ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, PROPER 11, YEAR A

Service of Holy Eucharist

July 19, 2026 10 A.M.

Welcome!

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.

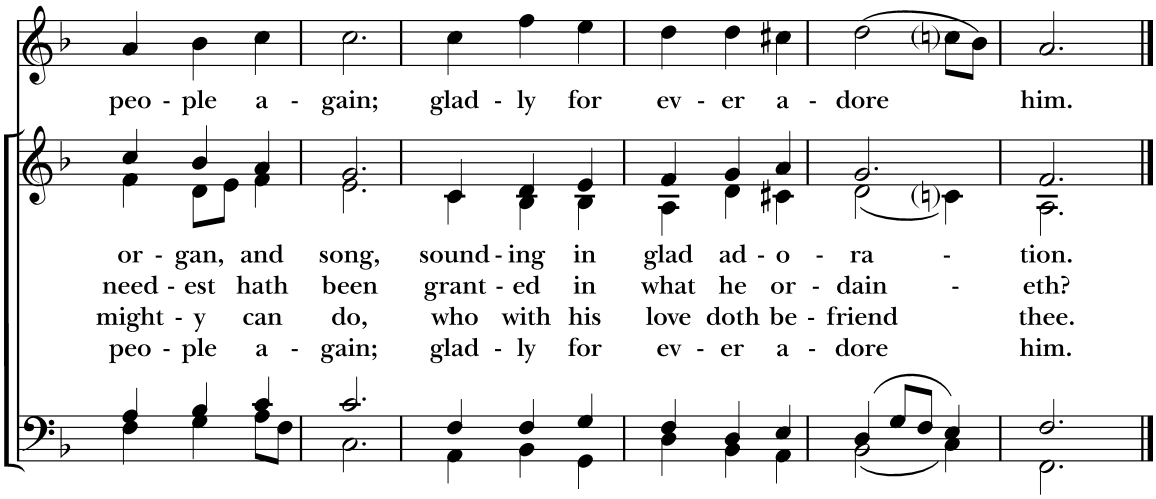
Wireless access in the Sanctuary is accessible by connecting to wireless network STEC – Guest. Your device will open a web browser and the St. Thomas's website. Bulletins are posted in the website's Bulletin Archive. To reduce printing, we encourage worshippers to use their smart devices to follow the 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 No. 1 Préambule & No. 3 Complainte, from *Pièces en style libre*, Op. 31
Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

HYMN Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (**390**, *The Hymnal 1982*)



Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971). Descant, Copyright © 1953, Novello and Company Limited. Used by permission.

OPENING ACCLAMATION, SALUTATION, AND COLLECT

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.**

Presider: Lord, have mercy.
People: Christ, have mercy.
Presider: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ 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 28:10-19A

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of

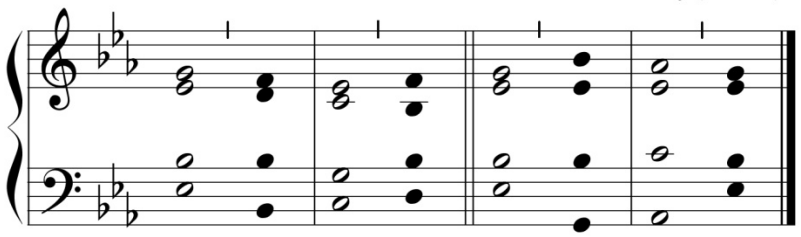
Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 139:1-11, 22-23 (*Sung by all*)

Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)



© 1979. Robert Knox Kennedy

Choir and People

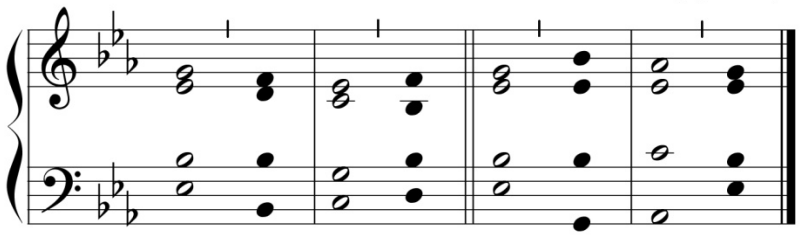
1 Lord, you have searched me out and | **known** me; |
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from a|**far**. ||
2 You trace my journeys and my | **rest**ing-places |
and are acquainted with all my | **ways**. ‖

3 Indeed, there is not a word on my | **lips**, |
but you, O Lord, know it alto|**geth**er. ||
4 You press upon me behind and be|**fore** |
and lay your hand up|**on** me. ‖

(*Repeat second half of chant*)

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for | **me**; |
it is so high that I cannot at|**tain** to it. ‖

Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)



© 1979. Robert Knox Kennedy

6 Where can I go then from your | **Spi**rit? |
where can I flee from your | **pre**sence? ||
7 If I climb up to heaven, you are | **there**; |
if I make the grave my bed, you are there | **al**so. ‖

8 If I take the wings of the | **morn**ing |
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the | **sea**, ||
9 Even there your hand will | **lead** me |
and your right hand hold me | **fast**. ‖

10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will | **cov**er me, |
and the light around me turn to | **night**," ||
11 Darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the | **day**; |
darkness and light to you are both a|**like**. ‖

22 Search me out, O God, and know my | **heart**; |
try me and know my restless | **thoughts**. ||
23 Look well whether there be any wickedness | **in** me |
and lead me in the way that is ever|**last**ing. ‖

THE SECOND LESSON ROMANS 8:12-25

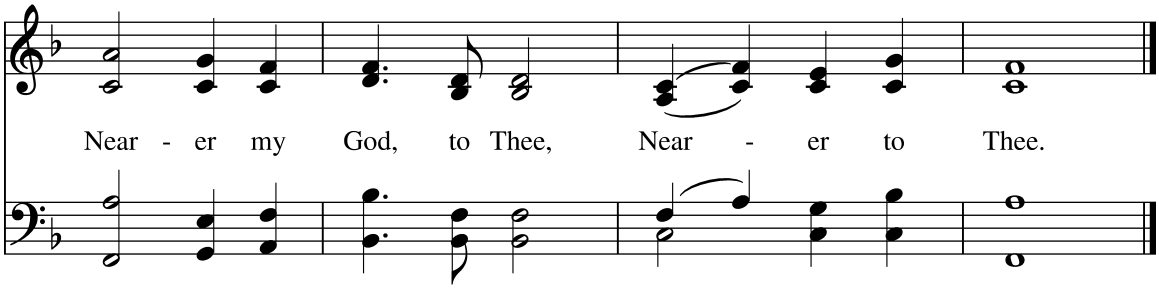
Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh– for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ– if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN Nearer, my God, to Thee (**54**, *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*)



Words: Sarah F. Adams (1805-1948). Music: *Bethany*, Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

THE GOSPEL MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: FORM III

Intercessor and People

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions, either silently or aloud.

Presider
Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **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 greet your neighbors with a sign of peace, in whatever way seems welcome. You may then be seated for brief announcements.

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

During the singing of the ***Offertory Hymn****, the Ushers bring the gifts forward and the Presider sets the table. The People follow the Ushers and 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, 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.*

All stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN

For the fruit of all creation (**424**, *The Hymnal 1982*)

Words: F. Pratt Green (b. 1903), alt.
Music: *East Acklam*, Francis Jackson (b. 1917) 84. 84. 888. 4
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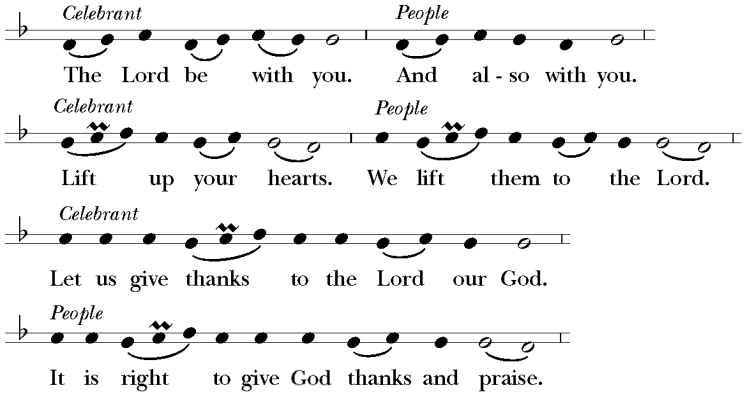
THE HOLY COMMUNION
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B



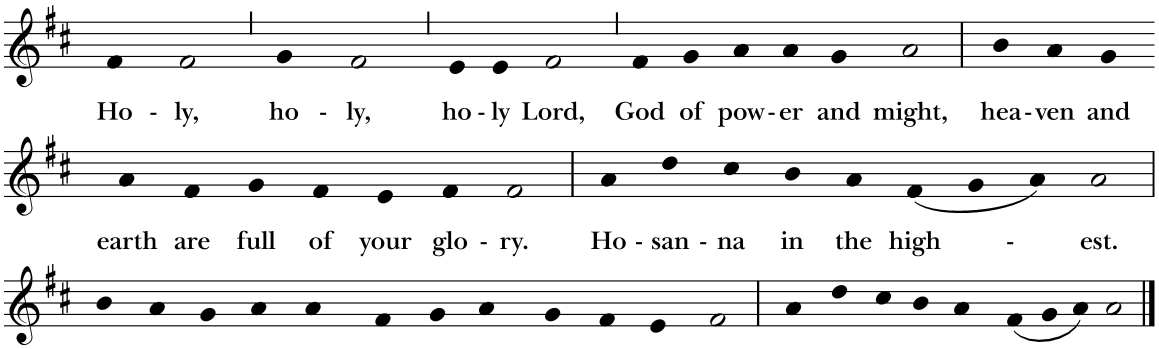
Presider

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

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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 Lord (**S 124**, *The Hymnal 1982*)



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 [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of 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 for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

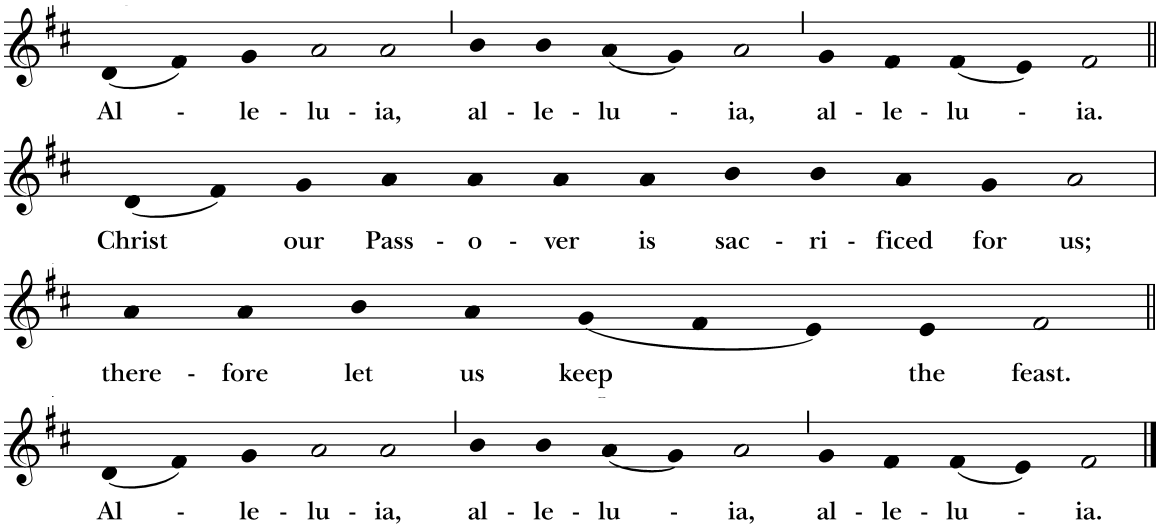
You are invited to say the Lord's Prayer in the language of your choice.

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 Christ our Passover (**S 154**, *The Hymnal 1982*)



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.*

After all have received communion, all stand.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

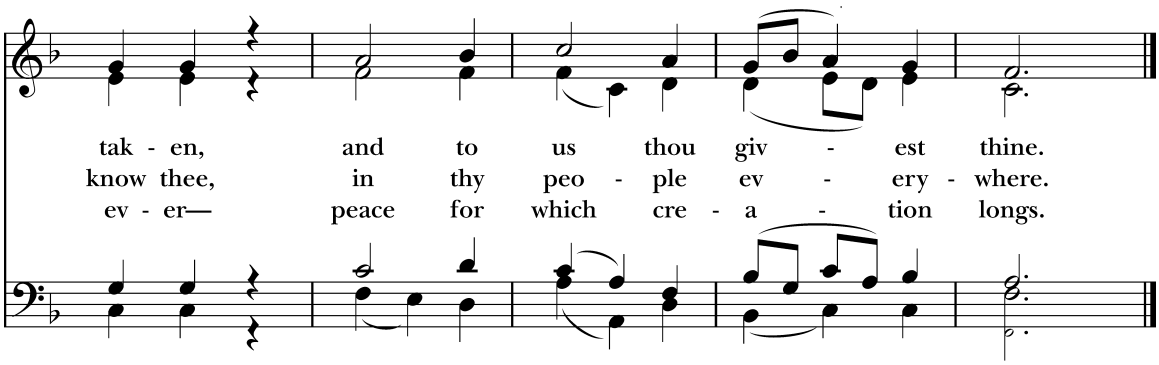
Presider: Let us pray.

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.

THE BLESSING

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

HYMN Come with us, O blessed Jesus (**336**, *The Hymnal 1982*)



Words: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1861-1945) and Charles P. Price (1920-1999). Sts. 2-3, Copyright © 1982, Charles P. Price.
Music: *Werde munter*, Johann Schop (d. 1665?); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

DISMISSAL

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

People: Thanks be to God.

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

VOLUNTARY Postlude from *Sixty Short Pieces*
Flor Peeters (1903–1986)

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Serving Today

Coffee Hour Hosts: Alan Murchie
Flowers: Heather Robison
Intercessor: William English
Lector: Max Ballardo
Music Director: Dr. Matthew Cramer
Organist: Karen Clute
Preacher: Bryan Hiott
Presider: The Rev. Alan Murchie
Sacristan: Debbie Griffin
Subdeacon: Ricardo Chavira
Ushers: Chris and CharlotteRose Acosta, Debbie Griffin
Vestry Host: Ricardo Chavira

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Vestry
Max Ballardo
Morgen Campbell
Ricardo Chavira (Junior Warden)
Maria Coffin
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

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:
for Faith, Gary, Maria, Martin, Michael, Susan
for the people of Iran
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, especially the people of Venezuela

Pray for those who have died.

In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer, pray for: St. Paul's, Riverside; St. Andrew the Apostle, Rocky Hill; Christ Church, Roxbury; Wardens, treasurers, clerks & all vestry members; elected delegates

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for: Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

In the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, pray for: Djibouti, Somalia

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL
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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

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.

Today's Organist
Welcome back to Karen Clute, our guest organist for today's service! Recently retired from practicing law, Karen has been enjoying traveling and serving as a back up for some of her organist-colleagues when life takes them away from their customary spots at the organ bench on a Sunday morning. In addition to her legal career, Karen previously served as organist and choir director at several churches in New York and Connecticut. Her most recent church position was as Director of Music at Center Church on the Green in New Haven (2021-2024). We thank Karen for joining us this weekend while Stephen is away in Minneapolis–St. Paul, performing as a guest artist in the Twin Cities Early Music Festival.

Summer Choir
If you couldn't join us last month, don't fret – our next summer choir will be **next Sunday, July 26**. For those who are interested in joining choir or who maybe are a bit too busy during the academic year to sing regularly, this is a low-stress, low-commitment way to sing with our music ministry. Anyone planning to sing should arrive at 9am for rehearsal ahead of the 10am service. There is no rehearsal afterward.

For more information about joining the St. Thomas's Choir for our regular season, please contact music director Matthew Cramer at m.cramer@stthomasnewhaven.org.

Coffee Hour: Sign Up for Summer Sundays
For the summer, we move to a simpler Coffee Hour with lemonade and cookies (or similar). Please consider signing up as host or contributor! You can sign up in the lounge or, online,
here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4AACAD2CABFE3-coffee. Thank you!

Responding to Food Insecurity in our Community
Connecticut Food Pantries have seen a sharp rise in need this year, serving 23% more households. The need is great. Please join us in supporting Loaves and Fishes. You can give at this link.

Parish Directory Updates
Please email Julie with any changes to your address or contact info, or if you wish to be added to the directory. Thank you.

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!

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.).