

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.

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany



Holy Eucharist, Rite II—10:00 AM February 16, 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. Fran Gardner-Smith

Introit Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come

Carol McClure





Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Duke Street, John Hatton (d. 1793).

The Acclamation

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

you.

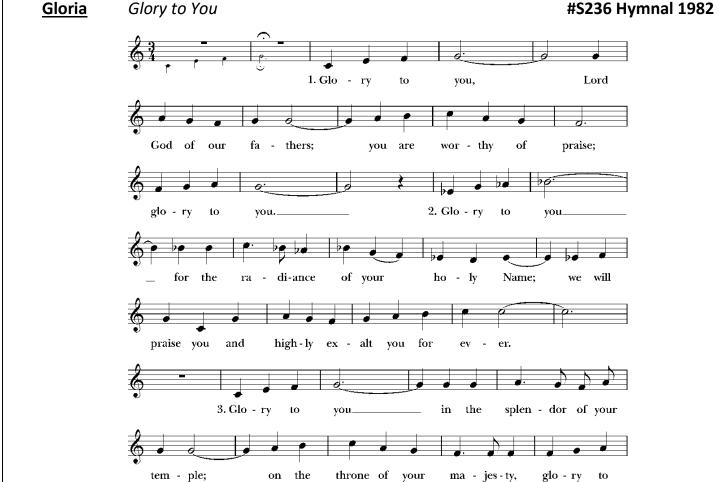
ween

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 3rd Grade are invited to follow the crucifer to Children's Chapel.



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The Collect of the Day

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

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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

Jeremiah 17:5-10

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse-- who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1 (We will pray Psalm 1 responsively by half verse)

1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *

nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *

and they meditate on his law day and night.

3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,

bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *

everything they do shall prosper.

4 It is not so with the wicked; *

they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *

nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *

but the way of the wicked is doomed.

The Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

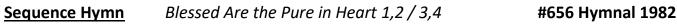
Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your

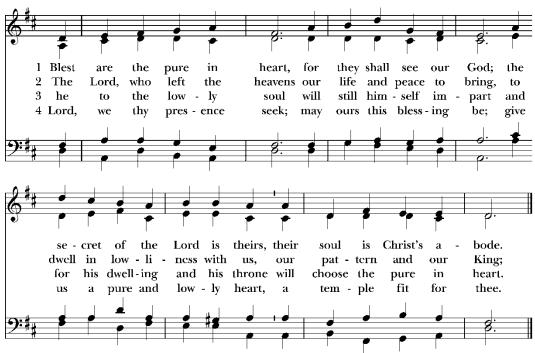
faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.





Words: Sts. 1 and 3, John Keble (1792-1866), alt.; sts. 2 and 4, William John Hall (1793-1861), alt. Music: *Franconia*, melody Johann Balthasar König (1691-1758); adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870).

The Gospel

Luke 6:17-26

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

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.

[&]quot;Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

[&]quot;Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

[&]quot;Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

[&]quot;Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

[&]quot;But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

[&]quot;Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

[&]quot;Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

[&]quot;Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

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 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. We pray for Ethan, Vincent, Emily and Dave, Lynn, Betsy, Yusuf, Barbara, Andrew, Tony, Melissa, Jan, Tom, Scott, Vera, Steve, Kelli and Brent, Caroline, Rick, Rachel, Nancy, Jim, Cathy, Jackie, 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 Jack Cashman, Eric ten Siethoff, Fred Helmkamp, and all those celebrating birthdays this week; for all those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week; and for 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 those whom you would name [pause]. We remember Jim Galloway, whose ashes will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery on Tuesday. 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

The Tree of Life My Soul Hath Seen

Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul has seen, Laden with fruit and always green: The trees of nature fruitless be Compared with Christ the apple tree.

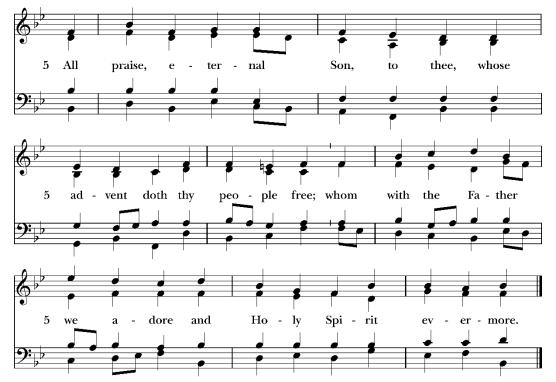
His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell The glory which I now can see In Jesus Christ the apple tree. For happiness I long have sought, And pleasure dearly I have bought: I missed of all, but now I see 'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, Here I will sit and rest a while: Under the shadow I will be, Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dying faith alive; Which makes my soul in haste to be With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

The Doxology

#76 Hymnal 1982, Verse 5



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.

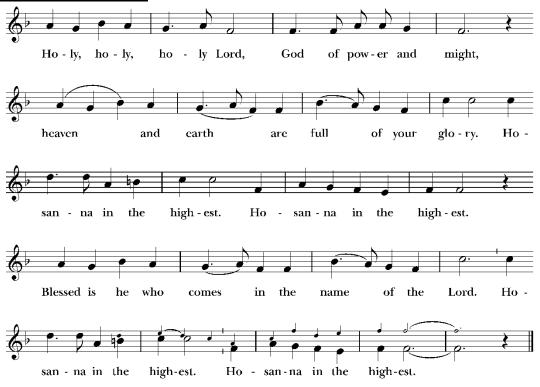
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



Musie: 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



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.



Words: Fred Pratt Green (b. 1903). Music: Kedron, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782-1826); harm. The Southern Harmony, 1835; adapt. Hymnal 1982.

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. \sim from St. Augustine's Prayer Book

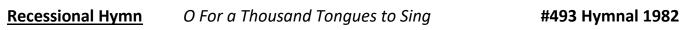
Post-communion Prayer for a Multi-located Congregation

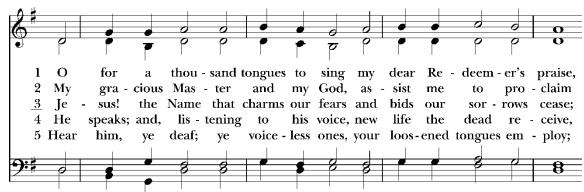
Let us pray. God of abundance, we gather as your faithful people near and far. We believe you are present with us as we are united with Christ and one another in prayer and sacrament. We thank you for feeding all of us with your love and for making us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. 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

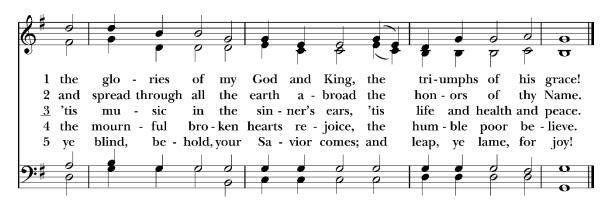
The Blessing

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







6 Glory to God and praise and love be now and ever given by saints below and saints above, the Church in earth and heaven.

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Worship Participants

Presider	Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Preacher	Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith
Acolyte	Will Ferris
Altar Guild	Ed Rhodes
Digital Usher	Mary Lee Montfort
Digital Verger	Chuck Grimes
Children's Chapel	Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Eucharistic Ministers	Debby Reed
Healing Minister	Rev. David Smith
Flower Guild	Jan Grimes
Lector & Intercessor	Debby Reed
Usher	Becky Ventorini
Fellowship Hour Hosts	Lynne Montgomery

FEBRUARY VESTRY PERSON Lynne Montgomery

<u>lkrmontgomery@gmail.com</u> 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*

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The Skinny at St. Thomas February 16th, 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.

Global Mission with Diane Wright Sunday, February 23rd

Many in the congregation have an interest in re-engaging in mission beyond our US borders. To that end, next Sunday, Ms. Diane Wright, Global Mission Advocate for the Diocese of Virginia, will be our guest preacher and lead a conversation during coffee hour. She'll help us begin the process of discerning if we are being called to enter into a new global mission partnership and if so where and how. Join us!

Did you miss the chance to get confirmed at St. Thomas in November? Curious about the Episcopal Church? This is your chance! We have been invited to St. Anne's in Reston on March 2nd for confirmations and receptions. Please let Fran know ASAP if you are interested.

ECW Book Group Wednesday, February 19th at 7:30 pm

We will meet at Berta Smith's house. Please reach out to the office if you'd like the address. The book will be *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett. Bring a small snack or beverage to share. We won't have Zoom at this meeting, but let Fran know if you would like to join by phone.

Come to Board Game Night! Saturday, February 22nd 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 4th Monday, February 24th at 11:15 am

Silver Diner
8101 Fletcher St in McLean
https://www.silverdiner.com/
Contact Tricia at (571) 244-3142 if you want to
RSVP or if you are running late.

Pints with Doubting Thomas Wednesday, February 26th at 6:30 pm

at High Point Pub in Whole Foods, Tysons. Join us for learning and conversation about theology in a relaxed environment. The first round of drinks (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) is on us! Please reach out to Rev. Will or Rishabh if you'd like to learn more. This month, we will be talking about prayer.

Women Gathering Zoom Meetup We've rescheduled! February 27th 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 <u>eheilman2003@yahoo.com</u>
and for the ZOOM link,
Audrey at gudreyigdgir@amgil.co

Audrey at <u>audreyjadair@gmail.com</u>

Joy's Ordination to the Diaconate Saturday, March 1st 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 The Bishop and the Standing Committee request the honor of your presence. The festal color is red. Please join us! If you would like to bring something for the reception, sign up on this Google doc by Sunday, February 23rd: https://docs.google.com/document/d/lagmq VT1VHUQ791INMeoc TSIVHVtCwLTMM0Tqf5j9hE /edit?usp=sharing

Tuesday, March 4th 6-8pm in Hudson Hall Laissez les Bontemps Roulez! Let the Good Times Roll! Please join us for our annual Mardi Gras Party and Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper. There will be fun and games and plenty of food. Bring a friend! And join us for a decorating party after church on March 2nd.

This Week

Monday February 17th

OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday February 18th

OFFICE CLOSED

1 pm – Jim Galloway's Interment Service at Arlington National Cemetery

Wednesday February 19th

10 am – Staff Meeting

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

7:30 pm – ECW Book Group

Thursday February 20th

12 noon – Noonday Prayer

Friday February 21st

11 am – Mclean Islamic Center Worship

Saturday February 22nd

7 pm – Board Game Night

Sunday February 23rd

8:45 am – Choir Rehearsal

10 am – Worship

11:30 am – Forum Conversation on Global Mission w/ Diane Wright during Coffee Hour