



**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.

# Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Holy Eucharist, Rite II—10:00 AM

September 14, 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

Fr. Will Drosos

### Prelude

### Procession

*O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*

#449 Hymnal 1982



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing  
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his  
 4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in  
 5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he  
 6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
 2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions  
 3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and  
 4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful  
 5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his  
 6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.  
 2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.  
 3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.  
 4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.  
 5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.  
 6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deo gracias*, English ballad melody, Trinity College MS., 15th cent. By permission of Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved.

### The Acclamation

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever.

### **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 (Canticle 20)*

**#900 Wonder, Love, and Praise**

*Please find this music in the green hymnal entitled "Wonder, Love, and Praise."*

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

God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through 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**

**Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28**

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse-- a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them.

"For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good." I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled. I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the Lord, before his fierce anger.

For thus says the Lord: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 14** (*We will pray Psalm 14 responsively by half verse*)

- 1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." \*  
**All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;  
there is none who does any good.**
- 2 The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all, \*  
**to see if there is any who is wise,  
if there is one who seeks after God.**
- 3 Every one has proved faithless;  
all alike have turned bad; \*  
**there is none who does good; no, not one.**
- 4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \*  
**who eat up my people like bread  
and do not call upon the Lord?**
- 5 See how they tremble with fear, \*  
**because God is in the company of the righteous.**
- 6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \*  
**but the Lord is their refuge.**
- 7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \*  
**when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people,  
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.**

**The Second Lesson**

**1 Timothy 1:12-17**

A reading from the first letter to Timothy.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-- of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Sequence Hymn

## A Long Lost Lamb 1,2 / 3,4

### #95 Voices Found

1 A long lost  
2 The lit - tle  
3 The fish - er  
4 Let ev - ery -

lamb is in the fold, a wo - man's coin re -  
man who climbed a tree has found a friend at  
man who turned a - way re - ceives an - oth - er  
one who suf - fers now from guilt and deep de -

trieved \_\_\_\_\_ a way - ward son is home a -  
last, \_\_\_\_\_ a wo - man with her cup of  
chance. \_\_\_\_\_ A Phar - i - see has seen the  
spair \_\_\_\_\_ re - turn un - to the house of

gain, most lov - ing - ly re - ceived. \_\_\_\_\_  
tears has put be - hind her past. \_\_\_\_\_  
light and mourns his ar - ro - gance. \_\_\_\_\_ Good news! It's  
God, for love a - waits you there. \_\_\_\_\_

time to ce - le - brate with friends who ga - ther round. —

— So God re - joic - es, Je - sus said, when -

e'er the lost is found! — 2 The found! —  
3 The  
4 Let

## The Gospel

## Luke 15:1-10

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 he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in

heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **The Sermon**

**The Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith**

### **The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



### **The Prayers of the People**

The prayers of the people is a time for us to come together as we offer our prayers to God. Please offer your own prayers in the pauses, either silently or aloud.

Let us pray to the Lord. We pray for the flourishing of God's gifts to his Church. God our Father, you give us gifts that we may work together in the service of your Son; bless the leaders of your Church, that they may be faithful and humble before you. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mark, Gayle, and Mark, our Bishops; Fran, Will, Caroline, Lori, Rishabh, Mary and Nicole, our staff; Beth and Anthony, our Seminarians; the teachers at the Early Learning Center; and the Vestry and Officers of St. Thomas.

**Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Bless those who teach, that they may increase our understanding and be open to your word for them.

**Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Bless those who minister healing, that they may bring wholeness to others and know your healing themselves.

**Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Bless those through whom you speak, that they may proclaim your word; and also, open their ears to your gentle whisper.

**Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Bless those who work in your world today, that in the complexity of their daily lives they may live for you and seek your kingdom.

**Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Bless those who are uncertain of their gifts and those who feel powerless in this world's eyes, that they may be fortified in the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

We thank you for all the blessings of this life, including Beth Fulcher, Susan Power, Jeremy Ross, Rishabh Bajekal, Chris Cabell, Halie Fairchild, and all those celebrating birthdays this week; for all those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week, including Sara and Steven Miles, and Jack and Susan Cowart, in whose honor the altar flowers have been given; and all those blessings you would name *[pause]*. We pray:

**Jesus, Lord of your Church, we thank you.**

Bless those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially **Ethan, Vincent, Yusuf, Emily and Dave, Lynn, Jan, Erin, Andy, Diane, Alison, Sean, Bill, Katie and Scott, Bill, Frank, Bridgid, Roger, Christian, Chuck, Dani, Dave, Anne, Betsy, John, Skeets, Mariah, Colin, Hilary, Lorain, Debby**, and those whom you would name *[pause]*... that they may have comfort and strength for renewal.

**Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Bless all our partners in mission, especially our siblings in the Diocese of Virginia, that they may have your love and grace as their inspiration.

**Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Bless all who have died, especially all those whom you would name *[pause]*... that with them, we may praise you on earth and in heaven.

**Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Lord of all, hear our prayer and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy forever. **Amen.**

*Adapted by Beth Clarke from prayers made available by the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania*

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 to God. *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**

Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *-Hebrews 13:15, 16*



## 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**

*Come and Follow Me*

**Robert S. Cohen**

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.  
My soul He doth restore again,  
And in His love abide.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill;  
For Thou art with me; and Thy rod  
And staff my comfort still.  
My table Thou hast furnishèd  
My cup Thou overfills.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be.  
And in God's house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be.

### **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. 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**

**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

**Sanctus: #255 Lift Every Voice and Sing II**

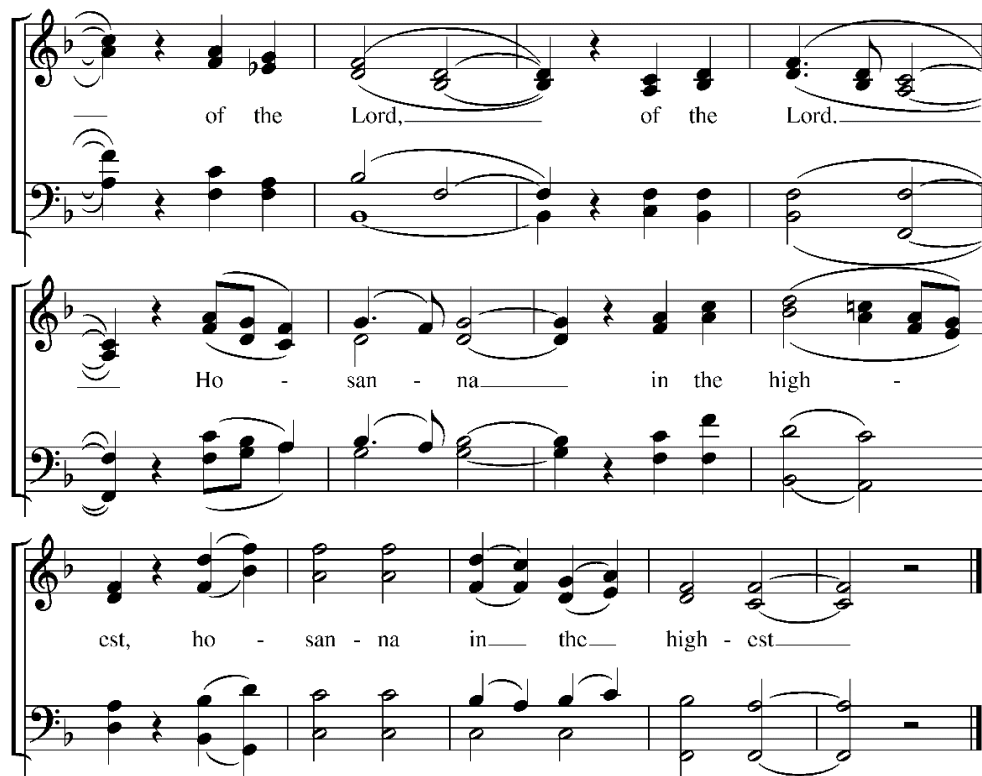
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo -

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

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name



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 blessed 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: #876 Wonder, Love, and Praise**

*Antiphon*  
*Cantor, then all*



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing

*Fine Verses*



— of the bread. 1. The bread which we break, Al - le - lu -  
2. One bo - dy are we, Al - le - lu -

*All repeat Antiphon*



ia, is the com - mun - ion of the Bod - y of Christ.  
ia, for though ma - ny we share one bread.

Music: Jack Warren Burnam (b. 1946). Copyright © 1986 Jack Warren Burnam.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**A note about the distribution of the Eucharist:**

*We offer both the common cup and a cup for intinction. If you would like to receive by intinction, please go the left side of the altar rail and the presiding priest will dip the bread in the cup for you. If you would like to sip from the common cup, please go to the right side of the altar rail where the bread and the cup will be offered separately.*

**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.**

**Communion Hymn**

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

**#645 Hymnal 1982**

1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed  
\* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
\* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear  
5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion  
6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness

1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if  
2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant  
3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der  
4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my  
5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port  
6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.  
2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-les-tial feed-eth.  
3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.  
4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.  
5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!  
6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. Psalm 23. Music: *St. Columba*, Irish melody, harm. *Hymnal 1982*.

### 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

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing, Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life, be with you now and always. **Amen.** *-Saint Clare*

### Announcements

#### Recessional Hymn

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

**#410 Hymnal 1982**

*Unison or harmony*

The musical score is written for unison or harmony in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the final four lines, which include the 'Alleluia' refrain. The fourth system contains the final line of the hymn, 'Praise with us the God of grace.' The music is a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady rhythm.

1 Praise, my soul, the King of hea - ven; to his feet thy tri - bute bring;  
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple in dis - tress;  
3 Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows;  
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; ye be - hold him face to face;

ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing;  
praise him still the same as ev - er, slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
in his hand he gen - tly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.  
sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.



### **The Dismissal**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**



**The altar flowers are given by Susan and Jack Cowart  
in thanksgiving for their wedding anniversary**

### **Worship Participants**

Presider	Fr. Will Drosos
Preacher	Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith
Assisting Priest	Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Acolytes	Will Ferris & Joseph Cuomo
Altar Guild	Diane Ferris
Flower Guild	Louise Armitage
Digital Usher	Audrey Adair
Digital Verger	Walter Lazear
Children's Chapel	Lael Lyons & Anthony Amato
Lector & Intercessor	Pat Smith
Eucharistic Ministers	Scott Johnston
Healing Minister	Beth Clarke
Usher	Louise Armitage
Fellowship Hour Host	Becky & Jim Ventorini

### **SEPTEMBER VESTRY PERSON**

**Jim Ventorini**

703.288.3166

[jventorini@cox.net](mailto:jventorini@cox.net)

Questions, comments, concerns, compliments, all welcome.



**Our 18<sup>th</sup> annual Pumpkin Patch is coming soon to St Thomas!**

### **Great Pumpkins for Good Causes**

Pumpkin sales support the Northwestern New Mexico Navajo Indian Reservation where the pumpkins are grown. We donate all proceeds to our ministry partners: SHARE (McLean food bank), Falls Church/McLean Children's Center, Second Story, and the FACETS Hypothermia Program.

### **THREE EASY ways everyone can help:**

- 1. Tell your friends – word of mouth is the best advertising. Post a picture of yourself in the Patch or on social media.**
- 2. Like and Share the Pumpkin Patch Facebook & Instagram Page!**
- 3. Sign up to sell pumpkins - <http://bit.ly/PumpkinSales2025>**

For more information, please visit <https://bit.ly/StThomasPumpkins>

### **TWO OTHER WAYS TO HELP**

- 1. PALLET LAYDOWN** - Sunday Sept 28th at 4PM.

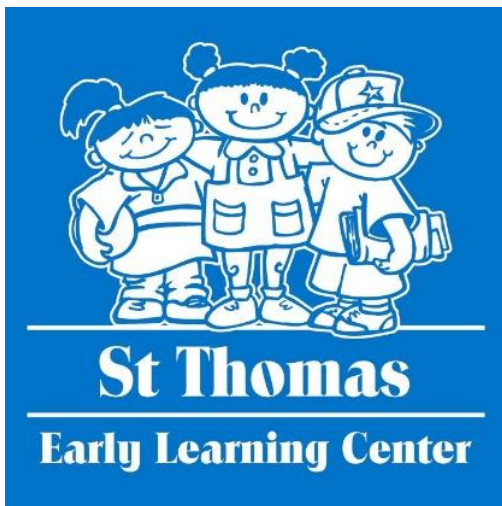
(The parish retreat finishes at noon on this day) We'll be laying out the pallets to display the pumpkins. We need around a dozen volunteers. If you are able-bodied and willing to help – please email me at [tobygbush@hotmail.com](mailto:tobygbush@hotmail.com).

- 2. PUMPKIN UNLOADING** - Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:30PM (AFTERNOON!).

RAIN or SHINE. Almost all of the lifting and carrying is done by local 8<sup>th</sup> graders performing community service. We need 12-15 adult volunteers to help supervise (and in some cases) assist them. There are also opportunities on unload day that are even less strenuous – check-in, hospitality etc. Please email me at [tobygbush@hotmail.com](mailto:tobygbush@hotmail.com) if you can help.

If you would like to assist with decorating the patch, please email Becky Ventrini [beckyventorini@gmail.com](mailto:beckyventorini@gmail.com).

The St. Thomas Early Learning Center is selling t-shirts. Order one using the form below! You can send an email to [parishadmin@stthomasmclean.org](mailto:parishadmin@stthomasmclean.org) if you would like a shirt and are not able to fill out a physical form.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT SLEEVE T-SHIRT    \$20 x \_\_\_\_\_ quantity                      total due    \$\_\_\_\_\_

Child size    Xsmall (4-5) \_\_\_\_\_    small (6-8) \_\_\_\_\_    med (10-12) \_\_\_\_\_

Adult size    S \_\_\_\_\_    Med \_\_\_\_\_    Large \_\_\_\_\_    XL \_\_\_\_\_    2XL (add \$2) \_\_\_\_\_

LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT    \$25 x \_\_\_\_\_ quantity                      total due    \$\_\_\_\_\_

Child size    Xsmall (4-5) \_\_\_\_\_    small (6-8) \_\_\_\_\_    med (10-12) \_\_\_\_\_

Adult size    S \_\_\_\_\_    Med \_\_\_\_\_    Large \_\_\_\_\_    XL \_\_\_\_\_    2XL (add \$2) \_\_\_\_\_

Payment total \$\_\_\_\_\_    paid online \_\_\_\_\_ by check \_\_\_\_\_ cash \_\_\_\_\_

## ***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. Mark A. Bourlakas, *Assistant Bishop*

The Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith, *Rector*  
Fr. William Drosos, *Associate Rector*  
The Rev. Dr. Caroline Mitchell, *Assisting Priest*  
Dr. Lori Lind, *Minister of Music*  
Ms. Beth Clarke, *Seminarian*

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602-463-5289 – [eclarke@vts.edu](mailto:eclarke@vts.edu)

### **THE VESTRY**

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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 Ventrini		<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**

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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 Ventrini	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
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Nicole Warga	Cribbery Caregiver	<a href="mailto:ncwarga00@hotmail.com">ncwarga00@hotmail.com</a>	703-476-9476

## The Skinny at St. Thomas September 14<sup>th</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.

### St. Thomas Walkway of Love

We are now collecting orders for engraved Walkway of Love bricks to remember a loved one or give thanks for blessings in your life. **Deadline for 2025 orders is Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.** We will bless the new bricks on All Saint's Day, Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Scan the QR code below to learn more and for an order form. If you have any questions, please contact Toby Bush at [tobygbush@hotmail.com](mailto:tobygbush@hotmail.com).



### ECW Movie Screening

**TODAY at noon in the sanctuary**

ECW will share a light lunch and view the movie **Women Talking**, which tells the story of a religious colony devastated by sexual violence. **Women Talking** explores **survival, solidarity and spirituality** after sexual assault. It's the women's faith in God that ultimately empowers them to imagine a better, fairer way of life. Please join us for lunch and a movie. We will have an opportunity to discuss the film at its conclusion.

### St. Thomas High Mass Begins Tonight!

We will begin a weekly 5pm service tonight. It will be a high mass for anyone who desires worship that is ancient, engages all of the senses, and embraces mystery. There will be a different preacher from our Sunday morning service so anyone who attends will hear a different sermon. A cantor will lead the congregational chanting and singing, and the bulletins will provide guidance for those who have never worshipped in this way before.

### Ladies Lunch Bunch

**Join us Monday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 am**  
**Kalypso's Sports Tavern Patio**

1617 Washington Plaza N, Lake Anne, Reston  
<https://www.kalypsosportstavern.com>

For more information, email Audrey Adair at [audreyjadair@gmail.com](mailto:audreyjadair@gmail.com) or text (813) 956-7550

### Pints with Doubting Thomas

The next gathering of Pints with Doubting Thomas will be on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Parlor. We will still provide some drinks and light snacks! Join us for learning and fellowship.

### September Grill Night!

**Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in Hudson Hall**

Please join us for the final Grill Night of the season! You can bring an appetizer or dessert to share, and feel free to invite a friend!

### Joy's Ordination to the Priesthood

**Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am**

God willing, The Rt. Rev. Mark A. Bourlakas, Assistant Bishop of Virginia, will ordain Kara Laughlin, Anne Kristine Rose, and **Joy Warburton to the Sacred Order of Priests on Saturday, September 20 at 10:30a at St. John's Episcopal Church, McLean.** The color of the day is red. The Bishop and Standing Committee request the honor of your prayer and presence. Visit <https://episcopalvirginia.org/event/ordination-of-priests/> for the livestream link.

## September ECW Meeting

The next meeting of the ECW will be on **Sunday, September 21, 2025, at 11:30 am** in the ELC and on Zoom. As the agenda for the meeting is being developed, you are invited to submit requests for funding of charitable organizations.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86757077133?pwd=u9budQRyRjJcKyJB9SfrXolQirld.1>

Meeting ID: 867 5707 7133 Passcode: 036084

### St. Thomas Pumpkin Patch Coming Soon!

Great Pumpkins for Good Causes: Our 18th annual Pumpkin Patch is coming soon to St Thomas! Pallet laydown is on September 28<sup>th</sup> at 4pm and Pumpkin Unloading is on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm. You can find out more information on Page 18 of the bulletin, including other ways to volunteer.

### Another Way to Help the Pumpkin Patch

Pumpkin Patch Money Counters Team Coordinator Lynne Montgomery is looking for volunteers to count daily proceeds at the end of the day (6 p.m. Monday through Friday) during the month of October. Ed Rhodes and Jim Ventorini are currently on the team. Please contact Lynne at [lrmontgomery@gmail.com](mailto:lrmontgomery@gmail.com) or by cell phone at (703) 298-7181 if interested.

### Shakespeare Opera Theatre Oktoberfest!

Support St. Thomas' Pumpkin Patch and Shakespeare Opera Theatre while having fun! Come to Oktoberfest October 12<sup>th</sup> 4-8 PM and get your fall pumpkins, have some food and fun with family and friends (we're always kid friendly) and hear some beautiful vocal music later in the evening. And of course, there will be German food and beer in our German Biergarten!

### Coffee Hosts Needed for Remainder of Year

Thank you for continuing this tradition of Fellowship at St. Thomas! We ask 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. If you have any questions, please contact **Becky Ventorini Fellowship Hour Coordinator**, [beckyventorini@gmail.com](mailto:beckyventorini@gmail.com) (703) 288-3166,h (202) 390-4412 c  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EAAAC2CA64-2775851-stthomas>



### This Week

#### Monday September 15<sup>th</sup>

11:15 am – Ladies Lunch Bunch

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

#### Tuesday September 16<sup>th</sup>

12 pm – Holy Eucharist

#### Wednesday September 17<sup>th</sup>

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

6:30 pm – Pints with Doubting Thomas

7:30 pm – ECW Book Group

#### Thursday September 18<sup>th</sup>

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

6 pm – Grill Night

7 pm – Choir Rehearsal

#### Friday September 19<sup>th</sup>

11 am to 3 pm – McLean Islamic Center Worship

#### Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup>

10 am to 10 pm – SOT Auditions

#### Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup>

8:45 am – Choir Rehearsal

10 am – Worship

11:30 am – ECW Meeting

5 pm – High Mass