



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.

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost



Holy Eucharist, Rite II—10:00 AM

November 10, 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

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

#57 Hymnal 1982

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), 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.**

During the singing of the Song of Praise, children from Pre-K to 3rd Grade are invited to follow the crucifer to Children's Chapel.

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 of music. 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 4/2.

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.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

A reading from the Book of Ruth.

Naomi her mother-in-law said to Ruth, "My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do." She said to her, "All that you tell me I will do."

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him." Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 127 (*We will pray Psalm 127 responsively by half verse*)

- 1 Unless the Lord builds the house, *
their labor is in vain who build it.
- 2 Unless the Lord watches over the city, *
in vain the watchman keeps his vigil.
- 3 It is in vain that you rise so early and go to bed so late; *
vain, too, to eat the bread of toil, for he gives to his beloved sleep.
- 4 Children are a heritage from the Lord, *
and the fruit of the womb is a gift.

5 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior *
are the children of one's youth.

6 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them! *
he shall not be put to shame when he contends with his enemies in the gate.

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 9:24-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Love Astounding 1 / 2

#143 Voices Found

F(C) Dm(Am) Bb(F) F(C) Am(Em) Dm(Am) Bb(F) C(G) F(C)

1 Love a - stound-ing, Love con - found - ing lim-its fear - ful minds im - pose.
2 Love re - ceiv - ing, Love be - liev - ing, we re - joice with thanks and song,

F(C) Dm(Am) Bb(F) F(C) Am(Em) Dm(Am) Bb(F) C(G) F(C)

Love re - new-ing, Love pur - su - ing ev - ery heart un - til it knows
faith re - gain-ing, hope pro - claim-ing; Love has taught us, we be - long

Am(Em) Dm(Am) Am(Em) Gm(Dm)F(C) Dm(Am) Bb(F) C(G)

Love's trans-form-ing, heal-ing good-ness, Love's a - bid - ing, gen-tle grace,
safe with-in Love's tend-er keep-ing, safe from fear's per - sis - tent call.

F(C) Dm(Am) Bb(F) F(C) Am(Em) Dm(Am) Bb(F) C(G) F(C)

Love's en - dur - ance, Love's as - sur - ance, Love's con - sol - ing, strong em-brace.
Love de - fend-ing, Love un - end - ing, Love of God en - fold - ing all.

The Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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 Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Mark, Gayle, and Bud, our Bishops; for all bishops and other ministers; for Fran, Will, Caroline, Rishabh, Lori, Mary and Nicole, our staff; Beth, our Seminarian; for the teachers at the Early Learning Center; 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, Donald, our President-elect, 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 for Betsy Heilman 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, Emily and Dave, Lynn, Betsy, Yusuf, Bill, Barbara, Andrew, Grace, Andrew, Malcolm, Tony, Emily, Betsy and Michael, Melissa, Cassandra, Anne, Chuck, Andy, those affected by Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton, Anatoliy, Laura,** 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.

Stewardship Moment

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>.

Offertory Anthem

Hark I Hear the Harps Eternal

Mark Schweizer

Hark I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore;
As I near those swollen water with their deep and solemn roar.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise the Lamb!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Glory to the great I AM!

And my soul though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day,
Passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise the Lamb!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Glory to the great I AM!

Souls have crossed before me saintly, to the land of perfect rest,
And I hear them singing faintly, in the mansions of the blest.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise the Lamb!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Glory to the great I AM!

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

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 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 -

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 *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* #111 Lift Every Voice and Sing II

1. Come, Thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing thy
 2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by thy help I'm
 3. O, to grace how great a debt - or, Dai - ly I'm con - strained to

1. grace; Streams of mer - cy nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est
 2. come; And I hope, by thy good pleas - ure, Sure - ly to ar - rive at
 3. be; Let that grace, Lord, like a fet - ter, Bind my wan - d'ring heart to

1. praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a -
 2. home. Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, Wan - d'ring from the fold of
 3. Thee. Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I

1. bove. Praise the mount, O fix me on it. Mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 2. God. He, to save my soul from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 3. love. Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, Seal it from thy courts a - bove.

Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790). Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music. Part II*, 1813; harm. Carl Haywood (b. 1949) from *Songs of Praise*. Harm. Copyright © 1992, Carl Haywood.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion on Zoom

While some are receiving communion at church, those worshiping 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

Not Here for High and Holy Things

#9 Hymnal 1982



*1 Not here for high and ho - ly things we ren - der thanks to
 *2 the ro - yal robes of au - tumn moors, the gold - en gates of
 *3 of faith and hope and love un - dimmed, un - dy - ing still through
 4 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the
 5 Come, let thy voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of
 6 to give and give, and give a - gain, what God hath giv - en



1 thee, but for the com - mon things of earth, the
 2 spring, the vel - vet of soft sum - mer nights, the
 3 death, the re - sur - rec - tion of the world, what
 4 sky, the fields are wet with dia - mond dew, the
 5 praise; see how the gi - ant sun soars up, great
 6 thee; to spend thy - self nor count the cost; to



1 pur - ple pa - gean - try of dawn - ing and of
 2 sil - ver glis - te - ring of all the mil - lion
 3 time there comes the breath of dawn that rus - tles
 4 worlds a - wake to cry their bles - sings on the
 5 lord of years and days! So let the love of
 6 serve right glo - rious - ly the God who gave all



1 dy - ing days, the splen - dor of the sea,
 2 mil - lion stars, the si - lent song they sing,
 3 through the trees, and that clear voice that saith:
 4 Lord of life, as he goes meek - ly by.
 5 Je - sus come and set thy soul a - blaze,
 6 worlds that are, and all that are to be.

Words: Geoffrey Anketel Studdert-Kennedy (1883-1929). By permission of Hodder and Stoughton Limited. Music: *Morning song*, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782-1826); harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Improvisations on *Take My Life and Let It Be*

Worship Participants

Presider	Rev. Will Drosos
Preacher	Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith
Deacon	Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Acolyte	Ed Rhodes
Altar Guild	Jan Hamilton
Digital Usher	Mary Lee Montfort
Digital Verger	Chuck Grimes
Children's Chapel	Lael Lyons & Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Flower Guild	Louise Armitage
Lector / Intercessor	Ray Raymond
Eucharistic Minister (EM)	Scott Johnston
Healing Minister	Beth Clarke
Usher	Lynne Montgomery
Fellowship Hour Hosts	Chris & Melissa Johnston
Counters	Jim Ventorini

NOVEMBER VESTRY PERSON

Jan Grimes

jangrimes5@outlook.com

571-213-5460

Questions, comments, concerns, compliments, all welcome.



Sunday November 10th

You Welcomed Me.

I hope that everyone who reads this has experienced the true warmth of a St. Thomas welcome.

We also hope that you received your pledge campaign letter and card. Please let Rishabh in the office or a member of the Stewardship team know if you did not receive these mailings.

Thank you to the Vestry and Clergy for their leadership during Stewardship season. Each and every one of them has pledged already in support of St. Thomas. We are well on our way to reaching our twin campaign targets (pledges totaling \$410,000 and 70 pledgers). Progress updates can be seen on the hymn boards in church!

I hope that you will be able to join them and make a pledge to support our church and community.

Please consider your pledge prayerfully between now and Ingathering Sunday, November 17th when we will celebrate the pledges that we have received during the Bishop's visit.

Pledge cards can be returned in the mail or by dropping in the offertory plate. Even better is to take a photo of your completed card and email that to Rishabh.

Entering your own pledge online is not currently working if you try accessing via the internet. However, the ChMS app DOES support online pledging. If you did not receive instructions about pledging via the app please contact Rishabh (parishadmin@stthomasmclean.org).

Thank you for your support!

Toby Bush (tobygbush@hotmail.com), Melinda Fairchild (meldavid7815@gmail.com),

Rick Montfort (rickmontfort@outlook.com), Steve Wickman (wickmansb@msn.com),

Rev. Will Drosos (will.drosos@stthomasmcleanva.org),

& Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith (fran.gardnersmith@stthomasmcleanva.org)

ST THOMAS Pumpkin Patch

G R E A T P U M P K I N S F O R G O O D C A U S E S



Great Pumpkins for Good Causes

Thank you as always to everyone that helped with our 2024 Pumpkin Patch.

We had approximately 150 local 8th graders donate over 400 hours of labor to help us. I'm also delighted to say that over 34 individual adult volunteers gave generously of their time to supervise their activities. Thank you!

Not only that 44 parishioners volunteered to represent St Thomas and help sell pumpkins by staffing the Patch. Thank you!

I'm happy to report, sales rebounded from last year's low to total sales of \$8175. We also had another banner year of donations. The total raised by the Pumpkin Patch this year is **\$5,418**. **All of this** will be donated to support our ministry partners: SHARE (McLean food bank), Falls Church/McLean Children's Center, Second Story, and FACETS Hypothermia Program.

Since the inception of the Pumpkin Patch, St. Thomas parishioners have help raise over **\$69,000** to support local good causes. Thank you!

In addition, by hosting the Patch, we also support: the community of NW New Mexico Navajo Indian Reservation who grow our pumpkins; the animals at Rikki's refuge that feast on our leftover pumpkins.

If you'd like to know more about our Pumpkin Patch, please visit <https://bit.ly/StThomasPumpkins>

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. Sean Rowe, *Presiding Bishop*
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>Assisting Clergy</i>	970-417-8417 – kfshplp@gmail.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 476	Cribbery Caregiver	ncwarga00@hotmail.com	703-476-9476

The Skinny at St. Thomas November 10th, 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.

+++++

You Welcomed Me

Our 2024 Stewardship Campaign is here! Pledge campaign letters and cards went out this week, and we will celebrate Pledge Ingathering on November 17th during the Bishop's Visit. Please see the bulletin for more information.

+++++

Thanksgiving Bags for Second Story

Please pick up a bag in the Narthex and fill it with the items on the flyer. Filled bags must be returned by November 20th. You can also make donations online until November 19th and we'll do the shopping.

+++++

ECW Meeting

Today, November 10th at 11:30 am

In the ELC and on Zoom using this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83336201053?pwd=VaASE14Ma0LlcrabbNxZw5mUlJgmCs.1>
Meeting ID: 833 3620 1053
Passcode: 422078
Dial by your location
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+++++

Pints with Doubting Thomas

Wednesday, November 13th at 6:30 pm

at High Point Pub in Whole Foods, Tysons. We will continue learning about and discussing how we interpret scripture. This time, we will talk about how the canon was determined and what was left out.

+++++

Women Gathering Zoom Meetup

Thursday, November 14th at 4:30 pm

Join us as Rev. Fran leads a discussion of *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. You can prepare by reading:

- "The Well"
- Chapter 2: "Deliverance Stories."

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

For more details, contact Betsy ehelman2003@yahoo.com or for the ZOOM link, contact Audrey at audreyjadair@gmail.com

+++++

ECW Treats and Treasures Sale

The Annual Treats & Treasures Sale will follow the 10 am service on December 8th with a possible clearance sale the following week. Please bring items to donate for the sale to church for pricing now through mid November. All the proceeds are given to charitable organizations. Questions? Contact the ECW at ECWPres@Stthomasmcleanva.org

+++++

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Monday, November 18th at 11:15 am

Anita's Mexican Restaurant
521 Maple Ave E, Vienna, VA.

<https://www.anitascorp.com>

If you run late, please text Audrey at (813) 956-7550
Or Tricia at (571) 244-3142

+++++

ECW Book Group

Wednesday, November 20th at 7:30 pm

Join us in Hudson Hall. The book will be *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. BYO drinks and snacks. Email the office for the Zoom link to join online.

+++++

Shakespeare Opera Theatre:

La Vie de Bohème

December 6th thru 15th

Puccini's soaring melodies mingle with Murger's brilliant storytelling, bringing to life the spirited Bohemians of the Latin Quarter. Perfect for a holiday family outing or whimsical date night. Cabaret seating at our own Café Momus. Savor the best atmosphere and 'pub grub' that Paris has to offer plus traditional holiday treats All performances are in Hudson Hall at St. Thomas. For details and to get tickets, visit <https://shakespeareoperatheatre.com/>

+++++

This Week

Monday November 11th

OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday November 12th

12 noon – Midweek Eucharist

Wednesday November 13th

10 am – Staff Meeting

12 noon – Noonday Prayer

6:30 pm – Pints with Doubting Thomas

Thursday November 14th

12 noon – Noonday Prayer

4:30 pm – Women Gathering on Zoom

Friday November 15th

11 am – McLean Islamic Center Worship

Sunday November 17th

8:45 am – Choir Rehearsal

10 am – Worship w/ Confirmation