



**ST. THOMAS**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We, the baptized ministers,  
declare Christ's Mission for us:  
to grow as a Church  
in the spiritual strength  
of community,  
and to care, reach out,  
and include all people in Christ's love.

## **THANKSGIVING DAY**



**At Home Worship**

**November 25, 2021**

**10:00 AM**

# THE WORD OF GOD

## Prelude

## Opening Acclamation

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

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. 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.**

## Gathering Hymn

*Come ye thankful people, come*

from *The Blue Hymnal*, 290

1. Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple, come, raise fruit the song of his har - vest home;  
2. All the world is God's own field, un - to his praise we yield;

all wheat is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin.  
and tares to - geth - er sown unto the joy or sor - row grown;

God our Ma - ker doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied; come to God's own har -  
vest the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear; Grant. O har -

vest Lord - ple, come, raise the song of and har - vest home.  
that we whole - some grain and pure - vest may be.

## The Collect of the Day

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## The Lessons

**The First Lesson:** Joel 2:21-27

**A reading from the Book of Joel.**

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 126** (*responsively by half verse*)

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
**then were we like those who dream.**
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
**and our tongue with shouts of joy.**
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
**"The LORD has done great things for them."**
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
**and we are glad indeed.**

5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.

6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

### Gospel Acclamation

#### A 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

#### Matthew 6:25-33

*Gospeller* A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus said, "I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you-- you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." The Word of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### The Homily

Natalie Perl Regan

## 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.

## A General Thanksgiving

BCP 836

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us.

We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation,

for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for  
the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts,  
and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.*

### The Litany of Thanksgiving

BCP 836

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

*We thank you, Lord.*

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

*We thank you, Lord.*

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

*To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.*

### **The Offertory Sentence**

*Presider* Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

**Offertory**

"St. George's Windsor" (hymn 290)

**Colin Hand**



### **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)

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

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

*Presider and People*

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

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

*People* And also with you.

## The Blessing

May the Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God, strengthen you/us to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. **Amen.**

## Announcements

Closing Hymn      *"We plow the fields and scatter", v.v. 1 & 3*

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## The Dismissal

*Presider* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn

"We plow the fields and scatter", v.v. 1 & 3

from The Blue Hymnal, 291

1 We plow the fields, and scat - ter the good seed on the land,  
 2 He on - ly is the Ma - ker of all things near and far;  
 3 We thank thee, then, O Fa - ther, for all things bright and good,

but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand;  
 he paints the way - side flow - er, he lights the eve - ning star;  
 the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food:

he sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
 the winds and waves o - bey him, by him the birds are fed;  
 the gifts we have to of - fer are what thy love im - parts,

the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.  
 much more to us, his chil - dren, he gives our dai - ly bread.  
 but chief - ly thou de - sir - est our hum - ble thank - ful hearts.

*Refrain*

All good gifts a - round us are sent from heaven a - bove;

then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.

Words: Matthias Claudius (1740-1815); tr. Jane Montgomery Campbell (1817-1878), alt. Music: *Wir pflügen*, Johann Abraham Peter Schulz (1747-1800)

## Link for Zoom Church on Thanksgiving at 10 AM

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

Topic: Thanksgiving Worship

Time: Nov 25, 2021 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89568763030?pwd=ZmdTQlloSo1LdHVpTno1VolsNEF2QT09>

**Meeting ID: 895 6876 3030**

**Passcode: Thanks**

**Call In:**

**301 715 8592**

**Meeting ID: 895 6876 3030**

**Passcode: 706372**



### Advent Wreath Making on Sunday



St Thomas has a tradition of making Advent wreaths. The circular “oasis” (wet floral foam) is covered with greens such as pine, holly, cedar or other evergreens, then immersed in water for five minutes once you’re at home. (We recommend placing the wreath on a glass pie plate to keep it moist). Four candles—three blue or purple and one pink are then inserted into plastic holders in the oasis to complete the wreath.

The Advent wreath is a Christian tradition that symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent in the liturgical calendar. The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, which is made of various evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God and the everlasting life we find in Christ.

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are blue or purple to signify a time of prayer and penance as we prepare for the birth of Christ. The rose-pink candle is lit on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday in Advent to represent joy.

**We invite you to make an Advent wreath in Hudson Hall this year following the 10 am service on Sunday.** Please bring greenery to share and let the church office know to insure we have sufficient supplies. A free will offering of \$10 will offset the cost of the supplies.



## Women Gathering zoom meetup

Our next Women Gathering zoom meetup will be **Thursday, December 9th from 4:30-5:15 pm.**

We will be looking at the chapter on Elizabeth in *Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter* by Lindsey Freeman. Attached is the link to purchase *Bible Women*.

[https://www.amazon.com/Bible-Women-Their-Words-Matter/dp/0880283912/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=Bible+Women%3A+All+their+words+and+why+the+y+matter&qid=1631224305&s=books&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.com/Bible-Women-Their-Words-Matter/dp/0880283912/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=Bible+Women%3A+All+their+words+and+why+the+y+matter&qid=1631224305&s=books&sr=1-1)

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87242612804?pwd=SNCKytJVEpSM2VvUCgRditsTjNRZz09>

Meeting ID: 872 4261 2804      Passcode: 201069

