



# THE WORD OF THE LORD

## Prelude

*When Jesus went to Jordan's stream*

L. Osiander

## Opening Acclamation

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

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Collect for Purity

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.**

## Opening Hymn *Christ, when for us you were baptized*

# 121, Blue Hymnal

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final four lines. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves, and the piano accompaniment is shown on the bottom staff of each system.

1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spi - rit on you came,  
2 God called you his be - lov - ed Son, called you his ser - vant true,  
3 Straight - way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed his call  
4 Bap - tize us with your Spi - rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,

as peace - ful as a dove and yet as ur - gent as a flame.  
sent you his king - dom to pro - claim, his ho - ly will to do.  
free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.  
that, like - wise in God's ser - vice we may per - fect free - dom find.

Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.  
Music: *Caithness*, melody from *The Psalms of David in Prose and Meeter*, 1635; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

## The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **The First Lesson                      Isaiah 43:1-7**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:

Thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth--everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 29** (*responsively, by half verse*)

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, \*  
**ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; \*  
**worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; \*  
**the LORD is upon the mighty waters.**
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; \*  
**the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*  
**the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
**and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;  
 the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; \*  
**the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe \*  
**and strips the forests bare.**
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD \*  
**all are crying, "Glory!"**
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
**the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.**
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
**the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

**The Second Lesson**

**Acts 8:14-17**

**A Reading from the Book of Acts.**

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation      Celtic Alleluia**

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

## The Holy Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

Rev. Fran

## The Nicene Creed

**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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**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 and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He 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**

The prayers of the people is a time for us to share our prayers with one another as we lift them together to God.

Shine in your church, O God; embolden us, in a dark world, to speak truthfully and to act with the courage of love. We pray for our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Bishops, Susan, Jennifer, and Porter; our staff, Fran, Natalie, Joy, Walter, Mollie, Mary, and Nicole; and the teachers at the Early Learning Center. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we remember: Epiphany—Richmond, Epiphany, Oakhill—Herndon, St. Margaret's—Woodbridge, and we pray for Ascension Church in Beraud, Haiti. This day and always,

**Christ, be our Light.**

Shine on your world, O God; heal the warring of nations and the wounding of the earth to give us peace at last. This day and always,

**Christ, be our Light.**

Shine for your people, O God; make us one human family who clothe each other with mercy and feed each other with justice. This day and always,

**Christ, be our Light.**

Shine in our hearts, O God; help us to reach to the heavens and deep in our souls to seek you, to find you, and to know you. This day and always,

**Christ, be our Light.**

Shine in the saints and departed, O God; teach us to follow their lead to outrageous faith and eternal love. We remember Fran and David's friend Barbara Gay and all those whom you would name [*pause*] in our prayers. This day and always,

**Christ, be our Light.**

Shine for the afflicted, O God; remind them of your deep compassion and how you tenderly bear all our sorrows. In our prayers, we remember Susan, Andrei, Ethan, Emma, Johnny, Julie, David, Anne, Martha, Lucy, Kadri, Jim, Michelle, Madeleine, Eliana, Phyllis, Hilary, Frankie, Megan, Michael, Jack, Bonnie, Greet, Peter, Melissa, Olga, Scott, Amaya, Jen, Brendan, Brian, and Barbara, those with COVID-19, and all those you would name [*pause*]. This day and always,

**Christ, be our Light.**

Shine on those who rejoice, O God; all good gifts come from you, and we are thankful for our many blessings, especially for Pat Smith who celebrated her birthday yesterday, Maggie Beatty, Tom Armitage, and Tanya Coogan celebrating their birthdays this week, for Mahshid Beitollahisefidi & Hooman Mirzaei on their anniversary this week, and those blessings you would name [*pause*]. This day and always,  
**Christ, be our Light.**

Shine, O God, as the Light that creates, the Light that calls, the Light that comes again with every dawn. Shine as the Light that scatters every shadow, and the Light in which we promise to walk, with your help. **Amen.**

Adapted from *Liturgy for the Whole Church* by Susan K. Bock, Church Publishing Inc., © 2008, Kindle Edition, by The Very Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith.

### **A Prayer for the Search for a New Bishop**

Almighty God, Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, who calls, guides and empowers us as your Church: Create in us discerning minds as we seek to elect a bishop in this diocese. So many issues are open before us; so many wounds that need healing; so many gifts that need celebrating. Bless and continue the good work begun in your name, and open our ears to the hurts and hopes around us; broaden our vision to see what we do not want to see; and enliven our hearts with honesty and compassion to do the hard work that lies before us. Guide us as we seek an inspirational leader and willing advocate to help us meet the challenges, and lead us to become the people you have equipped us to be in your service. All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Together let us pray for St. Thomas Church.

**Almighty God, by your Spirit the whole body of your Church is governed and sanctified, hear our prayer for St. Thomas, build in us a renewed vision of your Church; shape our life according to your will; empower us with the gifts to make us one that together we may grow as a church in the spiritual strength of community and reach out to include all people in Christ's love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### **The Confession**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

## The Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

## Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loves us, and gave himself an offering and a sacrifice to God.

### **It's Easy to Give Electronically to St. Thomas**



Text "givetostthomas" to (888) 554-8664 (and follow the directions), scan the QR code, or visit the GIVING page on the St. Thomas website:

[www.stthomasmcleanva.org](http://www.stthomasmcleanva.org).

## Offertory Hymn *Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly dove*

**#510, Blue Hymnal**

1 Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, heaven - ly Dove, with all thy quick-ening powers;  
2 See how we tri - fle here be - low, fond of these earth - ly toys;  
3 In vain we tune our for - mal songs, in vain we strive to rise:  
4 Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, heaven - ly Dove, with all thy quick-ening powers;

kin - dle a flame of sa - cred love in these cold hearts of ours.  
our souls, how heav - i - ly they go, to reach e - ter - nal joys.  
ho - san - nas lan - guish on our tongues, and our de - vo - tion dies.  
come, shed a - broad a Sa - vior's love, and that shall kin - dle ours.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Saint Agnes*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

### **The Blessing**

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Announcements**



1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Em-braced by death he broke its  
2. We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death, Re - born we share with him an  
3. The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life, The spi - rit's pow - er shakes the  
4. A new cte - a - tion comes to life and grows as Christ's new bo - dy takes on



fear - ful hold, and our des - pair he turned to blaz - ing joy. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Eas - ter life, as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Church of God. Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. Al - le - lu - ia!  
flesh and blood. The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: Al - le - lu - ia!

**The Dismissal**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**



## **Worship Participants**

Presider	Natalie Perl Regan
Preacher	Rev. Fran
Lector & Intercessor	Clark Shannon
Digital Verger	Walt Lazear



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ECW Next Virtual Meeting – Sunday January 9, 2021 Please make note of the new start time – 8:45 am**

All Women of St. Thomas are invited to join us for the next ECW Meeting on Sunday January 9th at 8:45 a.m. (new start time!) in person and on Zoom.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: ECW Meeting

Time: Jan 9, 2022 08:45 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86357523674?pwd=eGxvbWNhdVFoQVA5SDVnTkppdUIOQT09>

**Meeting ID: 863 5752 3674**

**Passcode: 750420**



### **Women Gathering Zoom Meetup**

The next Women Gathering Zoom meetup is **Thursday, January 13th, from 4:30-5:15 pm.** We will be looking at the lives of two women in the Bible--Deborah and Rahab. Fran will lead the discussion based on the book *Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter* by Lindsey Freeman. To purchase it, click [HERE](#).

St. Thomas Episcopal Church invites you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87242612804?pwd=SXNCKytJVEpSM2VvUC9RditsTjNRZz09>

Meeting ID: 872 4261 2804

Passcode: 201069





*Walter's Last Day  
as our Minister of Music*

*Sunday, January 23, 2022*

*Virtual Worship as one Congregation*

*At 10:00 AM*

*No 8:00 AM Service*



THE PARISH ANNUAL MEETING  
IS ON  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022!**

Virtual Worship at 10:00 AM

Annual Meeting follows

**No 8:AM Service!**



## Pies for Haiti & Afghan Refugees

Pat Smith will make you either a 9-inch pie for \$25 or three (3) small pies of the same kind for \$30, the proceeds of which will go to assist Haiti in its recovery or for Afghan ally refugees settling in our area. Popular fruit pies are apple, apple-cranberry (I have frozen fresh cranberries), apple-raspberry, raspberry or blackberry (when available), strawberry-rhubarb (I have frozen rhubarb), tart cherry, blueberry, and Harvest Moon Pie (apples, cranberries, dried apricots – sweet and tart). Custard pies are lemon meringue, coconut cream, banana cream, and chocolate pudding pie.



Pat can make vegan fruit pies. Either call Pat on 703-338-0974 or email her at [pysmith51@gmail.com](mailto:pysmith51@gmail.com) with a week's notice. Fruit pies can successfully be frozen to enjoy at a future date, but custard pies cannot be frozen



Join David and Fran for a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in March of 2023.  
It's an amazing experience to walk the land that Jesus walked and to see the sights that feature  
in so many of our sacred stories!

## ***A PRAYER FOR ST. THOMAS CHURCH***

*Almighty God, by your Spirit the whole body of your Church is governed and sanctified. Hear our prayer for St. Thomas: build in us a renewed vision of your Church; shape our life according to your will; empower us with the gifts to make us one, that together we may grow as a church in the spiritual strength of community, and reach out to include all people in Christ's love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### **MINISTERS**

The Baptized Faithful of St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
The Most Rev. Michael Curry, *Presiding Bishop*  
The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff, *Ecclesiastical Authority, Suffragan Bishop*  
The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, *Assistant Bishop*  
The Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, *Assisting Bishop*

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