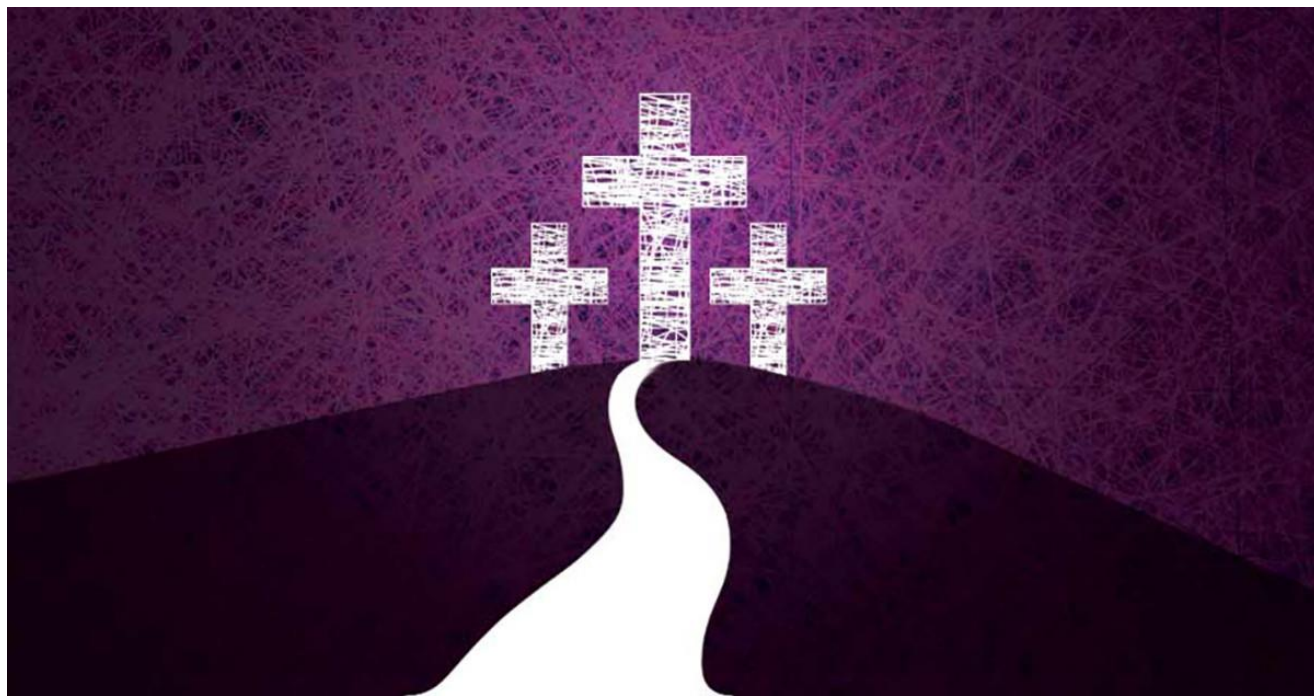




ST. THOMAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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.

Fourth Sunday in Lent



Holy Eucharist, Rite II—10:00 AM

March 30, 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

Choral Introit

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

#641 Hymnal 1982

Procession

Lift High the Cross

#473 Hymnal 1982

Descant



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim



till all the world a - dore _____ his sa - cred Name.



till all the world _____ a - dore _____ his sa - cred Name.



Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



Repeat Refrain



the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
 bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.



A Penitential Order

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

His mercy endures forever.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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.

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

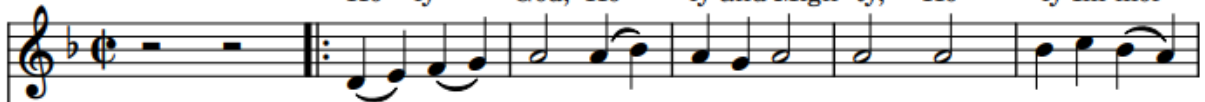
Trisagion

Trisagion on Picardy (sung three times)

Dr. Lori Lind

Andantino

Ho - ly - God, Ho - ly and Migh- ty, Ho - ly Im-mor -



7 tal - One - - Have mer - cy - u-pon - - us, - Have mer-cy on - - us.



15



The Collect of the Day

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

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lessons

Psalm 32 (*We will pray Psalm 32 responsively by half verse*)

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

The First Lesson

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

The Gospel

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Will Drosos

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

Kneeling as you are able, let us pray.

From pride, vanity and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil,
Savior deliver us.

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of heart and contempt for your
word,
Savior deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your
baptism, fasting and temptation,
Savior deliver us.

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the preaching of your
reign,
Savior deliver us.

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death and burial,
Savior deliver us.

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending of the Holy
Spirit,
Savior deliver us.

Hear our prayers, O Christ our God. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will.

Hear us, O Christ.

Enlighten all bishops, priests, deacons, and church staffs, especially the staff at St. Thomas, with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Give your people grace to witness to your word and bring forth the fruit of your Spirit.

Hear us, O Christ.

Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice. Give your wisdom and strength to Donald Trump, the President of the United States, Glenn Youngkin, the Governor of Virginia, and the officials of Fairfax County, that in all things they may do your will, for your glory and the common good.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all. Hear our thanks for the blessings of this life, including Thomas Regan, Thampi Cheryan, and all those celebrating birthdays this week; for all those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week; and for all the blessings you now name [*pause*]. We pray,

Hear us, O Christ.

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially **Ethan, Vincent, Emily and Dave, Lynn, Betsy, Yusuf, Andrew, Tony, Melissa, Jan, Scott, Vera, Steve, Kelli and Brent, Caroline, Rick, Nancy, Jackie, Enriqo, the people of Syria**, and those whom you would name [*pause*] and provide for those who are homeless, hungry or destitute.

Hear us, O Christ.

Shower your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

Hear us, O Christ.

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

Hear us, O Christ.

Hear us as we remember those who have died, especially Troy Richard Hagwood, and those whom you would name [*pause*] and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.

Hear us, O Christ.

Adapted from *Enriching Our Worship 1*, Church Publishing Inc., © 1998, by The Rev. Will Drosos

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.

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.

UTO Moment of Gratitude

The Offertory

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.
Psalm 50:14



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

O Give Thanks to the Lord

Joseph Corfe

Arr. James Kirkby and Arlen Clarke

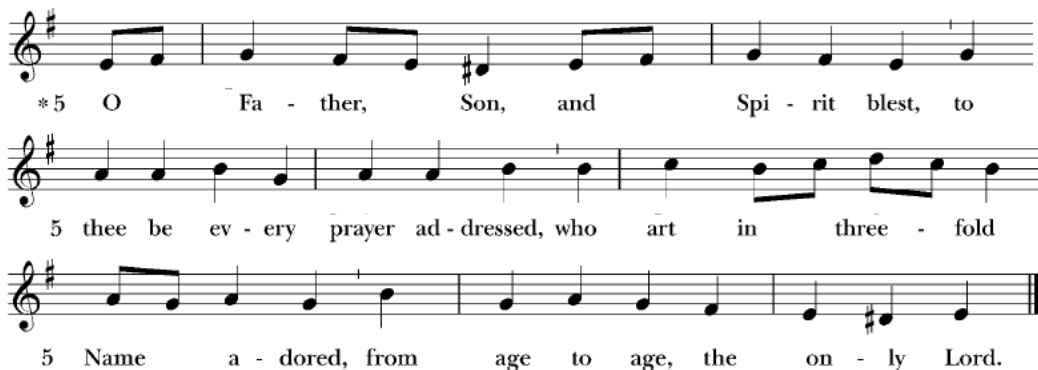
O give thanks unto the Lord, O give thanks unto the Lord,
O give thanks to the lord, to the Lord, O give thanks.

O give thanks, the Lord is good, O give thanks, the Lord is good,
For his steadfast love endures forever, for his steadfast love endures forever,
endures forever, his steadfast love endures forever.

O give thanks unto the Lord, O give thanks unto the Lord,
O give thanks to the Lord, the Lord, the Lord:
His steadfast love endures forever.
His steadfast love endures forever more.

The Doxology

Hymnal 1982 #143, Verse 5



*5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to
5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold
5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer C (2024 Update Approved by General Convention)

May God 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.

God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Sanctus on Picardy

Dr. Lori Lind

ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and-might hea-ven and earth are

6
full - of your great glo - ry! Ho-san-na in the high - est ho-san-na in the high - est!

12 comes in the name of the Lord!-- Ho-san-na!

Bless-ed is He who comes - in the name - of - the-Lord! Ho - san-na in the high - est

17 in- the - high- est!

ho - san - na in the high - est!

The musical score is written on two staves. The first staff (measures 12-16) features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. Dynamics include *cresc.* and *ff*. The second staff (measures 17-20) continues the vocal line with lyrics and piano accompaniment, marked *ff*. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.

Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us.

Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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.

Fraction

Lenten Fraction on Picardy

Dr. Lori Lind

Je - sus - Lamb of - God that takes a-way the sins of the world -

8 Je - sus Lamb of - God that takes a-way the sins of the world Have mer - cy u -

16 pon - us, And grant us peace u - pon - the earth

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.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion on Zoom

While some are receiving communion at church, those worshipping 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

Communion Hymn

Jerusalem, My Happy Home

#620 Hymnal 1982

1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home, when
 2 Thy saints are crowned with glo - ry great; they
 3 There Da - vid stands with harp in hand as
 4 Our La - dy sings Mag - ni - fi - cat with
 5 Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, God

1 shall I come to thee? When shall my sor - rows
 2 see God face to face; they tri - umph still, they
 3 mas - ter of the choir: ten thou - sand times would
 4 tunc sur - pass - ing sweet, and bless - ed mar - tyrs'
 5 grant that I may see thine end - less joy, and

1 have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?
 2 still re - jice in that most hap - py place.
 3 one be blest who might this mu - sic hear.
 4 har - mo - ny doth ring in ev - ery street.
 5 of the same par - ta - ker ev - er be!

Words: F. B. P. (ca. 16th cent.), alt. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk hymn, adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983). Harmony, Copyright © 1938 by J. Fischer & Bro, a division of Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp. Copyright renewed. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

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

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. And may 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

Amazing Grace!

#181 Lift Every Voice and Sing II

1. A - maz - ing grace!_ how sweet the sound, That
2. 'Twas grace that taught_ my heart to fear, And
3. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
4. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
5. When we've been there_ ten thou - sand years, Bright

1. saved a wretch like me!_ I once was lost, but
2. grace my fears re - lieved;_ How pre - cious did that
3. word my hope se - cures;_ He will my shield and
4. have al - read - y come;_ 'Tis grace that brought me
5. shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to

1. now am found, Was blind, but now_ I see._
2. grace ap - pear The hour I first_ be - lieved!_
3. por - tion be As long as life_ en - dures._
4. safe thus far, And grace will lead_ me home._
5. sing God's praise Than when we'd first_ be - gun._

Words: Stanzas 1-4, John Newton (1725-1807); Stanza 5, Asc. John Rees, c. 1859. Music: *New Britain*, CM, *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; harm. John Barnard (b. 1948). Harm. Copyright © 1982 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Worship Participants

Presider	Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith
Preacher	Rev. Will Drosos
Assisting Priest	Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Acolyte	Ed Rhodes
Altar Guild	Ed Rhodes
Digital Verger	Chuck Grimes
Children's Chapel	Lael Lyons & Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Eucharistic Minister	Pat Smith
Healing Minister	Beth Clarke
Lector & Intercessor	Rev. David Smith
Usher	Jan Hamilton
Fellowship Hour Host	Audrey Adair

APRIL VESTRY PERSON

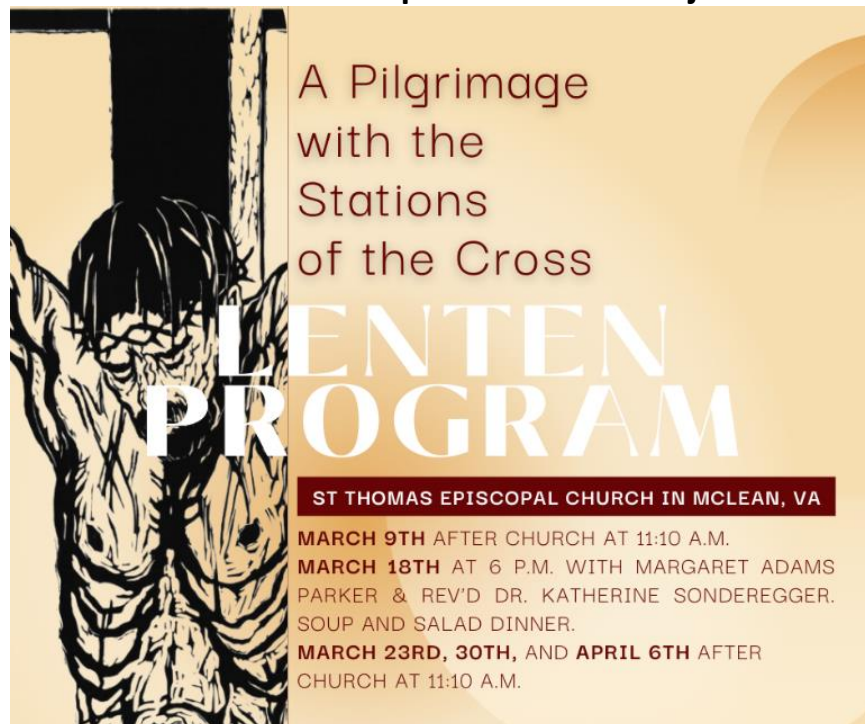
Chris Johnston

christopher.a.johnston@gmail.com

410-299-9776

Questions, comments, concerns, compliments, all welcome.

**Our Lenten program continues after worship today.
Grab some fellowship hour snacks and join us.**



A Pilgrimage
with the
Stations
of the Cross

LENTEN PROGRAM

ST THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN MCLEAN, VA

MARCH 9TH AFTER CHURCH AT 11:10 A.M.
MARCH 18TH AT 6 P.M. WITH MARGARET ADAMS PARKER & REV'D DR. KATHERINE SONDEREGGER. SOUP AND SALAD DINNER.
MARCH 23RD, 30TH, AND APRIL 6TH AFTER CHURCH AT 11:10 A.M.

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*

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Becky Ventorini	Alternate Delegate	beckyventorini@gmail.com	202-390-4412

STAFF

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

The Skinny at St. Thomas

March 30th, 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.

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A Pilgrimage with the Stations of the Cross Lenten Program continues after worship today

Led by Beth Clarke, we will explore the history of the stations and learn ways to use the stations in our own devotions.

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Lot B Congregational Meeting Next Sunday April 6th after worship

St. Thomas has a vacant lot behind the rectory that measures just under one acre. We refer to the lot internally as Lot B. We have worked for many years to prepare Lot B to be subdivided so that it can be sold. Our goal is to use the proceeds to pay off our mortgage, recoup costs for preparing the lot for sale, and invest in our endowment for the future of St. Thomas. One step in selling Lot B is to hold a congregational vote to approve the sale. We will approve a price range now, based on our realtor's recommendation, so that we can move quickly once offers begin to come in. Following church next Sunday, we will hold a congregational meeting to do so. Please make every effort to join us in church or on Zoom.

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United Thank Offering Mighty Mite Box "Practice Gratitude, Change the World."

UTO encourages people to develop a practice of gratitude and make offerings for all of the blessings we experience. 100% of these offerings are given away to support mission and ministry projects around the world. Notice the good things that happen each day. Give thanks to God for your blessings. Make an offering for each blessing in the little Blue Boxes available to take home, or into our Mighty Mite Box in the Narthex. Include a slip of paper with your donation, expressing your thanks. Your blessings become blessings for others.

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UTO Silent Auction for Wool Coverlet

Don't forget about the silent auction for the lovely woven wool coverlet in the Narthex. Donated to the ECW by Barbara Wicks, proceeds will be donated to UTO.

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Volunteer to Support Fairfax Diapers Thursday, April 3rd 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 or by phone at (703) 915-4300.



Easter Flower Donations

We are now collecting donations for the beautiful Easter flowers our flower guild will decorate St. Thomas with in a few weeks. Please pick up a form in the Narthex and return by Sunday, April 13th if you'd like to donate.

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Shakespeare Opera Theatre Presents: Drowning Ophelia

Approximate Run time one hour, no intermission. House opens 30 minutes before each performance to get comfortable and enjoy snacks and drinks at our general table seating. Talkbacks/Q & A with the cast, playwright and mental health counselors will occur immediately after each performance. Jane doesn't know what to do with Ophelia, Shakespeare's character, who has taken up residence in her bathtub. Ophelia delights in singing songs about death and valentines, interrupting Jane's carefully planned fantasy dates with an actor named Edmund. Ophelia brings up memories of a brother Jane would rather forget. As Jane's past intrudes dangerously on her present, it becomes clear that Ophelia is not simply a character from "Hamlet," but a long-forgotten messenger with a question from Jane's own troubled mind: How do you move on when reconciliation is not an option? "Drowning Ophelia" is a dark comedy performed in one act about the long-term consequences of childhood abuse, and a love letter to those who have suffered. There is always hope. (Appropriate for ages 11 and up. Raises issues on mental illness and mental health in relation to childhood abuse) For show dates and tickets, please visit

<https://shakespeareoperatheatre.com/>

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This Week

Monday March 31st

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

6 pm – SOT Rehearsal

Tuesday April 1st

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

6 pm – SOT Rehearsal

Wednesday April 2nd

10 am – Staff Meeting

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

6 pm – SOT Rehearsal

Thursday April 3rd

9 am – ELC Picture Day

10 am – Fairfax Diapers Volunteering

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

Friday April 4th

11 am – McLean Islamic Center Worship

7:30 pm – Shakespeare Opera Theatre:

Drowning Ophelia

Saturday April 5th

3 pm – Shakespeare Opera Theatre:

Drowning Ophelia

7:30 pm – Shakespeare Opera Theatre:

Drowning Ophelia

Sunday April 6th

8:45 am – Choir Rehearsal

10 am – Worship

11:10 am – Lenten Program

4 pm – Shakespeare Opera Theatre:

Drowning Ophelia