



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, YEAR C

Service of Holy Eucharist

February 16, 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.

VOLUNTARY

Arietta
Thomas H. Kerr (1915-1988)

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

HYMN

Gracious Spirit, give your servants (782, *Wonder, Love, and Praise*)

1. Gra - cious Spir - it, give your ser - vants joy to set sin's
 2. Word made flesh, who gave up glo - ry to be - come our
 3. Lov - ing God, who birthed cre - a - tion from the noth - ing -
 4. Tri - une God, e - ter - nal Be - ing, nev - er end - ing,

cap - tives free, hope to heal the bro - ken - heart - ed,
 great high priest, tak - ing on our hu - man na - ture
 ness of space, kin - dling life where all was emp - ty,
 un - be - gun, bound - less grace and per - fect jus - tice,

peace to share love's li - ber - ty. Through us bring your balm of
 to re - deem the last and least: let your cour - age and com -
 turn - ing cha - os in - to grace: when we feel con - fused and
 right - eous and for - giv - ing One: so en - fold us in you

glad - ness to the wound - ed and op - pressed; help us claim and
 pas - sion shape and guide our min - is - tries; as our Sav - ior
 fruit - less, dawn up - on our rest - less night; give us faith's im -
 mer - cy that our wills and yours u - nite; through us may the

show God's fa - vor as a peo - ple called and blessed.
 and our Shep-herd, lead us to the truth that frees.
 ag - i - na - tion, hope's re - new - ing, love's de - light.
 world be - hold you, find your love, your truth, your light.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (B. 1944). Music: Abbot's Leigh, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991).

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

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

SONG OF PRAISE

Glory to God (S 277, *The Hymnal* 1982)

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

2. Lord God, hea-ven-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.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

JEREMIAH 17:5-10

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
 and make mere flesh their strength,
 whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
 and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
 in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
 whose trust is the LORD.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,
 sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
 and its leaves shall stay green;
 in the year of drought it is not anxious,
 and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;
 it is perverse –
 who can understand it?

I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1 (*sung by the Choir*)

Gerre Hancock

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ – whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun (544, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun doth his suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - oners
 5 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

1 ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 2 throng to crown his head; his Name like sweet per -
 3 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
 4 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
 5 hon - ors to our King; an - gels de - scend with

1 shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 2 fume shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 3 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his Name.
 4 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 5 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Duke Street*, John Hatton (d. 1793).

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 6:17-26

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

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

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
 for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.”

“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

“Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

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

Presider

Let us pray to God, who is made manifest in Jesus Christ.

Intercessor and People

As the prophet Isaiah sang out, “Arise, shine; for your light has come,” empower your Church, O God, to proclaim the Good News of the Light of your son Jesus, which pierces even the deepest darkness. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As a star rose high into the nighttime sky to draw the nations to the Christ Child; send your blessing, O God, on this nation, and every nation, and draw the whole world to your peace and truth. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As John the Baptist guided throngs of people to the edge of the wilderness and baptized Jesus in the River Jordan, we pray that you would guide our country and our leaders to the ways of justice and righteousness. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Like the Magi who traveled from afar to bring gifts and celebrate the Savior’s birth; we pray for this community: for this parish, for our hometowns, and for our nation. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As Jesus climbed to the mountaintop, and proclaimed blessings on the people of the world; we pray for the sick and the distressed, the poor and the lonely. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As Jesus called his disciples to leave their nets and boats, and follow him; we pray for those we love and who have answered your call to follow Jesus to your Heavenly Kingdom. We pray also for all who seek faith or struggle with faith. Give them your peace. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

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

Presider

Lord Jesus, Light of the World, hear our prayers, and make us reflections of your Light, that the places of darkness in our world would be pierced by your Light, and that all nations would be drawn to you and be overwhelmed with joy. **Amen.**

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 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*)

The Poor in Spirit

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Words: Matthew 5:3 Music: Patrick Hawes (b. 1958), *Beatitudes*, no. 1, 2016

*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

Thuma mina (808, *Wonder, Love, and Praise*)

Additional verses

3. *Call:* Lead me, Lord, *Response:* Lead me, Jesus.

4. *Call:* Fill me, Lord, *Response:* Fill me, Jesus.

Words: South African. Music: *Thuma mina*, South African. Copyright © 1984 Utyck, admin. Walton Music Company.

THE HOLY COMMUNION
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Holy, holy, holy (S 124, *The Hymnal 1982*)

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

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

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 all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

FRACTION ANTHEM

Lamb of God (S 161, *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: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

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 mundo corde

Beati mundo corde,
quoniam ipsi Deum videbunt:

Beati pacifici,
quoniam filii Dei vocabuntur:

Beati qui persecutionem patiuntur propter justitiam,
quoniam ipsorum est regnum coelorum.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for justice,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Words: Matthew 5:8-10 Music: William Byrd (c.1540-1623), *Gradualia ac cantiones sacrae, Liber Primus*, no. 32, 1605

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.

EPIPHANY BLESSING

Presider

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth.

Amen.

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. **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.**

HYMN

Immortal, invisible, God only wise (423, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt. Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Passacaglia
David Hurd (b. 1950)

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Serving Today

Coffee Hour Hosts: Jen Regan, Alan Murchie

Crucifer: Kaylee Pivarnik

Intercessor: Donnie Fragale

Lector: Jenny Chavira

Music Director: Matthew Cramer

Organist: Stephen Gamboa-Diaz

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Alan Murchie

Sacristan: Claire Scully

Subdeacon: Ricardo Chavira

Ushers: Gary Robison, Claire Scully

Vestry Host: Claire Scully

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

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: 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, especially the Southern California wildfires

Pray for those who have died.

In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer, pray for: St. James', Glastonbury; St. Luke's, Glastonbury; Christ Church, Greenwich; The Union of Black Episcopalians CT & the Racial Healing, Justice & Reconciliation Ministry Network

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

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

Matthew Cramer, Music Director

♦ m.cramer@stthomasnewhaven.org

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.

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 February 23, March 9, April 13, and May 4 on the second floor.

- Sunday, **February 23** -- Learn about Black History in the Episcopal Church and celebrate with song.
- Sunday, **March 9** -- What is Lent? We will read about Jesus and his life before the crucifixion.
- Sunday, **April 13** -- A walk in Edgerton Park, looking for connections between nature and Holy Week
- 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.

FORMATION HOUR | Sundays at 9:10

Our new Formation Hour on Sundays focuses on The Gospel of Luke on Sundays through March 2. Each session will be self-standing so that you may attend as you are able. We gather in the Lounge at 9:10. Join us this Sunday as we explore the theme of **salvation** in Luke's gospel. Luke's gospel could be subtitled "Jesus, the World's Savior" given Luke's palpable and thorough emphasis on salvation. What is salvation? And what do we mean when we name Jesus as the one who saves? Join us!

MARDI GRAS Potluck and Hymn Sing | Sunday, March 2 at 5 PM

On Sunday, March 2 at 5 we will gather for a festive Mardi Gras potluck and then head downstairs to the sanctuary to sing the season's final Alleluias! Alan will make a traditional gumbo; please bring additional main dishes, sides or desserts to fill out the table.

ASH WEDNESDAY ☩ Wednesday, March 5 ☩ Liturgies at 12 Noon and 7 PM

Join us at 12 Noon or at 7 PM on Wednesday, March 5 for Imposition of Ashes as the season of Lent begins with the solemn, reflective Ash Wednesday liturgy. Both services will conclude with a celebration of Holy Eucharist; the choir joins us at 7 PM.

Looking ahead to Spring...

"Mille Regretz" A Concert of Franco-Flemish Music | Sunday, April 6, afternoon

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.

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/>

Please Support Wildfire Response Efforts

Episcopal Relief & Development is working closely with partners to support people affected by the Southern California wildfires. The Wildfire Response Fund is an important tool for responding to immediate needs and supporting long-term recovery. Please contribute to Episcopal Relief & Development's [Wildfire Response Fund](#) to support these efforts.

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.).

Winter Weather is Coming!

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 after a Saturday night storm.