



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.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Holy Eucharist, Rite II—10:00 AM

September 28, 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

Awake My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve

#546 Hymnal 1982

1 A - wake, my soul, stretch ev - ery nerve, and press with vi - gor
 2 A cloud of wit - ness - es a - round hold thee in full sur -
 3 'Tis God's all - an - i - mat-ing voice that calls thee from on
 4 Then wake, my soul, stretch ev - ery nerve, and press with vi - gor

on; a heaven - ly race de - mands thy zeal, and
 vey; for - get the steps al - read - y trod and
 high; 'tis his own hand pre - sents the prize to
 on; a heaven - ly race de - mands thy zeal, and

an im - mor - tal crown, and an im - mor - tal crown.
 on - ward urge thy way, and on - ward urge thy way.
 thine as - pir - ing eye, to thine as - pir - ing eye.
 an im - mor - tal crown, and an im - mor - tal crown.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751). Music: *Siroë*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. *Melodia Sacra*, 1815.

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

Gloria*Glory to God (Canticle 20)***#900 Wonder, Love, and Praise**

This is the vocal line only, please use the green hymnal in the pew rack for the full sheet music

The musical score is written for a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The score is divided into several systems, each with a vocal line and a piano line. The piano line features a variety of chords and textures, including some with triplets. The vocal line includes lyrics in all caps and lowercase letters, with some words in italics. The score ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, —

— and peace to his peo - ple on earth. — Lord God,

heav'n - ly King, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, — we wor - ship

you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. —

(♩ = ♩ of preceding — same beat as before, not slower) Fa - ther, —

Lord Je - sus Christ, — on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: — have mer - cy on us; — you are seat - ed at the right

hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For

Fa - ther: re - ceive

Fa - ther: re - ceive

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

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

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me: Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours." Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself." Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 (*We will pray a portion of Psalm 91 responsively by half verse*)

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 He shall say to the Lord, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust."
- 3 He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter *
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover you with his pinions, and you shall find refuge under his wings; *
his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.
- 5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, *
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the plague that stalks in the darkness, *
nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.
- 14 Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring him to honor.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.

The Second Lesson

1 Timothy 6:6-19

A reading from the first letter to Timothy.

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time-- he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

O Holy City, Seen of John 1,2 / 3,4

#583 Hymnal 1982



1 O ho - ly ci - ty, seen of John, where Christ, the Lamb, doth reign,
2 O shame to us who rest con - tent while lust and greed for gain
3 Give us, O God, the strength to build the ci - ty that hath stood
4 Al - rea - dy in the mind of God that ci - ty ris - eth fair:



with - in whose four - square walls shall come no night, nor need, nor pain,
in street and shop and ten - e - ment wring gold from hu - man pain,
too long a dream, whose laws are love, whose crown is ser - vant - hood,
lo, how its splen - dor chal - leng - es the souls that great - ly dare—



and where the tears are wiped from eyes that shall not weep a - gain!
and bit - ter lips in blind de - spair cry, "Christ hath died in vain!"
and where the sun that shin - eth is God's grace for hu - man good.
yea, bids us seize the whole of life and build its glo - ry there.

The Gospel

Luke 16:19-31

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house-- for I have five brothers-- that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Fr. 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

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 *[pause]*. We pray:

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 Ed Rhodes, Lynne Montgomery, Ryan Nikpey Villalobos, Louise Armitage, and all those celebrating birthdays this week; Louise and Tom Armitage, and all those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week; 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, Wilma, Cristina, Thomas, Karen**, 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 Hymn

Guide My Feet Lord

#583 Hymnal 1982

1. Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
2. Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
3. Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race, 'cause I
Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race, 'cause I
Stand by me Lord, while I run this race, 'cause I

don't want to run this race in vain.
don't want to run this race in vain.
don't want to run this race in vain.

Music: African-American spiritual, arr. Carl Harris, Jr. (b. 1935).

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

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 as we shout with joy:

Sanctus: #255 Lift Every Voice and Sing II

Ho - ly, 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

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high -

est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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. Gluten free wafers are available by request.

Communion Hymn*All to Jesus I Surrender***#133 Lift Every Voice and Sing II**

1. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,
I will ev - er love and trust Him,
2. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der
World - ly pleas - ures all for - sak - en,
3. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der
Let me feel the Ho - ly Spir - it
4. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der
Fill me with thy love and pow - er,

1. all to Him I free - ly give;
In His pres - ence dai - ly live.
2. Hum - bly at His feet I bow;
Take me, Je - sus, take me now.
3. Make me, Sav - ior, whol - ly thine;
Tru - ly know that thou art mine.
4. Lord, I give my - self to thee;
Let thy bless - ings fall on me.

I sur - ren - der all,
I sur - ren - der all,

I sur - ren - der all, All to thee, my
I sur - ren - der all,

bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.

Words: Judson W. Van de Vanter (1855-1939). Music: Winfield S. Weeden (1847-1908).

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.

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

Crown Him with Many Crowns

#494 Hymnal 1982

The image displays the musical score for the hymn 'Crown Him with Many Crowns'. It features two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are provided below the vocal lines.

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!
2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and
3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and
4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who
5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown

1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -
2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who
3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his
4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran - somed sin - ners slain, now
5 him the King, to whom is given the won - drous name of Love. Crown

1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
 2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu-man breast, and
 3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who
 4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their
 5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, crown

1 hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.
 3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.
 5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Participants

Presider & Preacher	Fr. Will Drosos
Acolyte	Louise Armitage
Altar Guild	Louise Armitage
Flower Guild	Sarah Thompson & Mollie Regan
Children's Chapel	Lael Lyons
Lector & Intercessor	Duane Goddard
Eucharistic Minister	Steve Wickman
Usher	Becky Ventorini
Fellowship Hour Host	Rita & Bruce Allan

SEPTEMBER VESTRY PERSON

Jim Ventorini

703.288.3166

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Questions, comments, concerns, compliments, all welcome.



Our 18th 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.

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

RAIN or SHINE. Almost all of the lifting and carrying is done by local 8th 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 if you can help.

If you would like to assist with decorating the patch, please email Becky Vantorini beckyventorini@gmail.com.



Oktoberfest

Food & fun for the whole family

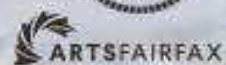
at St. Thomas Episcopal Church

OCTOBER 12, 4-8PM



Live Music and Silent auction by Shakespeare Opera Theatre.
Benefiting the Galloway Fund.

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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*

Mr. Anthony Amato, *Seminarian*

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The Skinny at St. Thomas September 28th, 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 High Mass Continues Tonight!

Just a reminder that there is a new weekly high mass at 5pm 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.

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 TODAY, September 28th at 4pm and Pumpkin Unloading is on October 4th at 3:30pm. Email tobyqbush@hotmail.com to volunteer. Sign up to sell pumpkins here: <http://bit.ly/PumpkinSales2025> You can get more information on Page 18 of the bulletin.

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 Ventrini are currently on the team. Please contact Lynne at lkrmontgomery@gmail.com or by cell phone at (703) 298-7181 if interested.

Shakespeare Opera Theatre Oktoberfest!

Sunday October 12th 4-8 PM ALL ARE WELCOME for this FREE Oktoberfest event! Don your dirndl or leg it in your lederhosen and bring all your pumpkins, big and small to Oktoberfest, presented by Shakespeare Opera Theatre and St. Thomas Episcopal Church in McLean! Get your fall pumpkins in our Giant Pumpkin Patch (proceeds go to local charities), and enjoy German food and drink any time from 4-8 PM in our lively beer garden in Hudson Hall. 4-6 PM features family fun, games, crafts and activities and relaxing folk music by The Timbre Trio in the pumpkin patch and garden. From 6-8 PM enjoy live German and American classics and catch a preview of SOT's 2025-26 Season. Enter the drawing for season tickets, and shop the silent auction to support the Galloway fund for Shakespeare Opera Theatre artists. Entrance is FREE, (\$25 suggested donation appreciated), kids are welcome and encouraged--see you there!

Women Gathering

Women Gathering will meet next on Thursday, October 9th at 4:30 pm. This year, we are reading *Falling Upwards: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life, Updated Edition*, written by Richard Rohr, © 2024 Please reach out to Rev. Fran or the office for the details and Zoom link.

Pints with Doubting Thomas

The next gathering of Pints with Doubting Thomas will be on Wednesday, October 15th at 6:30 pm. We'll start in Hudson Hall to get some drinks and snacks and then go the Parlor for learning and conversation. Join us for an opportunity to talk about theology in a relaxed environment. We will continue our conversation on sin and absolution.

ECW Book Group

Join us at 7:30pm on October 15th in Hudson Hall. The book will be *The Lemon Tree* by Sandy Tolan. The Zoom link is below if you'd like to join online.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89924243532?pwd=foh9QQXPhZJxXJ4RdW7UU6p36qllm.1>

Or call in: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 899 2424 3532 Passcode: 364549

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Please join us...

When: 4th Monday of the month, Oct. 27th

Time: 11:30 AM

Where: Sunflower Vegetarian Restaurant

2531 Chain Bridge Rd, Vienna, VA 22181

<https://www.crystalsunflower.com/>

Look for up-to-date details in the church bulletin and newsletter or text Audrey at (813) 956-7550

Coffee Hosts Needed for Remainder of Year

We are in need of hosts for 4 Sundays for the rest of the year (October 5, November 11, and December 14 and 21.) Thank you in advance for all who have signed up for the other Sundays! The links to sign up are available below via SignUpGenius or by using the QR code. If you need help signing up electronically, I would be happy to help you! We would like hosts to limit their food offerings to 2-3 items, to include fresh fruit or raw veggies. 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. Thank you! If you have any questions, please contact me directly.

Becky Ventrini, Fellowship Hour Coordinator

beckyventorini@gmail.com

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

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EAAAC2CA64-2775851-stthomas>



September SHARE Needs

Our ministry partner SHARE is always in need of food and personal care items for our neighbors in McLean, Tysons, and Pimmit Hills. Scan the QR code below to see the current list of most needed items:



Tysons Interfaith Coffeehouse

Join us on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11am for coffee and conversation. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 8th. They meet at:

Greater Vienna Baha'i Community Center
8521 Leesburg Pike, Suite 320, Vienna VA 22182
(Please park in the garage in the back)

This Week

Monday September 29th

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

1:30 pm – Memorial Garden Meeting

Tuesday September 30th

12 pm – Holy Eucharist

Wednesday October 1st

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

Thursday October 2nd

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

Friday October 3rd

11 am to 3 pm – McLean Islamic Center Worship

Sunday October 5th

8:45 am – Choir Rehearsal

10 am – Worship

5 pm – High Mass