



**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.

# The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord



**Holy Eucharist, Rite II—10:00 AM**

**February 2, 2025**

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. Dr. Caroline Mitchell

### Introit

*Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come*

Carol McClure

### 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 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.**

*During the singing of the Gloria, children from Pre-K to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade are invited to follow the crucifer to Children's Chapel.*

## Gloria

*Glory to God*

**#S280 Hymnal 1982**

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

### **The Collect of the Day**

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

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by 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**

#### **Malachi 3:1-4**

A reading from the Prophet Malachi.

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 24:7-10** (*We will pray a portion of Psalm 24 responsively by half verse*)

7 Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
**and the King of glory shall come in.**

8 "Who is this King of glory?" \*

**"The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle."**

9 Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
**and the King of glory shall come in.**  
10 "Who is he, this King of glory?" \*  
**"The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory."**

## **The Second Lesson**

## **Hebrews 2:14-18**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Sequence Hymn can be found on Page 6*

## **The Gospel**

## **Luke 2:22-40**

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;  
for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

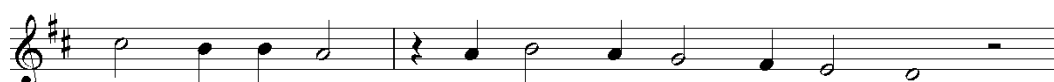
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sequence Hymn**    *How Bright Appears the Morning Star 1,2 / 3*

**#496 Hymnal 1982**



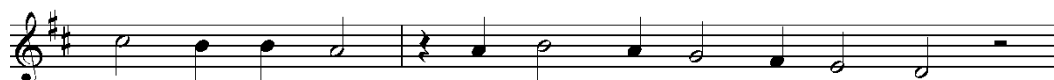
1 How bright ap - pears the Morn-ing Star, with mer - cy beam -  
2 Though cir - cled by the hosts on high, he deigned to cast  
3 Re - joice, ye heavens; thou earth, re - ply; with praise, ye sin -



ing from a - far; the host of heaven re - joic - es;  
a pit - ying eye up - on his help - less crea - ture;  
ners, fill the sky, for this his In - car - na - tion.



O right - eous Branch, O Jes - se's Rod! Thou Son of Man  
the whole cre - a - tion's Head and Lord, by high - est ser -  
In - car - nate God, put forth thy power, ride on, ride on,



and Son of God! We, too, will lift our voic - es:  
a - phim a - dored, as - sumed our ve - ry na - ture;  
great Con - quer - or, till all know thy sal - va - tion.



Je - sus, Je - sus! Ho - ly, ho - ly, yet most low - ly,  
 Je - sus, grant us, through thy mer - it, to in - her - it  
 A - men, a - men! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



draw thou near us; great Em - man - uel, come and hear us.  
 thy sal - va - tion; hear, O hear our sup - pli - ca - tion.  
 Praise be giv - en ev - er - more, by earth and hea - ven.

Words: William Mercer (1811-1873); after Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608). Music: *Wie schön leuchtet*, melody att. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); harm. Johann Herman Schein (1586-1630).

## The Sermon

Ms. Beth Clarke

### 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**

The prayers of the people is a time for us to share our prayers with one another as we lift them together to God. Kneeling as you are able, let us worship the Savior with joy and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

The magi came from the east to worship your Son: Father, grant to Christians everywhere the spirit of adoration. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Mark, Gayle, and Bud, our Bishops; for Fran, Will, Caroline, Rishabh, Lori, Mary and Nicole, our staff; for Beth, our Seminarian; for the teachers at the Early Learning Center; for the Vestry and Officers of St. Thomas; Lord of glory,  
**hear our prayer.**

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh: Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds. Lord of glory,  
**hear our prayer.**

The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ: Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world. Lord of glory,  
**hear our prayer.**

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death: Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless, and all who suffer. **Ethan, Vincent, Emily and Dave, Lynn, Betsy, Yusuf, Barbara, Andrew, Tony, Melissa, Andy, Jan, Tom, Scott, Vera, Steve, Debby, Kelli and Brent, Caroline, Rick, Rachel, Nancy,** and all those you would name *[pause]*. Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth: Father, protect in your love our neighbors, our families and this community of which we are a part. We pray for Ella Jacob, Jack Cowart, Kent Gardiner, Fran Gardner-Smith, and all those celebrating birthdays this week; for all those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week; and all the blessings you now name *[pause]*. Lord of glory,  
**hear our prayer.**

Father, we rejoice in our fellowship with the shepherds, the angels, the magi, the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, and all the faithful departed, including the victims of the plane and helicopter collision over the Potomac River on January 29<sup>th</sup>, and those whom you would name *[pause]*. In your unfailing love for us and for all people, hear and answer our prayers through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **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.**



### **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**

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.



### **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**

*Love Is Little*

**Mark Schweizer**

Love is little, Love is low, Love will make our spirits grow;  
Grow in peace, Grow in light; Love will do the thing that's right.

Love is gentle, love is small, Love will find the best of all;  
Find the peace, find the light, Love will do the thing that's right.

Love is silent, love is strong, Love will sing a quiet song;  
Sing of peace, sing of light, Love will do the thing that's right.

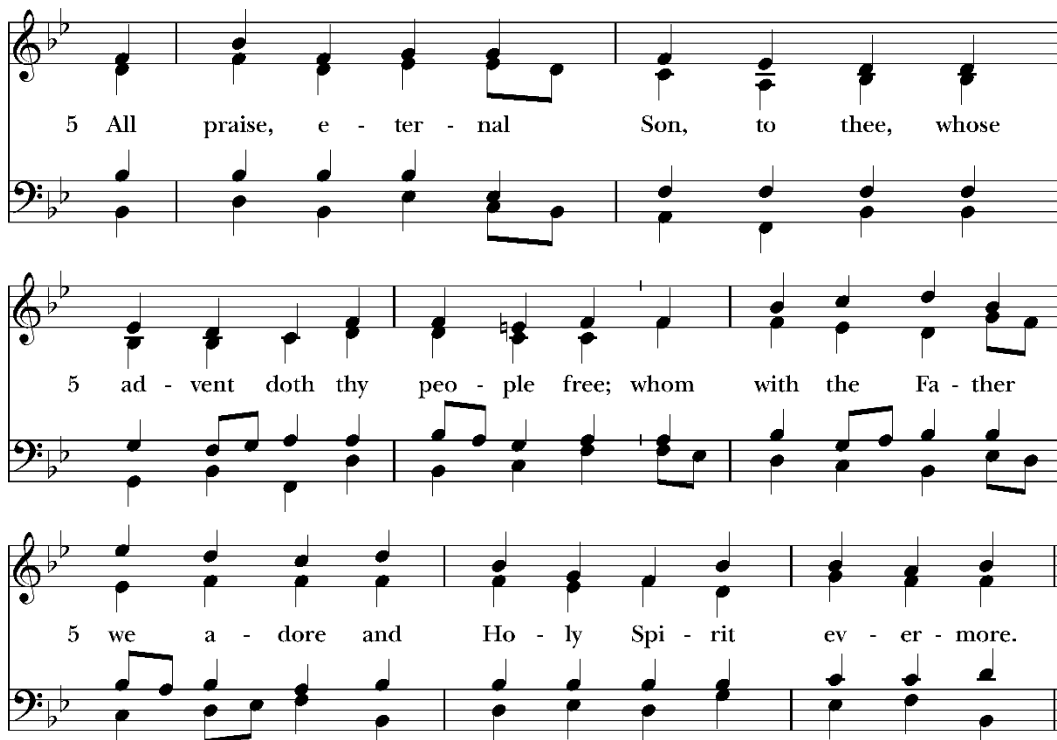
Love is wonder, Love is Grace, Love will bind all in its place;  
Bind the peace, Bind the light, Love will do the thing that's right.

Love is little, Love is low, Love will make our spirits grow.  
Grow in peace, Grow in light, Love will do the thing that's right.  
Love will do the thing that's right. Love will do the thing that's right.

- Traditional Shaker Hymn

## The Doxology

#76 Hymnal 1982, Verse 5



5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose  
5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther  
5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt. Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

## 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 in front of the pulpit on the left as you face the altar.*

### The Great Thanksgiving      EOW Eucharistic Prayer 3

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

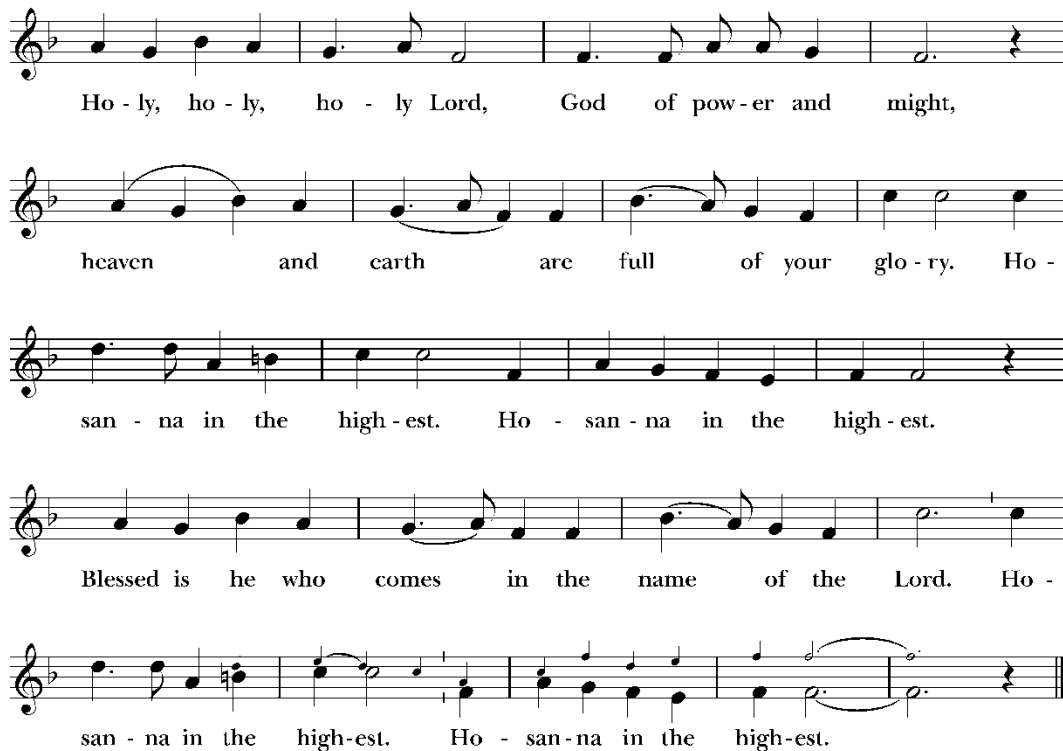
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

## Sanctus: #S125 Hymnal 1982



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,

and in the fullness of time gather us with St. Thomas and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

**Blessed are you 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: #S164 Hymnal 1982**

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us." The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second system of musical notation continues the vocal and piano parts. The treble staff has lyrics: "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us." The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

The third system of musical notation continues the vocal and piano parts. The treble staff has lyrics: "Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:". The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The fourth system of musical notation concludes the vocal and piano parts. The treble staff has lyrics: "give us your peace, give us your peace." The bass staff continues the accompaniment and ends with a double bar line.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

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**

*Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly*

**#277 Hymnal 1982**



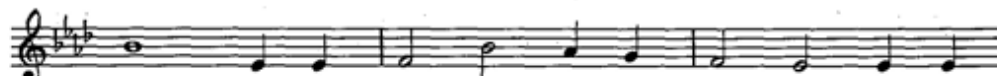
1 Sing of Ma - ry, pure and  
 2 Sing of Je - sus, son of  
 3 Glo - ry be to God the



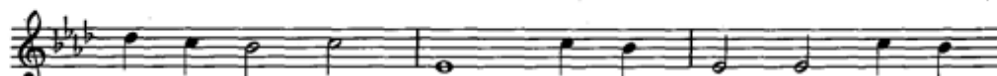
low - ly, vir - gin - mo - ther un - de - filed; sing of  
 Ma - ry, in the home at Naz - a - reth, toil and  
 Fa - ther; glo - ry be to God the Son; glo - ry



God's own Son most ho - ly, who be - came her lit - tle  
 la - bor can - not wea - ry love en - dur - ing un - to  
 be to God the Spi - rit; glo - ry to the Three in



child. Fair - est child of fair - est mo - ther, God the  
 death. Con - stant was the love he gave her, though he  
 One. From the heart of bless - ed Ma - ry, from all



Lord who came to earth, Word made flesh, our ve - ry  
 went forth from her side, forth to preach, and heal, and  
 saints the song a - scends, and the Church the strain re -



bro - ther, takes our na - ture by his birth.  
 suf - fer, till on Cal - va - ry he died.  
 ech - oes un - to earth's re - mot - est ends.

### Prayer for Spiritual Communion on Zoom

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

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you were already there, I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.** ~ from St. Augustine's Prayer Book

### 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 Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, teach you to walk in his way more trustingly, to accept his truth more faithfully, and to share his life more lovingly; that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may come as one family to the reign of God. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### Announcements

#### Recessional Hymn

#### *Hail to the Lord Who Comes*

#259 Hymnal 1982

1 Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his tem - ple gate;  
2 but, borne up - on the throne of Ma - ry's gen - tle breast,  
3 There Jo - seph at her side in rev - erent won - der stands;  
4 O Light of all the earth, thy chil - dren wait for thee!

not with his an - gel host, not in his king - ly state;  
watched by her du - tcous love, in her fond arms at rest,  
and, filled with ho - ly joy, old Si - meon in his hands  
Come to thy tem - ples here, that we, from sin set free,

no shouts pro-claim him nigh, no crowds his com-ing wait;  
 thus to his Fa-ther's house he comes, the heaven-ly guest.  
 takes up the prom-ised child, the glo-ry of all lands.  
 be-fore thy Fa-ther's face may all pre-sent-ed be!

Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893), alt. Music: *Old 120th*, melody from *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1570; harm. Thomas Ravenscroft (1592?-1635?), after Richard Allison (16th cent.); adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

**The Dismissal**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude**

**Worship Participants**

Presider	Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Preacher	Beth Clarke
Assisting Priests	Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith, Rev. Will Drosos
Acolyte	Ed Rhodes
Altar Guild	Jan Hamilton
Digital Usher	Rick Montfort
Digital Verger	Chuck Grimes
Children's Chapel	Lael Lyons & Rev. Will Drosos
Eucharistic Ministers	Scott Johnston
Healing Minister	Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith
Flower Guild	Jane Frierson
Lector & Intercessor	Rev. David Smith
Usher	Jan Hamilton
Fellowship Hour Hosts	Becky Ventorini

**FEBRUARY VESTRY PERSON**

**Lynne Montgomery**

[lkrmontgomery@gmail.com](mailto:lkrmontgomery@gmail.com)

703-298-7181

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. 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 – <a href="mailto:fran.gardnersmith@stthomasmcleanva.org">fran.gardnersmith@stthomasmcleanva.org</a>
The Rev. William Drosos, <i>Associate Rector</i>	513-638-8800 – <a href="mailto:will.drosos@stthomasmcleanva.org">will.drosos@stthomasmcleanva.org</a>
The Rev. Dr. Caroline Mitchell, <i>Assisting Priest</i>	970-417-8417 – <a href="mailto:kfshplp@gmail.com">kfshplp@gmail.com</a>
Dr. Lori Lind, <i>Minister of Music</i>	443-226-8270 – <a href="mailto:lori.lind@stthomasmcleanva.org">lori.lind@stthomasmcleanva.org</a>
Ms. Beth Clarke, <i>Seminarian</i>	602-463-5289 – <a href="mailto:eclarke@vts.edu">eclarke@vts.edu</a>

### **THE VESTRY**

Melinda Fairchild	Senior Warden	<a href="mailto:meldavid7815@gmail.com">meldavid7815@gmail.com</a>	240-274-4741
Rick Howe	Junior Warden	<a href="mailto:rhowelaw@gmail.com">rhowelaw@gmail.com</a>	515-229-8414
Chris Forward		<a href="mailto:christine.m.forward@gmail.com">christine.m.forward@gmail.com</a>	703-963-6585
Mollie Regan		<a href="mailto:mollieregans@verizon.net">mollieregans@verizon.net</a>	954-778-7252
Lynne Montgomery		<a href="mailto:lkrmontgomery@gmail.com">lkrmontgomery@gmail.com</a>	703-298-7181
Chris Johnston		<a href="mailto:christopher.a.johnston@gmail.com">christopher.a.johnston@gmail.com</a>	410-299-9776
Anne Spear		<a href="mailto:amspear@yahoo.com">amspear@yahoo.com</a>	703-915-4300
Jim Ventorini		<a href="mailto:jventorini@cox.net">jventorini@cox.net</a>	703-288-3166
Alan Thode		<a href="mailto:afthode@hotmail.com">afthode@hotmail.com</a>	

### **OTHER LEADERS**

David Alton Smith	Register	<a href="mailto:dapy.smith@gmail.com">dapy.smith@gmail.com</a>	703-488-0442
Pat Smith	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:pysmith51@gmail.com">pysmith51@gmail.com</a>	703-338-0974
Steve Wickman	Diocesan Delegate	<a href="mailto:wickmansb@msn.com">wickmansb@msn.com</a>	571-393-8544
Becky Ventorini	Alternate Delegate	<a href="mailto:beckyventorini@gmail.com">beckyventorini@gmail.com</a>	202-390-4412

### **STAFF**

Rishabh Bajekal	Parish Administrator	<a href="mailto:Rishabh.bajekal@stthomasmcleanva.org">Rishabh.bajekal@stthomasmcleanva.org</a>	703-442-0330
Mary Cyrus	Accountant	<a href="mailto:accountant@stthomasmcleanva.org">accountant@stthomasmcleanva.org</a>	703-442-0330
Nicole Warga	Cribbery Caregiver	<a href="mailto:ncwarga00@hotmail.com">ncwarga00@hotmail.com</a>	703-476-9476



# The Skinny at St. Thomas February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025



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

+++++

## Volunteer to Support Fairfax Diapers Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 10am

The task is simply repackaging diapers from bulk quantities to household-size bundles to be distributed to needy families. Please scan the QR code below to access the sign up. Questions? Contact Anne Spear by email at [amspear@yahoo.com](mailto:amspear@yahoo.com) or by phone at (703) 915-4300.



+++++

## Pints with Doubting Thomas

Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

at High Point Pub in Whole Foods, Tysons. Join us to learn and discuss theology in an informal environment. The first round of drinks (non-alcoholic included) is on us! Next month, we will be talking about prayer.

+++++

## Women Gathering Zoom Meetup (the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month) February 13<sup>th</sup> 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. We will continue with:

"The Beast" (preface) p. 113 and Chapters 5 "Resistance Stories" p. 115. The book is available on AMAZON in paperback, e-book, and audiobook.

For more details, contact Betsy [ehelman2003@yahoo.com](mailto:ehelman2003@yahoo.com) Audrey at [audreyjadair@gmail.com](mailto:audreyjadair@gmail.com) for the ZOOM link and study guide.

+++++

## Come to Board Game Night!

Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm in Hudson Hall

Bring Friends. Bring your favorite games! Games for all ages: Strategy games. Games that make you laugh. Word games. (Even games for people who don't like board games) Please bring snacks and drinks to share.

+++++

## Ladies Lunch Bunch

4<sup>th</sup> Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 am

Silver Diner

8101 Fletcher St in McLean

<https://www.silverdiner.com/reston>

Contact:

Audrey at (813) 956-7550

Tricia (571) 244-3142

+++++

## Joy's Ordination to the Diaconate

Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 am

God willing, the Rt. Reverend Gayle Elizabeth Harris, Assistant Bishop of Virginia, will ordain Kara Louise Laughlin, Anne Kristine Rose, and Joy Yvonne Warburton to the Sacred Order of Deacons on Saturday, March 1 at 10:30 a.m. at St. George's Episcopal Church in Arlington. Full address: 915 N. Oakland St., Arlington, VA 22203. The livestream is available on the parish website: [saintgeorgeschurch.org/live](http://saintgeorgeschurch.org/live)

The Bishop and the Standing Committee request the honor of your presence. The festal color is red. Please join us!

+++++

## Coffee Hour Hosts needed for March

Coffee hour sign-ups are available via a link to SignUpGenius or by using the QR code, both of which are below. If you need help signing up electronically, I would be happy to help! We would like hosts to limit their food offerings to 2-3 items, to include fresh fruit or raw veggies.

Also, you can indicate if you are not comfortable making coffee on the sign up.

Thank you for continuing this tradition of Fellowship at St. Thomas. If you have any questions, please contact me directly.

Becky Ventorini, Fellowship Hour Coordinator

[beckyventorini@gmail.com](mailto:beckyventorini@gmail.com)

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

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EAAAC2CA64-52775851-stthomas>



+++++

## Rev. Fran Taking a Sabbatical This Year

Rev. Fran will be on sabbatical from Monday April 21st until Friday August 1st. The purpose of a sabbatical is to give clergy a time that can be dedicated to rest, renewal, and study. The theme of her sabbatical is Memory and will involve travel, reading, crochet, and making memories with David. Rev. Fran is planning some activities for all of us while she is gone, so stay tuned for more information about those. We are grateful to the staff and Vestry of St. Thomas for making this possible.

+++++

## This Week

**Monday February 3<sup>rd</sup>**

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

**Tuesday February 4<sup>th</sup>**

12 pm – Midweek Eucharist

**Wednesday February 5<sup>th</sup>**

10 am – Staff Meeting

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

**Thursday February 6<sup>th</sup>**

10 am – Fairfax Diapers Volunteering

12 noon – Noonday Prayer

**Friday February 7<sup>th</sup>**

11 am – Mclean Islamic Center Worship

**Saturday February 8<sup>th</sup>**

7:45 am – Men Eating Breakfast

**Sunday February 9<sup>th</sup>**

8:45 am – Choir Rehearsal

10 am – Worship