



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT, YEAR A

Service of Holy Eucharist with Penitential Order

February 22, 2026 10 A.M.

St. Thomas's Church Welcomes Everyone

Wherever you happen to be on your spiritual journey, **there is a place for you here**, and we invite you to participate as fully as you wish. There is a saying in the Episcopal tradition that answers many a question: “All *may*, some *do*, but none *must*.” We gather to feast on Word and sacrament and song, to learn and inquire, to enjoy relaxed fellowship and find mutual support. And we are sent out to be the Body of Christ in the world, to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

To participate in worship today all you need is this bulletin. If you are new or visiting, we invite you to consider filling out a **blue information card** (located in the pew rack). You can use it to request a **nametag**, which will be waiting for you on the table inside the main entrance.

All church spaces are accessible. Handicapped parking and a wheelchair ramp are located in back of the building; a lift for access to the second floor is located at the stairway.

Restrooms are located on the second floor. Go through the double doors near the pulpit, upstairs to the second floor, and to the far end of the hallway. A **gender-neutral restroom with baby changing table** is in the Vesting Room, located opposite the double doors near the pulpit.

Three seating areas at the front of the nave are reserved for **families with small children**: the area under the array of paper cranes (for children age 3 and under), and the two areas in front of the front pews (for children age 10 and under). For safety, every child should be accompanied by a caregiver.

Wireless access in the Sanctuary is accessible by connecting to wireless network STEC – Guest. Your device will open a web browser and the St. Thomas's website. Bulletins are posted in the website's Bulletin Archive. To reduce printing, we encourage worshippers to use their smart devices to follow the service.

St. Thomas's Church is located on Eansketambawg (Quinnipiac) land. This acknowledgment compels us to pause: in gratitude for the Quinnipiac and other Algonquin-speaking stewards of the territory that is now Connecticut; in regret for Christianity's participation in the colonization of the Americas; and in faith that God's reconciling power will bring true healing to the Earth and all its inhabitants.

INTROIT

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord,
and cast not off thy servant in thy displeasure;
for we confess our sins unto thee
and hide not our unrighteousness.
For thy mercy's sake deliver us from all our sins.

Words: Psalm 27:10 Music: Richard Farrant (c.1525–1580)

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

A PENITENTIAL ORDER

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **God's mercy endures for ever.**

THE DECALOGUE

Presider and People

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Honor your father and your mother. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit murder. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit adultery. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not steal. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not be a false witness. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

OPENING SENTENCE

Presider

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14, 16*

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider

Let us confess our sins to God. [*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 the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy (S 95, *The Hymnal 1982*)

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains three measures: the first measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the notes G4, A4, B4, A4, G4; the second measure is labeled 'All' and contains the notes G4, A4, B4, A4, G4; the third measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the notes G4, A4, B4, A4, G4. The second staff contains three measures: the first measure is labeled 'All' and contains the notes G4, A4, B4, A4, G4; the second measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the notes G4, A4, B4, A4, G4; the third measure is labeled 'All' and contains the notes G4, A4, B4, A4, G4. The lyrics are: 'Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.' on the first staff, and 'Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.' on the second staff.

Music: From the Litany of the Saints; adapt. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

GENESIS 2:15-17; 3:1-7

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of

the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 32 (*sung by the Choir; the People respond with the Antiphon*)

Tone III.4

Antiphon:



Hap - py are they to whom the LORD im - putes no guilt.

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 “I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.

- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you.”
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart. **[Ant.]**

THE SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 5:12-19

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Praise to the Holiest in the height (445, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the
 2 O lov - ing wis - dom of our God! When all was
 3 O wis - est love! that flesh and blood, which did in
 4 and that the high - est gift of grace should flesh and
 5 Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the

1 depth be praise; in all his words most
 2 sin and shame, a sec - ond Ad - am
 3 Ad - am fail, should strive a - fresh a -
 4 blood re - fine: God's pres - ence and his
 5 depth be praise; in all his words most

1 won - der - ful, most sure in all his ways!
 2 to the fight and to the res - cue came.
 3 gainst the foe, should strive, and should pre - vail;
 4 ve - ry self, and es - sence all - di - vine.
 5 won - der - ful, most sure in all his ways!

Words: John Henry Newman (1801-1890), alt. Music: *Gerontius*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 4:1-11

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

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

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,
 but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All are seated.

THE SERMON

After the sermon, all remain seated for a period of silence. 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

Deacon or Presider

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your loving kindness; in your great compassion, hear our prayers.

Intercessor and People

We pray for the whole church, all leaders and ministers, and all the holy people of God.

Wash us through and through, and cleanse us from our sin.

We pray for our nation, for all the nations of the earth, and for all who govern.

Purge us from our sin, and we shall be pure.

We pray for those who hunger, those who thirst, those who live under the threat of terror, and those without a place to lay their head.

Make them hear of joy and gladness, that those who are broken may rejoice.

We pray for those who are ill, those in pain, those under stress, and those who are lonely.

Give them the joy of your saving help, and sustain them with your bountiful Spirit.

In this season of Lent we pray that we all might be given the grace and strength to repent and grow closer to you, O God.

Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

We pray for those who have died and who have entered into the land of eternal Light and your abiding peace.

Cast them not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from them.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. [*You are invited to offer your prayer intentions silently or aloud.*]

[*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*]

THE PEACE

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*Please remain in place while greeting your neighbors with a sign of peace. You may then be seated for brief announcements and the **Offertory Anthem.***

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your financial support is sincerely appreciated. We will not pass a collection plate today; collection plates are located at the doors. To give online, go to the Church website Home page (www.stthomasnewhaven.org), and click GIVE NOW. If viewing this document electronically, simply [CLICK HERE](#). Thank you!

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *(Sung by the Choir)*

This is the truth sent from above

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love;
Therefore don't turn me from the door,
But hearken all both rich and poor.

And at this season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear,
And here did live, and here did preach,
And many thousands he did teach.

The first thing that I will relate,
That God at first did man create;
The next thing which to you I tell
Woman was made with him to dwell.

Thus he in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what he did say.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes
Till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run:
That he'd redeem us by his Son.

Words: Traditional English folk carol Music: arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958), 1919

*During the singing of the **Offertory Hymn**, the Presider sets the table, and the People come forward to encircle the altar for the Eucharistic prayer. You are encouraged to position children where they can see. Standing time is approximately 15 minutes. If this is difficult for you, please feel free to sit in a chair near the altar or in the front row of pews. You may also remain where you are.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

Forty days and forty nights (150, *The Hymnal* 1982)

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;
2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,
3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!
4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;

1 for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
2 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
3 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.
5 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Words: George Hunt Smytton (1822-1870), alt. Music: *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, melody att. Martin Herbst (1654-1681), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

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

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your children, that with [] and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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,**

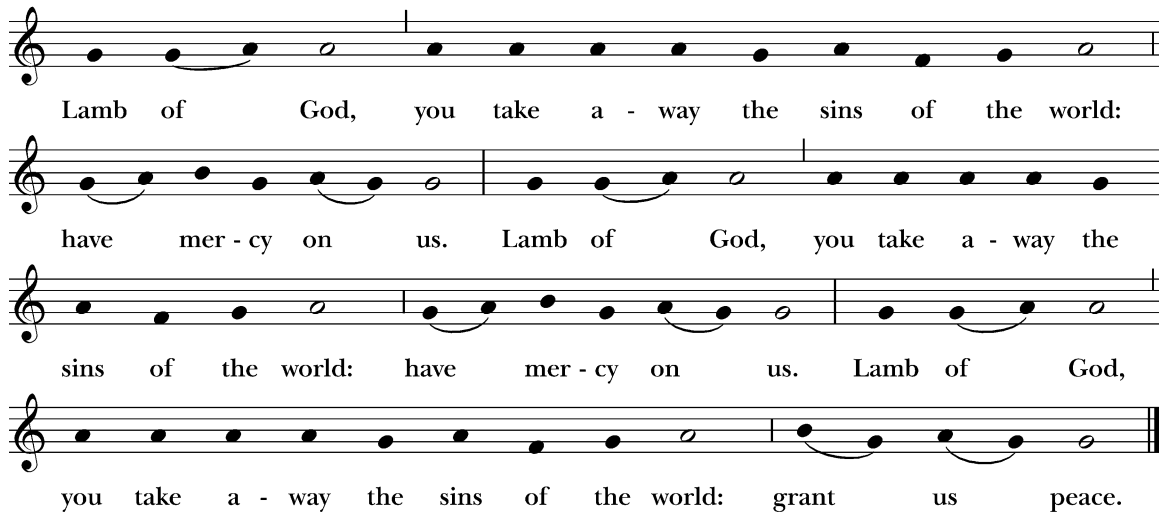
**as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

FRACTION ANTHEM

Lamb of God, S 160, *The Hymnal 1982*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: Anaphora chant; Mass 18; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1984 Mason Martens.

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. For the distribution of Holy Communion, the priest and Eucharistic minister will come to you. To receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms over your chest. You may choose not to partake of wine—Holy Communion is complete and efficacious when received in one kind only. To receive wine, you may sip from the common cup, or intinct (dip the bread into the wine). If you choose to intinct, please dip only the tip of the bread into the wine—fingers that touch the wine are a source of contamination. After receiving communion or a blessing, please return to your original seat.

COMMUNION ANTHEM (*Sung by the Schola Antiqua*)

Beati quorum via

Beati quorum via integra est
qui ambulant in lege Domini.

Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord.

Words: Psalm 119:1 Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924), Op. 38

After all have received communion, all stand.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider and People

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world**

and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

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

People: **Amen.**

HYMN

Now let us all with one accord (147, *The Hymnal 1982*)



1 Now let us all with one ac - cord, in
2 The cov - e - nant, so long re - vealed to
3 Your love, O Lord, our sin - ful race has
4 Re - mem - ber, Lord, though frail we be, in
5 There - fore, we pray you, Lord, for - give; so



1 com - pa - ny with a - ges past, keep vi - gil with our
2 those of faith in for - mer time, Christ by his own ex -
3 not re - turned, but fal - si - fied; au - thor of mer - cy,
4 your own i - mage were we made; help us, lest in anx -
5 when our wan - derings here shall cease, we may with you for



1 heaven - ly Lord in his temp - ta - tion and his fast.
2 am - ple sealed, the Lord of love, in love sub - lime.
3 turn your face and grant re - pent - ance for our pride.
4 i - e - ty, we cause your Name to be be - trayed.
5 ev - er live, in love and u - ni - ty and peace.

Words: Att. Gregory the Great (540-604); tr. *Praise the Lord*, 1972, alt. James Quinn, SJ. Printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division of Cassell Ltd. Music: *Bourbon*, melody att. Freeman Lewis (1780-1859); harm. Thomas Foster (b. 1938).

DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

You may be seated for the voluntary or exit the church.

VOLUNTARY

Elegy

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

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Announcements

For all the latest news and information, see last week's edition of the Weekly Parish Enews. From the Parish website Home page (www.stthomasnewhaven.org), click Enews Archive for the latest edition or Enews (subscribe) to subscribe.

HOLY WEEK CALENDAR 2026 March 29 – April 5

- ✠ **Palm Sunday** at 10 AM | Liturgy of the Palms, Procession with Bagpipes, and Sung Passion
- ✠ **Holy Wednesday** at 6:30 PM | Musical Meditation for Tenebrae
- ✠ **Maundy Thursday** at 6:30 PM (at St. Peter's, Cheshire) | Agape Supper, Holy Eucharist, and Foot Washing
- ✠ **Good Friday** 6:30 PM | Good Friday Liturgy with choir
- ✠ **Easter Vigil** (Saturday) at 6:30 PM | Lighting of Paschal Fire, First Alleluias of Easter (with choir)
- ✠ **Easter Day** at 10 AM | Festal Eucharist; Easter Brunch follows at 11:15!

Easter Flower & Music Offerings

Your gift contributes to our beautiful Easter celebration, and it may be made in honor or memory of someone important to you. Giving envelopes are available in the pews and at the doors. You may also donate online using [this link](#). Thank you!

Children and Youth

Sundays in Lent we will offer sessions of children's education focused on **Lent, Holy Week, and Easter**. During **coffee hour**, a table will be set aside for Sunday School. All are welcome. Fill your plate and join Denise Terry all the Sundays during Lent. Questions? Denise Terry (240-481-8537 or terry.df@gmail.com)

Inquirers' Class

Our new Inquirers' Class invites all interested in learning more about what it means to be Episcopalian to gather at St. Thomas's on the first Tuesday of each month from 5:15-6:15. Our next class session will be held in the Lounge on Tuesday, **March 3**. Join us!

LENTEN BOOK STUDY begins Wednesday, March 4

Please plan to join us for this year's Lenten adult formation series as we gather weekly to explore Rowan Williams's *Being Christian*. Our friends at St. Peter's in Cheshire will once again be joining us. Participants from both parishes are invited to choose between two weekly options: Wednesdays at 6:30 or Thursdays at 6:30. All sessions will be held via zoom except the first, Wednesday, March 4, which will be held here at St. T's over a potluck dinner. For more information, see Alan or be in touch with him at alan@stthomasnewhaven.org. This beautiful book is appropriate for folks at all levels of background and experience; all are warmly welcome.

Youth Confirmation Class at St. T's

We are delighted to offer Confirmation preparation for youth ages 13+ on select Sunday afternoons after Coffee Hour. This is a rich opportunity to explore faith through conversation, activity, off-campus experiences, and more. Classes are led by Alan alongside experienced mentors from our community. Be in touch with Alan anytime to discuss further! You can chat with him at coffee hour or write to him at alan@stthomasnewhaven.org.

Responding to Food Insecurity in our Community

Connecticut Food Pantries have seen a sharp rise in need this year, serving 23% more households. Loss of federal funding has been compounded by the effects of the government shutdown. SNAP benefits have stopped, affecting 360,000 people in the state of Connecticut alone. The need is great. Please join us in supporting Loaves and Fishes. You can give at this [link](#).

Winter Weather is Here!

In case of unsafe travel conditions, the Vestry will cancel church services. We will announce a cancellation by 8:30 a.m. via Facebook, the website, and a special edition of the E-news. Be sure to look for this before you leave home on a Sunday morning.

Coffee Hour: Help Needed!

Our team of coffee-hour hosts is small and our congregation is growing! Please consider joining us as a host, co-host, or contributor. Consult the poster in the lounge or the online signup link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4AACAD2CABFE3-coffee>. Ideally, as our congregation grows we would like to have two or three hosts/contributors per week. Thank you!

Parish Directory Updates

Please [email Julie](mailto:julie@stthomasnewhaven.org) with any changes to your address or contact info, or if you wish to be added to the directory. Thank you.

Time for Name Tags!

Wearing name tags is a simple and wonderful way to practice radical welcome. If you have never had a St. Thomas's name tag, or have lost the one you had, please sign up in the narthex or at coffee hour and look for your new name tag in a week's time. You can also email Julie in the parish office, j.kelly@stthomasnewhaven.org to request a name tag. Name tags may be left in the basket in the lounge following coffee hour, or at the rear of the church in the name tag holders. Please wear your name tag every week!

Sunday Server Sign-ups

There are many ways to contribute to the worship life of St. Thomas's. We are eager to welcome new servers in the roles of lector, usher, intercessor, subdeacon, and sacristan. If you are interested in learning more or in receiving training, please reach out to Vestry member Claire Scully, chiarasam@comcast.net. We would love for you to share your gifts with St. Thomas!

Interested in joining St. Thomas's Choir?

The St. Thomas's Choir sings for Sunday morning and special liturgies during the program year, offering anthems, canticles and psalms. The choir includes volunteers and professional section leaders. Its repertoire is drawn from the rich tradition of Anglican choral music, spanning many centuries.

The St. Thomas's Choir rehearses on Sundays at 9 a.m. and from 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m., from September to June. New members are always welcome; an ability to read music and prior choral experience is desirable.

Contact Matthew Cramer at m.cramer@stthomasnewhaven.org

Safe Church Training

In an important effort to build and protect community for everyone, the Episcopal Church requires that all church leaders (including vestry), staff, and anyone interacting with youth or pastoral ministries take Safe Church Training every three years. The training is free and can be done in person or online. Register

here: <https://www.episcopalct.org/events/category/safe-church-training/>

Bishop Jeff Mello says: "Safe Church Training, and our commitment to creating a church that is safe for all of God's beloved children, is at the center of our commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Those most at risk for abuse are the very ones Jesus drew close; children, the frail, and those at the margins. To be made more and more into the likeness of Christ is to take seriously the safety and welfare of those whom 'Safe Church' is meant to protect."

Donating Clothing for Loaves and Fishes. Our support for the clothing ministry is ongoing. Please be thoughtful in your selection of items. Current specific requests include: men's/women's jeans; men's shirts, sweaters, jackets, shoes, new socks. Bring donations to St. Thomas's (leave them in the tub at the Whitney Ave. entrance) or to Loaves and Fishes (Thurs-Sat, 9-11 a.m., in the driveway at 57 Olive St.).



Serving Today

Choir Director: Kevin Vondrak
Coffee Hour Hosts: Max Ballardo, Gary Robison
Flowers: Heather Robison
Intercessor: Denise Terry
Lector: Morgen Campbell
Organist: Dr. Stephen Gamboa-Diaz
Preacher: Bryan Hiott
Presider: The Rev. Alan Murchie
Sacristan: Claire Scully
Subdeacon: Max Ballardo
Ushers: Chris and CharlotteRose Acosta, Debbie Griffin
Vestry Host: Claire Scully

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Vestry

Max Ballardo
Morgen Campbell
Ricardo Chavira (Junior Warden)
Maria Coffin
Don Edwards
Bill English (Treasurer)
Jennifer Herdt (Senior Warden)
Linda Pivarnik
Claire Scully (Clerk)

St. Thomas's Clergy

The Rev. Eric Jeuland, Priest Associate
The Rev. Jane Jeuland, Priest Associate
The Rev. Alan C. Murchie, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Sharp, Preacher-in-Residence

**ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY
SCHOOL**
830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511
(203) 777-7623 ♦ www.stthomasnewhaven.org

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:
for Keyna, Maria, Martin, Michael, Susan
for the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia
for the people of Gaza and the people of Israel
for victims of civil war in Syria and the Sudan
for all who are afflicted by war, violence, and natural disaster

Pray for those who have died, especially: Keyvon

In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer, pray for: St. John's, Guilford; Grace & St. John's, Hamden; Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford; Christ Church Cathedral's ministry in Hartford, the Cathedral Chapter & the honorary canons of our Cathedral

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for: The Church of Ireland

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

Dr. Matthew Cramer, Music Director

♦ music@stthomasnewhaven.org

Dr. Stephen Gamboa-Diaz, Organist
s.gamboa-diaz@stthomasnewhaven.org

Bryan Hiott, Seminarian Intern

Julie Kelly, Administrator ♦ j.kelly@stthomasnewhaven.org

The Rev. Alan Murchie, Rector

♦ alan@stthomasnewhaven.org