



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (LAETARE), YEAR C

Service of Holy Eucharist

March 30, 2025 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.

The fourth Sunday of Lent is known as **Laetare Sunday** in the Roman Catholic liturgical calendar; it is also known as Refreshment Sunday, or Mothering Sunday. “Laetare” means “rejoice” in Latin. Similar to Gaudete Sunday (the third Sunday in Advent), Laetare Sunday calls the Church to joyful anticipation of Easter and Christ’s triumph over death. This joyful theme provides lightening from the penitential emphasis of Lent. Since the 13th century, the celebrant of the eucharist has been permitted to wear rose-colored vestments which express the change of tone in the Lenten observance. The custom is not required in the Episcopal Church, but may be observed.

VOLUNTARY

‘Attende Domine’ (Choral paraphrase)

Jeanne Demessieux (1921–1968)

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O bless the Lord, my soul (411, *The Hymnal* 1982)

1 O bless the Lord, my soul! His grace to thee pro - claim!
 2 O bless the Lord, my soul! His mer - cies bear in mind!
 3 He will not al - ways chide; he will with pa - tience wait;
 4 He par - dons all thy sins, pro - longs thy fee - ble breath;
 5 He clothes thee with his love, up - holds thee with his truth;

1 And all that is with - in me join to bless his ho - ly Name!
 2 For - get not all his ben - e - fits! The Lord to thee is kind.
 3 his wrath is ev - er slow to rise and rea - dy to a - bate.
 4 he heal - eth thine in - fir - mi - ties and ran - soms thee from death.
 5 and like the ea - gle he re - news the vi - gor of thy youth.

6 Then bless his holy Name,
 whose grace hath made thee whole,
 whose loving-kindness crowns thy days:
 O bless the Lord, my soul!

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 103. Music: *St. Thomas* (Williams), melody Aaron Williams (1731-1776); harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.


People: **His mercy endures for ever.**

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.**

KYRIE


Kyrie eleison (S 85, *The Hymnal 1982*)

Cantor or Choir *All*




Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Cantor or Choir *All*



Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Cantor or Choir *All*



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Music: Plainsong, Mode 3, Mass 16; adapt. Schola Antiqua, 1983. Rhythmic reconstruction: Copyright © 1983 Schola Antiqua, Inc. Used by permission.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

JOSHUA 5:9-12

The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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

2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself,

not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN

There's a wideness in God's mercy (469, *The Hymnal 1982*)



1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy like the wide - ness
 2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure



of the sea; there's a kind - ness in his jus -
 up in heaven; there is no place where earth's fail -
 of the mind; and the heart of the E - ter -



tice, which is more than lib - er - ty. There is wel - come
 ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given. There is plen - ti -
 nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were



for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good; there is mer - cy
 ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for
 but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word; and our life would



with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
 be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.



Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt. Music: *St. Helena*, Calvin Hampton (1938-1984). Copyright © 1977, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So Jesus told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe – the best one – and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

‘Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

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

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 CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider

Let us confess our sins to God. [*Silence is kept.*]

Presider and People

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. 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.**

THE PEACE

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*Please greet your neighbors with a sign of peace, in whatever way seems welcome. 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*)

Thou knowest, Lord

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;
shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayer;
but spare us, Lord most holy,
O God most mighty.

O holy and most merciful Savior,
thou most worthy Judge eternal,
suffer us not, at our last hour,
for any pains of death, to fall from thee. Amen.

Words: *Book of Common Prayer*, 1660 Music: Henry Purcell (1659–1695), from *Funeral Sentences*, Z. 860

*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 the front row of pews. You may also remain where you are.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

O Food to pilgrims given (309, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 O Food to pil - grims giv - en, O Bread of life from
 2 O stream of love past tell - ing, O pur - est foun - tain,
 3 O Je - sus, by thee bid - den, we here a - dore thee,

hea - ven, O Man - na from on high! We
 well - ing from out the Sa - vior's side! We
 hid - den in forms of bread and wine. Grant

hun - ger; Lord, sup - ply us, nor thy de - lights de -
 faint with thirst; re - vive us, of thine a - bun - dance
 when the veil is riv - en, we may be - hold, in

ny us, whose hearts to thee draw nigh.
 give us, and all we need pro - vide.
 hea - ven, thy coun - te - nance di - vine.

Words: Latin, 1661; tr. John Athelstan Laurie Riley (1858-1945), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *O Welt, ich muss dich lassen*, present form of melody att. Heinrich Isaac (1450?-1517), alt.; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

and 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 Thomas 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

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

You are invited to say the Lord's Prayer in the language of your choice.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,**

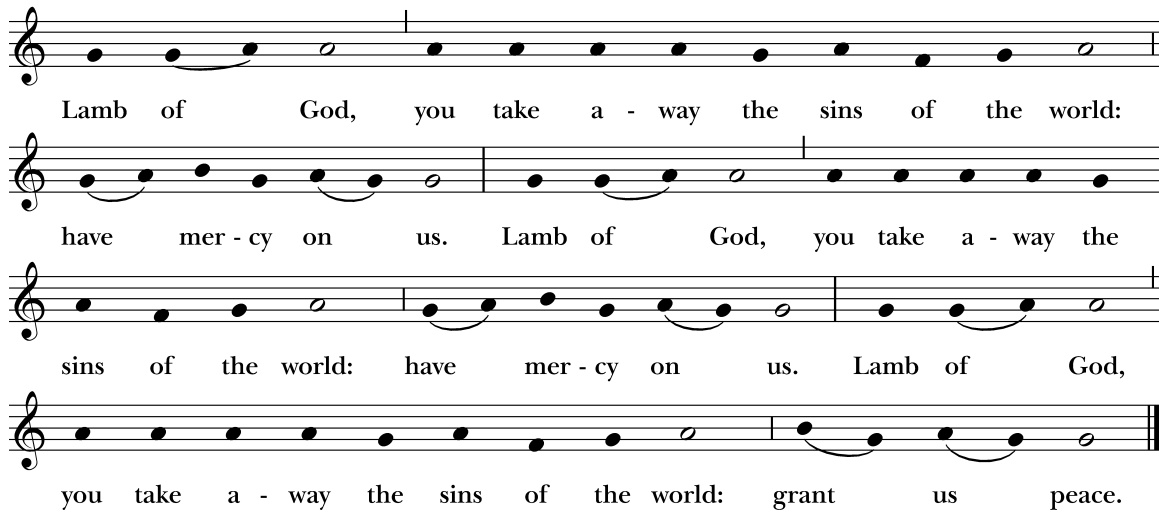
**as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

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*)

I was glad

I was glad when they said unto me:
We will go into the house of the Lord.
Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is built as a city: that is at unity in itself.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls:
and plenteousness within thy palaces.

For thither the tribes go up,
even the tribes of the Lord: to testify unto Israel,
and to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.
For there is the seat of judgement:
even the seat of the house of David.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be:
world without end, Amen.

Words: Psalm 122:1, 4-7; Music: Henry Purcell (c.1659-1695), *Anthem for the Coronation of King James II*, 1685

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

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah (690, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,
lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,
land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
 thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

Words: William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796), alt. Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932).

DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

‘Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist,’ BWV 671

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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Serving Today

Coffee Hour Hosts: Ricardo Chavira
Flowers: Heather Robison
Intercessor: Bryan Hiott
Lector: Jenny Chavira
Music Director: Dr. Matthew Cramer
Organist: Dr. Stephen Gamboa-Diaz
Preacher: Dr. Bryan M. Dougan
Presider: The Rev. Alan Murchie
Sacristan: Bill English
Subdeacon: Donnie Fragale
Ushers: Gary Robison, Claire Scully
Vestry Host: Ricardo Chavira

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Vestry

Max Ballardo
Morgen Campbell
Ricardo Chavira (Junior Warden)
Bill English (Treasurer)
Jennifer Herdt (Senior Warden)
Alexandria Robison
Claire Scully
Denise Terry (Clerk)

St. Thomas's Clergy

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

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL
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This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially: the people of Russia and the people of Ukraine; the people of Gaza and the people of Israel; all who are afflicted by war and natural disaster.

Pray for those who have died.

In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer, pray for: All Saints', Meriden; St. Andrew's, Meriden; Christ Church, Middle Haddam; Collaborative ministries & all Ministry Networks.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for: Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

In the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, pray for: Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia

Dr. Matthew Cramer, Music Director

♦ music@stthomasnewhaven.org

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

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

The Rev. Alan Murchie, Priest-in-Charge

♦ alan@stthomasnewhaven.org

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.



This Morning's Preacher

This morning's preacher, parishioner Dr. Bryan M. Dougan, is completing his first year as a Master of Divinity candidate at Berkeley Divinity School. Bryan is a postulant for holy orders raised up by the Diocese of North Carolina. His home parish is the Church of the Holy Family in Chapel Hill.

HOLY WEEK CALENDAR 2025 April 13-20

- ✘ **Palm Sunday** at 10 AM | Liturgy of the Palms, Procession with Bagpipes, and Sung Passion
- ✘ **Holy Wednesday** at 6:30 PM | Première Leçon de Ténèbres by François Couperin; Sherezade Panthaki, soprano
- ✘ **Maundy Thursday** at 6:30 PM (at St. Peter's, Cheshire) | *Agape Supper, Holy Eucharist, and Foot Washing*
- ✘ **Good Friday** at Noon and 6:30 PM | Good Friday Liturgies (with choir at 6:30)
- ✘ **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!

Childcare Available on Sunday Mornings!

St. Thomas is now offering childcare during Sunday morning services. We love to have children of all ages with us in the sanctuary, but understand that sometimes kids (or their parents) need a little break! Feel free to drop your child in the Vesting Room directly adjacent to the sanctuary before the service begins, or slip out during the service at any time. Contact Denise Terry or Jennifer Herdt with any questions.

Sunday School

There will be Sunday School classes at **9 a.m.** on April 13, and May 4 in the **KIDZONE ROOM** on the second floor.

- Sunday, **April 13** -- **PALM SUNDAY**. The children will learn about **HOLY WEEK** before joining the Palm Sunday procession.
- Sunday, **May 4** -- The children of the parish will have a fund-raiser, details to follow.

Contact Denise Terry (terry.df@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

“Mille Regretz” A Concert of Franco-Flemish Music | Sunday, April 6, 5pm

The singers of St. Thomas's Schola Antiqua join forces with early music ensemble Elm City Consort (Michael Rigsby, director) for a concert of music by Josquin des Prez and his Franco-Flemish Renaissance contemporaries, including Nicolas Gombert, Pierre de la Rue, Johannes Ockeghem, and Jheronimus Vinders.

Musical Meditation for Holy Wednesday | Wednesday, April 16, 6:30pm

Join us for a Lenten Musical Meditation inspired by the liturgy of Tenebrae as we prepare to observe the Holy Triduum. Soprano Sherezade Panthaki, organist Stephen Gamboa-Diaz, and gambist Michael Rigsby will present François Couperin's Première Leçon de Ténèbres, alongside other shorter works.

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.

Coffee-Hour: Help our Hosts!

You are warmly invited to contribute to St. Thomas's signature Coffee Hour. Consult the poster in the lounge or the online signup link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4AACAD2CABFE3-coffee>. Thank you to the anchor hosts who have signed up for each week between now and Easter—please consider joining them as a co-host! As we grow, we would like to have two or three hosts per week.

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

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut requires parish leaders to do "Safe Church" training, and to update that training every three years. The diocese is offering training times in the coming months. There is no fee for this training.

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

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 short-sleeved shirts, sweaters, jackets, shoes, new socks; winter clothing only until March 15. 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.).