



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 Second Sunday of Easter



Resurrection Icon

Holy Eucharist, Rite II—10:00 AM

April 27, 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 our Easter Potluck after the service.

THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Caroline Mitchell

Introit

Morning Has Broken

#8 Hymnal 1982

Procession

Christ the Lord Is Risen Again!

#184 Hymnal 1982



1 Christ the Lord is risen a - gain!	Christ has bro - ken ev - ery chain!
2 He who gave for us his life,	who for us en - dured the strife,
3 He who bore all pain and loss	com - fort - less up - on the cross



Now through all the world it rings	that the Lamb is King of kings.
takes our sin and guilt a - way	that with an - gels we may say:
is ex - alt - ed now to save,	wrest - ing vic - tory from the grave.

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia!	Al - le - lu - ia,	al - le - lu - ia,
Al - le - lu - ia!		
Al - le - lu - ia!		



al - le - lu - ia!	Christ, our Pas - chal Lamb in - deed,	
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Christ, to - day your peo - ple feed.	Al - le - lu - ia!
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Words: Michael Weisse (1480-1534); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Christ ist erstanden*, melody from *Geistliche Lieder*, 1533; harm. after Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612).

The Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise

Alleluia, alleluia!

#191 Hymnal 1982

1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts and voic - es heaven-ward raise:

1 sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.

1 He, who on the cross a vic - tim, for the world's sal - va - tion bled,

1 Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead.

Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885), alt. Music: *Lux eoi*, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900).

The Collect of the Day

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

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; 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

Acts 5:27-32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 150 (*We will pray Psalm 150 responsively by half verse*)

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; *
praise him in the firmament of his power.
- 2 Praise him for his mighty acts; *
praise him for his excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *
praise him with lyre and harp.
- 4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; *
praise him with strings and pipe.
- 5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; *
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
- 6 Let everything that has breath *
praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson

Revelation 1:4-8

A reading from the first letter from the Revelation to John.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Love Astounding 1 / 2

#143 Voices Found

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Gospel

John 20:19-31

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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, in joy and hope, let us pray to God.

That our risen Savior may fill the church with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection, especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mark, Gayle, and Bud, our Bishops; Fran, Will, Caroline, Lori, Rishabh, Mary and Nicole, our staff; Beth, our Seminarian; the teachers at the Early Learning Center; and the Vestry and Officers of St. Thomas, we pray: **Hear our prayer.**

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter, we pray: **Hear our prayer.**

That God will grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, especially all those in positions of public trust, Donald, our president, Glenn, our Governor, the officials of Fairfax County, and those whom you would name *[pause]*, we pray: **Hear our prayer.**

That God will provide for those who lack food, work or shelter, we pray: **Hear our prayer.**

That by God's power, war and famine may cease through all the world, especially in those places you would name *[pause]*, we pray: **Hear our prayer.**

That God will reveal the light of his presence to those who are sick or suffering in any way, especially **Ethan, Vincent, Yusuf, Emily and Dave, Lynn, Andrew, Jan, Caroline, Jackie, Betsy, Enriqo, Karen, Tricia, Cathy, Erin, Andy**, and those whom you would name *[pause]*, we pray: **Hear our prayer.**

That, according to Jesus' promise, all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day, especially those whom you would name *[pause]*, we pray:
Hear our prayer.

We name these blessings: all those celebrating birthdays this week; all those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week; and all those blessings you would name *[pause]*.

In the name of the risen Christ, we give thanks: **Alleluia!**

Holy God, send the fire of your Holy Spirit upon us, so that we may bear faithful witness to Christ's resurrection, we pray: **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant that, as his death has recalled us to life, so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Adapted from Common Worship – Church of England by The Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith

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.

The Offertory

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all. *1 Chronicles 29:11*



It's Easy to Give Electronically to St. Thomas

Scan the QR code, or visit the GIVING page on the St. Thomas website:

<https://stthomasmcleanva.org/giving/donate>.

Offertory Anthem

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

Mark Schweizer

Randy Latimer, Percussion

O my sons and daughters, let us sing! The King of Heaven, the glorious King,
O'er death today rose triumphing. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

That night the apostles met in fear, amidst them came their lord so dear,
and said, "My peace be on all here." Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

When Thomas first the tidings heard, how they had seen the risen Lord,
he doubted the disciples word. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

"My pierced side, O Thomas, see; my hands, my feet, I show to thee;
and faithless, but believe in me." Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

How blest are they who have not seen, and yet whose faith has constant been,
for they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

#400 Hymnal 1982

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Gluten free wafers are available on request. We will not have a healing minister during communion, but if you desire prayers for healing, you can see Rev. Will, Rev. Caroline, or Beth after church.

The Great Thanksgiving **Eucharistic Prayer D**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:

Sanctus: #858 Wonder, Love, and Praise



might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

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

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners,

freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and 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 – #866 Wonder, Love, and Praise

Cantor *Choir* *Congregation & Choir*

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. ia.

Music: Owen Burdick (b. 1954). Copyright © 1997 Trinity Episcopal Church.

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

Let All Mortal Flesh

#324 Hymnal 1982

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and
2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -
earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man
on the way, as the Light of Light de -
sleep - less eye veil their fac - es to the

mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,

Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
 he will give to all the faith - ful
 that the powers of hell may va - nish
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

our full hom - age to de - mand.
 his own self for heaven - ly food.
 as the dark - ness clears a - way.
 Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Words: Liturgy of St. James; para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885). Music: *Picardy*, French carol, 17th cent.; melody from *Chansons populaires des Provinces de France*, 1860; harm. after *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

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.

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

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; 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***This Joyful Eastertide*****#192 Hymnal 1982**

Unison or harmony

The musical score is written for a three-part setting (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of staves. The first system includes three vocal parts with lyrics. The second system continues the vocal parts with lyrics. The third system is marked 'Refrain' and includes lyrics. The fourth and fifth systems continue the vocal parts with lyrics. The bass line is a simple accompaniment consisting of chords and single notes.

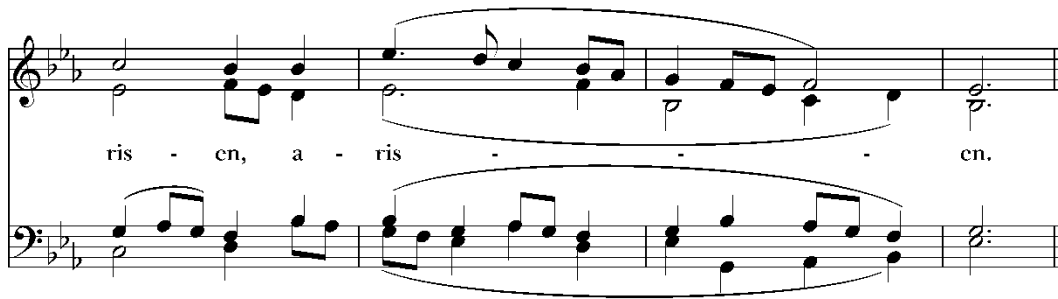
1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
2 Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Je - sus crossed the
3 My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a sea - son

sor - row! My Love, the Cru - ci - fied, hath
riv - er: Lord of all life, from ill my
slum - ber, till trump from east to west shall

Refrain

sprung to life this mor - row.
pass - ing life de - liv - er. Had Christ, that once was
wake the dead in num - ber.

slain, ne'er burst his three-day pri - son, our faith had been in
vain; but now is Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a -



Words: George R. Woodward (1848-1934), alt. By permission of A.R. Mowbray and Co Ltd. From The Cowley Carol Book by G.R. Woodward and C. Wood. Music: *Vruechten*, melody from *Psalmen*, 1685; harm. Charles Wood (1866-1926).

The Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit! Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude

Dialogues sur le grand jeux

Francois Couperin

Worship Participants

Presider	Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Preacher	Rev. Will Drosos
Acolyte	Susan Cowart
Altar Guild	Diane Ferris
Digital Verger	Chuck Grimes
Eucharistic Ministers	Beth Clarke & Scott Johnston
Flower Guild	Jan Grimes
Lector & Intercessor	Chris Johnston
Usher	Lynne Montgomery
Fellowship Hour	Diane & Will Ferris
Counters	Ed Rhodes

MAY VESTRY PERSON

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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*

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The Skinny at St. Thomas
April 27th, 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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United Thank Offering Ingathering Today
"Practice Gratitude, Change the World."

The UTO Ingathering concludes today. Please bring your little blue boxes to place in the Offering Plate on that day or you can submit a check noting it is for UTO. The woolen coverlet auction was won by Jan Grimes. The proceeds from the auction will be donated to UTO by the ECW. We are also pleased to share that, thanks to our own Louise Armitage, the Mighty Mite Box and the contributions of our youth to UTO have gained national recognition in the Episcopal Church's UTO Newsletter! Notice the good things that happen each day. Give thanks to God for your blessings. Make an offering for each blessing. Your blessings become blessings for others.

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ECW Meeting After Church Today
Sunday, April 27th at 11:30 am

We will meet after church in person in the ELC and on Zoom. Please reach out to Louise Armitage for the Zoom link if you'd like to join online.

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ECW Garden-sharing Plant Sale
Sunday, May 11th after the 10 am service

It's time to start digging now for the upcoming ECW "Garden-sharing Plant Sale" on Sunday, May 11, 2025. After the 10 o'clock service, we will be selling perennials (flowers that return every year) from our own gardens. Please start now so plants have time to be firmly established. Berta Smith (703) 356-2586 has nursery pots if you need them Small bags of potting soil are available at Safeway and other stores. (Berta likes Miracle Grow potting mix). Our objective is to make our world even more beautiful and to make plants affordable to more gardeners. If you no longer garden, these plants would be a thoughtful gift to new neighbors, new gardeners and many others. We also welcome donated clay pots, decorative pots, small garden furnishings and tools.

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Volunteer Opportunity to Help the Immigrant Population in Northern VA on May 5th

The English Empowerment Center is the leading provider of English language instruction in northern Virginia. ([Englishempowermentcenter.org](https://englishempowermentcenter.org)). They serve the immigrant population by providing English language instruction for those folks who have less than sixth grade proficiency in English at 18 locations in the area and by zoom. If you would like to get to know more about this organization, they have a volunteer opportunity on May 5th, with their Employment Fair. They are looking for volunteer greeters to make all who attend feel welcome. If you would like to participate in this event, please reach out to Amy Tristan, Director of Volunteers, (atristan@englishempowermentcenter.org). You only need to know English to volunteer.

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Pints with Doubting Thomas
Wednesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm

at High Point Pub in Whole Foods, Tysons. Join us for learning and conversation in a relaxed environment. The first round of drinks (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) is on us! Next month, we will continue the discussion on Christian approaches to war, peace, and violence.

Coffee Hour Hosts needed for May, June, July

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! Under our new format, we would like hosts to limit their food offerings to 2-3 items, to include fresh fruit or raw veggies for our health-conscious and diet-restricted friends. Also, for those of you who are not comfortable making the coffee, you can ask for someone else to make the coffee for you as part of the sign-up process. (Just answer yes or no if you need help.) 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
Home (703) 288-3166 / Cell: (202) 390-4412
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EAAAC2CA64-52775851-stthomas>



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Red-Handed – Sudan: Don't Look Away
May 10th – 11 am to 4 pm

Historic Christ Church Auditorium
118 N. Washington Street Alexandria, Virginia
An extraordinary one-day art installation by well-known artist Rosemary Feit Covey is coming to Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia, May 10. She calls the work "Red-Handed." The Alexandria installation, offered by American Friends of the Episcopal Church of the Sudans, is subtitled "Sudan: Don't Turn Away." It focuses on awareness of the tens of thousands killed, and the tens of millions displaced and starving in the continuing, often-overlooked two year civil war in Sudan. Looking down, visitors will find ways to discover the toll of war in Sudan. Former U.S. Ambassadors will be on hand as well as members of the South Sudanese community to report what's happening on the ground, and the American Friends of the Episcopal Church of the Sudans will offer ways to help. Admission is free. Because of the intensity of the images, Red-Handed – Sudan: Don't Turn Away is not suitable for young children.

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Shakespeare Opera Theatre Thanks You!

Thank you to everyone who came to see *Drowning Ophelia*! Check out the amazing reviews we received from critics: <https://operagene.com/new-blog/2025/4/8/shakespeare-opera-theatres-drowning-ophelia-powerful-well-done>
<https://dctheaterarts.org/2025/04/11/shakespeare-opera-theatres-drowning-ophelia-is-narrative-feast-for-the-senses/>
Thank you for your support! Onward to *Romeo and Juliet* in July!

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This Week

- Monday April 28th**
12 pm – Noonday Prayer
- Tuesday April 29th**
12 pm – Noonday Prayer
- Wednesday April 30th**
12 pm – Noonday Prayer
- Thursday May 1st**
12 pm – Noonday Prayer
7 pm – Choir Rehearsal
- Friday May 2nd**
11 am – McLean Islamic Center Worship
- Sunday May 4th**
8:45 am – Choir Rehearsal
10 am – Worship