhouse (203) 777-1886 or Scott (203) 605-2807 for more details.

**Next Parish Social: Friday, December 1, 6 p.m.: POTLUCK, GAME NIGHT, AND HOLIDAY COOKIE MAKING!!!** Put it on your calendar now, and look for details next week. It should be fun!!!

**Greening of the Church for Advent Lessons & Carols - December 3.** Come one and all after church on Dec 3rd to help “green” the church for the afternoon Advent Lessons and Carols service. Grab something from coffee hour and join others in the sanctuary to hang new garlands on the walls, install pew candles, set luminaria in the windowsills, and hang wreaths. Contact Sally Edwards 908-307-0591 with questions and suggestions.

**Cookie Care Package Ministry - December 3.** We will be putting the packages together on 12/3 after church in the Lounge. Constance Cahill will confirm the number of packages in the Enews the week prior. Thanks!

**Lector/intecessor training is scheduled for Sunday, December 10, after church.** If you haven't received an email directly from Keri about this, and you would like to continue or start serving as lector/intecessor, please contact Keri.

**Looking Ahead: Confirmation/Reception/Reaffirmation Class.** Have you yet to be confirmed? Were you confirmed in another tradition, and would you like to explore more deeply what it means to be an Episcopalian? Were you confirmed in The Episcopal Church but wish to reaffirm your statement of faith? Keri is now assembling a group of people in these categories for a preparation class the will begin around February 1. If you're at all interested, please contact Keri now.

**IRIS Winter Clothing Drive.** IRIS is collecting coats, hats, gloves, scarves, & boots for members of refugee families. They are especially in need of boots (all children's sizes and men's sizes 6-10.) Items may be new or gently used and cleaned. St. Thomas's will have a collection box—look for more information to come.

**For more information and announcements, see Wednesday’s Weekly Parish Enews.**

## Serving Today

**Presider and Preacher:** The Rev. Keri Aubert  
**Assisting Priest:** The Rev. Bill Loutrel  
**Organist and Choir Director:** Simon Jacobs  
**Emcee:** Dr. Dorothy Asch  
**Eucharistic Minister:** Michael Dunlap  
**Crucifer:** Ricardo Chavira  
**Torchbearers:** Christopher Martinez, Sara Misgen  
**Lectors:** Drew McDermott, Sally Edwards  
**Intercessor:** Jennifer Herdt  
**Vestry Host:** Joann Sweasy  
**Sacristans:** Judy & Madison Thompson  
**Ushers/Greeters:** Gary Robison, Mary Ann Nelson  
**Coffee Hour Hosts:** Mark Branch & Dawn Lorentson, Ken & Deborah Hilliard, Bill & Sally Nanfeldt

## This Week's Prayer Intentions

**Pray for those in any need or trouble, including:**  
Dorothy, Greg, Katie, Lee, Luann, Marilyn, Parke

**Pray for those who have died.**

**In St. Thomas's Cycle of Prayer, pray for:**  
Marilyn Turnburke, Linda Tyson, Charles Tyson

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for:**  
St. John the Evangelist, Yalesville; Grace Church, Yantic; The Girl's Friendly Society, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and the Daughters of the King

**Thanksgiving for the Harvest (BCP, p. 840):** Most gracious God, by whose knowledge the depths are broken up and the clouds drop down the dew: We yield thee hearty thanks and praise for the return of seedtime and harvest, for the increase of the ground and the gathering in of its fruits, and for all the other blessings of thy merciful providence bestowed upon this nation and people. And, we beseech thee, give us a just sense of these great mercies, such as may appear in our lives by a humble, holy, and obedient walking before thee all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost be all glory and honor, world without end. Amen.

## Leadership at St. Thomas's

**Church Officers and Vestry**  
Joann Sweasy (Senior Warden)  
Don Edwards (Junior Warden)  
Alexander Scherer (Treasurer)  
Sarah Insley (Clerk)  
Anne Harrison (Assistant Treasurer)  
Laura Bower-Phipps  
Michael Fournier  
Daniel Harrison  
Martha Deeds Hogan  
Kevin Johnson  
Chris Martinez  
Tom Radice  
Jennifer Regan  
Christopher Ritacco  
The Rev. Keri Aubert (Priest-in-Charge)

**Church (Volunteer) 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

**Church Ministry Coordinators**  
Dr. Dorothy Asch—Volunteer Lay Assistant

**Day School Board of Trustees**  
Gina Panza—Head of School  
The Rev. Keri Aubert—President, Day School Corp.  
Jonathan Macey (Chair)  
Gina Criscuolo (Vice-Chair)  
Tracey Meares (Treasurer)  
Jeralyn Fantarella (Secretary)  
Alex Babbidge  
Frank Chang  
Don Edwards  
John Forrest  
Jennifer McTiernan  
Eileen O'Donnell  
Kenneth Paul  
Kathryn Scherer  
Denise Terry

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