

# ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## THE HOLY NAME (YEAR A) Holy Eucharist

January 1, 2017

10:00 A.M.

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

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**VOLUNTARY** Ein Kind geboren in Bethlehem Op. 36, no. 1 Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

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

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

All hail the power of Jesus' Name!  
Hymn 451 (*Miles Lane*)

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' Name! Let an - gels  
2 Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of our God, who from his  
3 Hail him, the Heir of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid  
\*4 Ye heirs of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ye ran - somed  
\*5 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood

1 pros - trate fall; bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem,  
2 al - tar call: praise him whose way of pain ye trod,  
3 Lord did call, the God in - car - nate, Man di - vine,  
4 of the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace,  
5 and the gall, go, spread your tro - phies at his feet,

*Refrain*

and crown him, crown him, crown him, crown him Lord of all!

6 Let every kindred, every tribe,  
on this terrestrial ball,  
to him all majesty ascribe,

*Refrain*

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

*Presider and People*

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

Hymnal S-280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

NUMBERS 6:22-27

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
 the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;  
 the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 8 *(said by all)*

*Domine, Dominus noster*

1 O Lord our Governor, \*  
 how exalted is your Name in all the world!

- 2 Out of the mouths of infants and children \*  
your majesty is praised above the heavens.
- 3 You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, \*  
to quell the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, \*  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
- 5 What is man that you should be mindful of him? \*  
the son of man that you should seek him out?
- 6 You have made him but little lower than the angels; \*  
you adorn him with glory and honor;
- 7 You give him mastery over the works of your hands; \*  
you put all things under his feet:
- 8 All sheep and oxen, \*  
even the wild beasts of the field,
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, \*  
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
- 10 O Lord our Governor, \*  
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

## THE SECOND LESSON

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow  
Hymn 435 (*King's Weston*)

**VERSES 5 & 6 ARE OMITTED**



1 At the Name of Je - sus ev - ery knee shall bow,  
2 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a Name  
3 bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,  
4 Name him, Chris - tians, name him, with love strong as death,  
\*5 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due  
\*6 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,



1 ev - ery tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;  
2 from the lips of sin - ners, un - to whom he came,  
3 through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,  
4 name with awe and won - der and with bat - ed breath;  
5 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true;  
6 with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign;



1 'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord  
2 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,  
3 to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast;  
4 he is God the Sa - vior, he is Christ the Lord,  
5 crown him as your Cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;  
6 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



1 who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.  
2 brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed;  
3 filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.  
4 ev - er to be wor - shiped, trust - ed, and a - dored.  
5 let his will en - fold you in its light and power.  
6 and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

**THE GOSPEL**

LUKE 2:15-21

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

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

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about

this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

**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**

*Priest*

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

*Intercessor*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Presider

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

## THE PEACE

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 collection is taken, and then the Ushers carry the gifts forward. The People follow and encircle the altar. You are encouraged to position children where they can see. Small children may sit with a caregiver on the floor in front of the altar. Standing time is approximately 15 minutes. If you are unable to stand, you may sit in one of the chairs arranged near the altar, move to the front row of pews, or remain where you are.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

The first Nowell the angel did say  
Hymn 109 (*The First Nowell*)

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say  
2 They look - ed up and saw a star  
3 And by the light of that same star  
4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,  
5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;  
2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,  
3 three wise men came from coun - try far;  
4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,  
5 full rev - erent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,  
2 and to the earth it gave great light,  
3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,  
4 and there it did both stop and stay  
5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence



1 on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.  
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
 3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.  
 4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.  
 5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

*Refrain*

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord  
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

*Refrain*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

Presider: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
 Presider: Lift up your hearts.  
**People: We lift them to the Lord.**  
 Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Presider*

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

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

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

### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Hymnal S-130

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

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The score consists of six systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes".

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

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

*Presider*

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

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

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Presider and People*

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

*Presider*

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

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that

heavenly country where, with 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.**

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.
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### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

### FRACTION ANTHEM

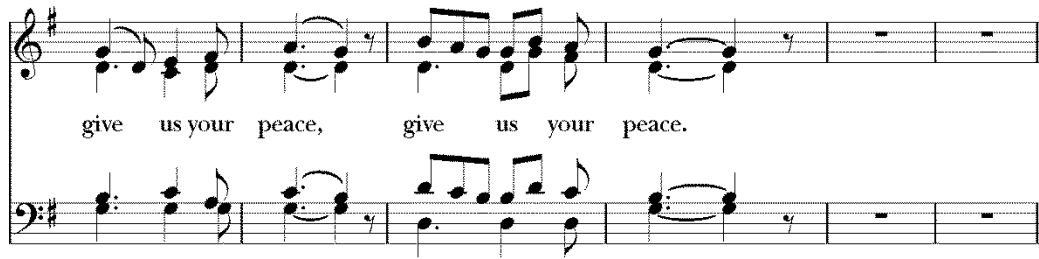
Hymnal S-164

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:

The musical score is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) in G major (one sharp). It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.', 'Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.', and 'Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:'. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.



*Presider*

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

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

## **ORGAN MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**

Das alte Jahr vergangen ist, BWV 614  
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

*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.**

## **SENDING FORTH A EUCHARISTIC VISITOR**

*This prayer is said when a Eucharistic Visitor will take communion to an ill or homebound parishioner. The Eucharistic Visitor joins the Presider in front of the altar.*

*Presider and People*

**We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread and one cup. Go in peace.**

## **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.**

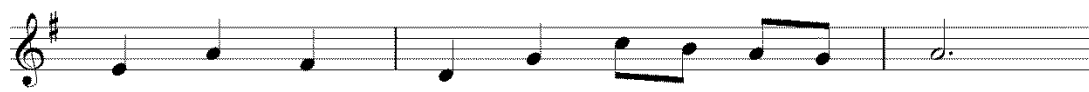
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**FINAL HYMN**


O Savior of our fallen race  
Hymn 86 (*Gonfalon Royal*)




1 O Sa - vior of our fall - en race,  
2 O Je - sus, ve - ry Light of Light,  
3 Re - mem - ber, Lord of life and grace,  
4 To - day, as year by year its light  
5 For from the Fa - ther's throne you came,  
6 O Christ, Re - deem - er vir - gin - born,



1 O Bright - ness of the Fa - ther's face,  
2 our con - stant star in sin's deep night;  
3 how once, to save our fall - en race,  
4 bathes all the world in ra - diance bright,  
5 his ban - ished chil - dren to re - claim;  
6 let songs of praise your Name a - dorn,



1 O Son who shared the Fa - ther's might be - fore the world knew  
2 now hear the prayers your peo - ple pray through - out the world this  
3 you put our hu - man ves - ture on and came to us as  
4 one pre - cious truth out - shines the sun: sal - va - tion comes from  
5 and earth and sea and sky re - vere the love of him who  
6 whom with the Fa - ther we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit



(After stanza 6)

1 day or night,  
2 ho - ly day.  
3 Ma - ry's son.  
4 you a - lone.  
5 sent you here.  
6 ev - er - more. Al - le - lu - ia!

**DISMISSAL**

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**VOLUNTARY**

In dir ist Freude, BWV 615

Bach

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**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)

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

**Serving Today**

**Presider & Preacher:** The Rev. Keri Aubert  
**Organist and Choirmaster:** Simon Jacobs  
**Emcee & Eucharistic Minister:** Dorothy Asch  
**Crucifer:** Michael Dunlap  
**Torchbearers:** Sara Misgen, Peter Piech  
**Lectors:** Mark Branch, Laura Bower-Phipps  
**Intercessor:** Kathleen Bower-Phipps  
**Flowers:** Sally Edwards and Judy Thompson

*Look for the latest parish information in the upcoming edition of the Weekly Parish Enews, due out this Wednesday, January 3. If you haven't yet subscribed to the Enews, please do so, at [www.stthomashewhaven.org](http://www.stthomashewhaven.org).*

**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).

**Education for all ages:** On most Sundays during the school year, education programs for all ages take place just before worship, from 9 to 10 A.M. All children are invited to attend Sunday School, which is offered for children from pre-K through grade 8. During that time, adult formation takes place in The Lounge. The Sunday bulletins and Weekly Parish Enews provide more 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.

**All are invited to receive Holy Communion at God's Table in this Church.** Baptism into The Episcopal Church or another tradition is not required. 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 each station. **Non-alcoholic wine** is available only from the server at the center of the altar. Any shift in orientation will be explained during the announcements.

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

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

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

### I would like to:

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