



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.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Holy Eucharist, Rite II—10:00 AM
September 1, 2024

Welcome to St. Thomas! We are so glad that you are here with us. If you are new to our community, we invite you to fill out a welcome card located in the pew rack in front of you, and either place it in the offering plate or hand it to a priest. We also invite you to stay with us for coffee hour after the service.

THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome

The Rev. Will Drosos

Introit

Canticle 12: A Song of Creation

#885 Wonder, Love, and Praise

Procession

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

#436 Hymnal 1982

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
 3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 *4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
 5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
 2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
 3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 4 thee: here, Lord, a - bid! Let me thy in - ner
 5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
 2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
 3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
 5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

Words: Georg Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878). Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmodia Evangelica*, Part II, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

The 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.**

Song of Praise

Glory to You, O Lord (Canticle 13)

#886 Wonder, Love, and Praise

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems. The first system has a vocal line with the lyrics 'Glo-ry to you, O Lord, glo-ry to you, O Lord.' and a piano accompaniment. The second system has a vocal line with the lyrics 'you are wor - thy of praise.' and a piano accompaniment. The third system is a piano accompaniment consisting of two staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/8.

Glory to you, Lord God in the **highest**; *

you are worthy of praise; glory to **you**.

Glory to you for the radiance of your holy **Name**; *

we will praise you and highly exalt you for **ever**.

Refrain

Glory to you in the splendor of your **temple**; *

on the throne of your majesty, glory to **you**.

Glory to you, seated between the **Cherubim**; *

we will praise you and highly exalt you for **ever**.

Refrain

Glory to you, beholding the **depths**; *

in the high vault of heaven, glory to **you**.

Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy **Spirit**; *

we will praise you and highly exalt you for **ever**.

Refrain

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

A reading from the Song of Solomon.

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.

My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10 (*We will pray a portion of Psalm 45 responsively by half verse*)

- 1 My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; *
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.
- 2 You are the fairest of men; *
**grace flows from your lips,
because God has blessed you for ever.**
- 7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, *
**a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.**
- 8 Therefore God, your God, has anointed you *
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.
- 9 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, *
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.
- 10 Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; *
**on your right hand is the queen,
adorned with the gold of Ophir.**

The Second Lesson

James 1:17-27

A reading from the letter of James.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn can be found on Page 6

The Gospel

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn

Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart 1,2,3 / 4,5

#556 Hymnal 1982

1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing! Your
 2 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints of earth, pour
 3 Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le - lu - ias loud; while
 4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go, from
 5 Still lift your stand - ard high, still march in firm ar - ray, as

1 glo - rious ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 2 out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 3 an - swer - ing ech - oes up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.
 4 youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.
 5 war - riors through the dark - ness toil, till dawns the gold - en day.

Refrain

Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks, and sing.
 re - joice, re - joice,

The Sermon

The Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith

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.**

The Prayers of the People

Deacon: The prayers of the people is a time for us to come together as we offer our prayers to God. Please kneel as you are able and offer your own prayers in the pauses, either silently or aloud. In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

Intercessor: For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Sean, our Presiding Bishop-elect; for Mark, Gayle, and Bud, our Bishops; for all bishops and other ministers; for Fran, Will, Caroline, Rishabh, Lori, Mary and Nicole, our staff; Mary, our Deacon; Beth, our Seminarian; for the teachers at the Early Learning Center; and for the Vestry and Officers of St. Thomas; and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust, especially Joe, our President, Glenn, our Governor, and the officials of Fairfax County, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the blessings of this life, especially Clifford Mastrangelo, Tricia Meyer, Dorene Ryder, Mary Cyrus, and all those celebrating birthdays this week; for all those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week; and for those blessings you would name *[pause]*. We pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers, especially **Ethan, Vincent, Vera, Lucy, Emily and Dave, Lynn, Betsy, Yusuf, Bruce, Bill, Fran, Mindy, Barbara, Andrew, Lee, Cindy, Beverly, Olga, Debbie, Davis, Cheryl, Jody, Grace, Clea, Andrew, Tricia**, and those whom you would name *[pause]*; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who have died, especially those whom you would name *[pause]*. For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of blessed Thomas and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

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.

Confession and Absolution of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *A time of silence.* Together, let us pray: **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.**

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Following the exchange of peace in the church, peace is exchanged with the congregation on Zoom.

The Offertory

O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. *Revelation 4:11*



It's Easy to Give Electronically to St. Thomas

Scan the QR code, or visit the GIVING page on the St. Thomas website:
<https://stthomasmcleanva.org/giving/donate>.

The Offertory Hymn can be found on Page 10

Offertory Hymn

Come Away to the Skies, My Beloved

#213 Hymnal 1982

Unison or harmony

1 Come a - way to the skies, my be - lov - ed, a - rise and re -
 2 Now with sing - ing and praise, let us spend all the days, by our
 3 For the glo - ry we were first cre - a - ted to share, both the
 4 We with thanks do ap - prove the de - sign of that love which hath
 *5 Hal - le - lu - jah we sing, to our Fa - ther and King, and his

1 joice in the day thou wast born; — on this fes - ti - val day,
 2 hea - ven - ly Fa - ther be - stowed, — while his grace we re - ceive
 3 na - ture and king - dom di - vine! — Now cre - a - ted a - gain
 4 joined us to Je - sus' — Name; — so u - ni - ted in heart,
 5 rap - tu - rous prais - es, re - peat: — to the Lamb that was slain,

1 come ex - ult - ing a - way, and with sing - ing to Zi - on re - turn. —
 2 from his boun - ty, and live to the hon - or and glo - ry of God. —
 3 that our lives may re - main, through - out time and e - ter - ni - ty thine. —
 4 let us nev - er - more part, till we meet at the feast of the Lamb. —
 5 hal - le - lu - jah a - gain, sing, all heav - en, and fall at his feet. —

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Middlebury*, melody from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. Jack W. Burnam (b. 1946); alt. acc. Marilyn J. Keiser (b. 1941). Harmonization Copyright © 1984, Jack W. Burnam.

The Doxology (to the tune of "All Creatures of Our God and King")

#400 Hymnal 1982

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Gluten free wafers are available on request. As the Eucharist is distributed, all who desire prayers for healing—for themselves or for others—are invited to come to the healing minister behind the lectern on the right as you face the altar.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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 you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in 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: #255 Lift Every Voice and Sing II

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo -

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high -

est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ,

your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.**

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

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.

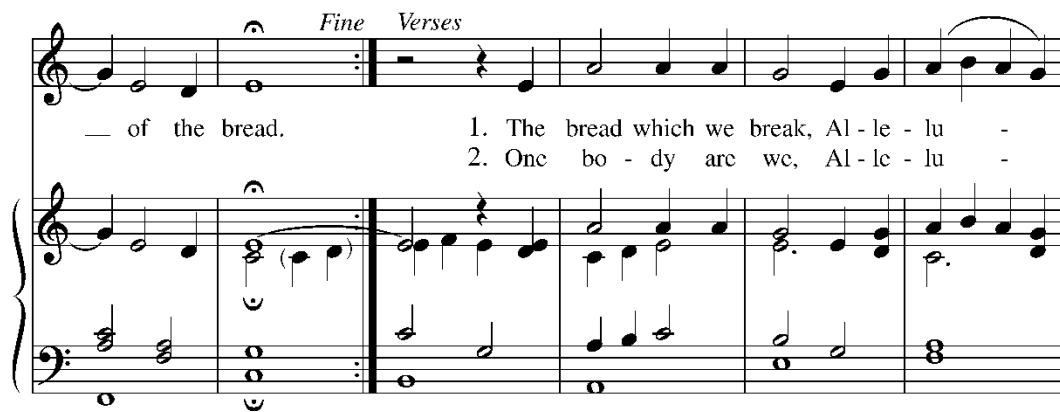
The Fraction: #876 Wonder, Love, and Praise

Antiphon
Cantor, then all

The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing

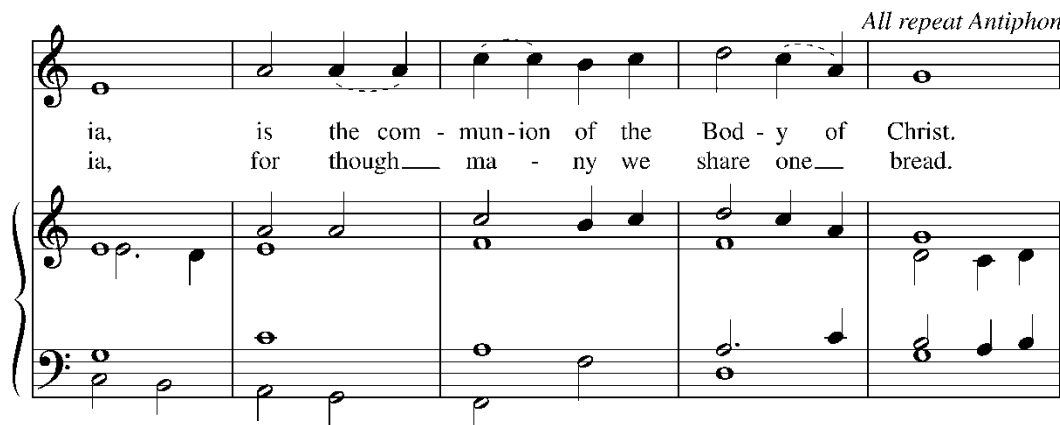
The musical score is written in 2/2 time. The top staff is a single melodic line for the cantor, and the bottom two staves are a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the cantor's staff.

Fine Verses



— of the bread. 1. The bread which we break, Al - le - lu -
2. One bo - dy are we, Al - le - lu -

All repeat Antiphon



ia, is the com - mun - ion of the Bod - y of Christ.
ia, for though - ma - ny we share one - bread.

Music: Jack Warren Burnam (b. 1946). Copyright © 1986 Jack Warren Burnam.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

A note about the distribution of the Eucharist:

We offer both the common cup and a cup for intinction. If you would like to receive by intinction, please go the left side of the altar rail and the presiding priest will dip the bread in the cup for you. If you would like to sip from the common cup, please go to the right side of the altar rail where the bread and the cup will be offered separately.

Communion Hymn

We All Are One in Mission

#778 Wonder, Love, and Praise



1. We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,
2. We all are called for ser - vice to wit - ness in God's name.
3. We all be - hold one vi - sion, a stark re - al - i - ty;
4. Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent, our pur - pose is the same:
 the stew - ard of sal - va - tion was nailed up - on a tree.
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.

A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
 to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - pris - ing grace,
 Yet res - ur - rect - ed Jus - tice gives rise that we may share
 We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
 so peo - ple of all na - tions may feel God's warm em - brace.
 free re - con - cil - i - a - tion and hope a - mid de - spair.
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Words: Rusty Edwards (b. 1955). Music: *Nyländ*, Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans (1874-1948).

Prayer for Spiritual Communion on Zoom

While some are receiving communion at church, those worshipping on Zoom say the following prayer:

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally today, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite

myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Post-communion Prayer for a Multi-located Congregation

Let us pray. **God of abundance, we gather as your faithful people near and far. We believe you are present with us as we are united with Christ and one another in prayer and sacrament. We thank you for feeding all of us with your love and for making 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 love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.** *Written by the Rev. Dorota Wright-Pruski, adapted by the Rev. Will Drosos*

The Blessing

The Lord God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the holy and undivided Trinity, guard you, save you, and bring you to that heavenly city, where God lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Announcements

Recessional Hymn

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

#138 Lift Every Voice and Sing II

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian In my heart, In my heart;—
 2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In my heart, In my heart;—
 3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart, In my heart;—
 4. I don't want to be like Ju - das In my heart, In my heart;—
 5. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart, In my heart;—

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian In my heart, _____
 2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In my heart, _____
 3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart, _____
 4. I don't want to be like Ju - das In my heart, _____
 5. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart, _____

In my heart, _____ In my heart, _____
 In my heart, _____ In my heart, _____

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian In my heart. _____
 2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In my heart. _____
 3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart. _____
 4. I don't want to be like Ju - das In my heart. _____
 5. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart. _____

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Edward C. Deas. Copyright © Sunday School Publishing Board.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Improvisations on *Ora Labora*

Worship Participants

Presider	Rev. Will Drosos
Preacher	Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith
Deacon	Rev. Mary Cushing
Acolyte	Beth Clarke
Altar Guild	Rev. Mary Cushing
Digital Usher	Audrey Adair
Digital Verger	Walt Lazear
Flower Guild	Jan Grimes
Eucharistic Minister (EM)	Rev. Mary Cushing
Healing Minister	Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Lector & Intercessor	Rev. David Smith
Usher	Mary Lee Montfort
Fellowship Hour Hosts	Becky & Jim Vantorini
Counters	Jim Vantorini & Rick Howe

SEPTEMBER VESTRY PERSON

Steven Miles

smiles19930@gmail.com

202-639-7951

Questions, comments, concerns, compliments, all welcome.

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. Sean Rowe, *Presiding Bishop-elect*
The Rt. Rev. E. Mark Stevenson, *Bishop*
The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris, *Assistant Bishop*
The Rt. Rev. James Joseph "Bud" Shand, *Visiting Bishop*

The Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith, <i>Rector</i>	540-532-5665 – fran.gardnersmith@stthomasmcleanva.org
The Rev. William Drosos, <i>Associate Rector</i>	513-638-8800 – will.drosos@stthomasmcleanva.org
The Rev. Dr. Caroline Mitchell, <i>Deacon</i>	970-417-8417 – kfshplp@gmail.com
The Rev. Mary Cushing, <i>Deacon</i>	703-772-7457 – mecu1010@aol.com
Dr. Lori Lind, <i>Minister of Music</i>	443-226-8270 – lori.lind@stthomasmcleanva.org
Ms. Beth Clarke, <i>Seminarian</i>	602-463-5289 – eclarke@vts.edu

THE VESTRY

Jan Grimes	Senior Warden	jangrimes5@outlook.com	571-213-5460
Melinda Fairchild	Junior Warden	meldavid7815@gmail.com	240-274-4741
Steven Miles		smiles19930@gmail.com	202-639-7951
Janette Thode		jlthode@hotmail.com	919-583-1542
Tanya Coogan		Tanya.coogan@gmail.com	703-727-9816
Chris Forward		christine.m.forward@gmail.com	703-963-6585
Lynne Montgomery		lkrmontgomery@gmail.com	703-298-7181
Rick Howe		rhowelaw@gmail.com	515-229-8414
Chris Johnston		christopher.a.johnston@gmail.com	410-299-9776

OTHER LEADERS

David Alton Smith	Register	dapy.smith@gmail.com	703-488-0442
Pat Smith	Treasurer	pysmith51@gmail.com	703-338-0974
Steve Wickman	Diocesan Delegate	wickmansb@msn.com	571-393-8544
Becky Ventorini	Alternate Delegate	beckyventorini@gmail.com	202-390-4412

STAFF

Rishabh Bajekal	Parish Administrator	Rishabh.bajekal@stthomasmcleanva.org	703-442-0330
Mary Cyrus	Accountant	accountant@stthomasmcleanva.org	703-442-0330
Nicole Warga	Cribbery Caregiver	ncwarga00@hotmail.com	703-476-9476

The Skinny at St. Thomas September 1st, 2024



More information about many of these events can be found on the Announcements page on our website. Scan the QR code to see them.

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Pints with Doubting Thomas

Wednesday, September 11th at 6:30 pm

at High Point Pub in Whole Foods, Tysons. Join us for learning and conversation about our faith.

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Fall Festival Save the Date!

Saturday, October 26th 11am – 3pm

Free admission and free activities for all ages, including games, a bouncy house, live music, and more! There will also be three amazing local food trucks. See the website for more information.

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Please Volunteer for the Fall Festival!

There are jobs that can be done from home in advance, jobs to be done at St. Thomas before the big event, and lots of great volunteer positions on the day itself. Help us give adults and children a day of free fun while introducing St. Thomas to our surrounding communities. Please sign up on the link below (after reading the introduction and volunteer descriptions). Please try to sign up by September 20th.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EAAAC2CA64-45827782-2024>

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Ladies Lunch Bunch

Monday, September 23rd at 11:15 am

Bear Branch Taven

133 Maple Avenue East, Vienna, VA 22180

(entrance in the back)

(571) 669-3663

Details? contact Audreyjadair@gmail.com or Tricia.d.meyer@gmail.com

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St. Thomas Pumpkin Patch!

Please note these dates for helping out:

- Sunday, 9/29 at 4pm - Pallet Laydown
- Saturday, 10/5 from 2:30pm to 5:30pm - Pumpkin Delivery and Unload
- Saturday, 11/2 from 10am to 12pm - Pumpkin Reload
- Sunday, 11/3 at 2pm - Pumpkin Reload (if necessary)

There will be more info to come on signing up to sell pumpkins! Thank you all for helping St. Thomas support some great causes.

Coffee Hour Sign-ups Have Changed

We are now using SignUpGenius. You can scan the QR code or click the link below.

If you need help signing up electronically, Becky Ventorini would be happy to help you

beckyventorini@gmail.com or

Hm: (703) 288-3166/Cell: (202) 390-4412

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EAAAC2CA64-50136812-stthomas>



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SHARE Garden Care & Bedsheets

There is a sign-up sheet at church to volunteer for a week of weeding, harvesting and delivering produce. We are also collecting clean, gently used sheets and pillowcases for SHARE. Donations can be bagged and left in the Narthex.

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Volunteer to Support Fairfax Diapers

Thursday, October 3rd in the morning

We will now be going monthly on the first Thursday, repackaging diapers from bulk quantities to household-size bundles to be distributed to needy families. Contact Mary Cushing or Anne Spear to sign up or ask questions. It is a private residence, so the address will only be given to volunteers.

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Women Gathering on Summer Hiatus

Join us when we resume on **October 10th at 4:30 on Zoom**. You can prepare by reading the introduction to **Inspired:**

Slaying giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again by Rachel Held

Evans. The book is available on Amazon in paperback, e-book, and audiobook.

Contacts:

Audrey at audreyjadair@gmail.com or

Betsy at heilmann2003@yahoo.com

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Bishop's Visit Save the Date!

Bishop Shand will visit St. Thomas on Sunday, November 17th. Speak to Fran or Will if you are interested in Confirmation.

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This Week

Monday September 2nd

OFFICE CLOSED – Labor Day

Tuesday September 3rd

10 am – Staff Meeting

12 noon – Midweek Eucharist

2pm – Silent Book Club

Wednesday September 4th

12 noon – Noonday Prayer

Thursday September 5th

12 noon – Noonday Prayer

Sunday September 8th

9 am – Choir Rehearsal

10 am – Worship