

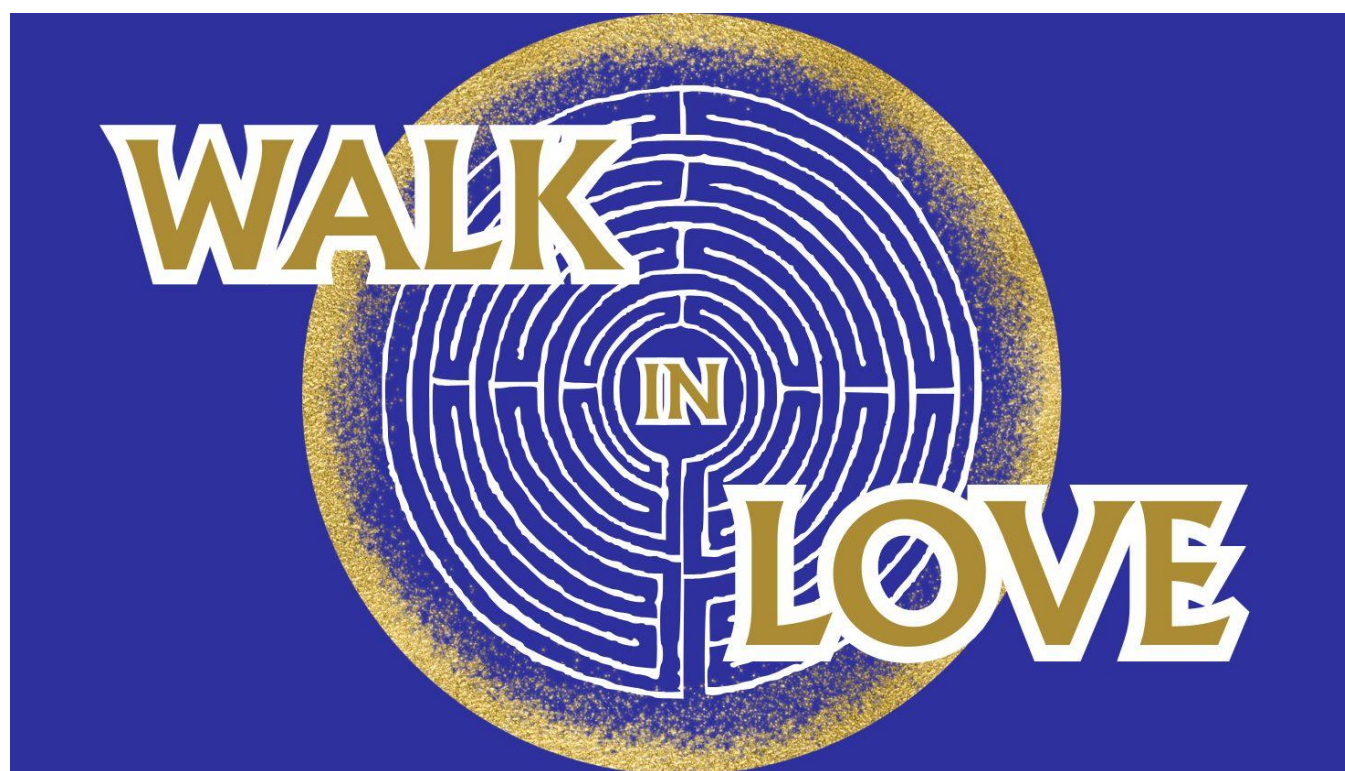


ST. THOMAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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.

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Stewardship Ingathering Sunday



Holy Eucharist, Rite II—10:00 AM

November 16, 2025

Welcome to St. Thomas! We are so glad that you are here with us. If you are new to our community, we invite you to fill out a welcome card located in the pew rack in front of you, and either place it in the offering plate or hand it to a priest. We also invite you to stay with us for coffee hour after the service.

THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome

Fr. Will Drosos

Introit

Let All Things Now Living

#107 Voices Found

The musical score is written for a choir and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 His law he en - for - ces, the stars in their cours-es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um-phantly raise, who fash-ioned and
sun in its or - bit o - be-dient-ly shine; the hills and the

made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who still guides us
moun-tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the deeps of the

on to the end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us, his
o - cean pro - claim him di - vine. We too should be voic-ing our

light goes be - fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin-ing forth in the
love and re - joic-ing; with glad a - dor - a - tion a song let us

night, till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is
raise till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks -

ban - ished, as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
giv - ing: "to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Procession*The Church's One Foundation*

#525 Hymnal 1982

1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war
5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,

1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word:
2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - c - sics dis - tressed;
4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.

1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
3 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,
5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
2 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
3 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
4 and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.
5 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900). Music: *Aurelia*, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1818-1876).**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 vocal line begins with a rest for four measures, followed by the lyrics "Glo - ry to God in the high - est, —". The piano accompaniment starts with a forte (f) dynamic and features a steady eighth-note bass line. The vocal line continues with "— 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. —". A tempo change occurs, marked with a 2/4 time signature and the instruction "(♩ = ♩. of preceding — same beat as before, not slower)". The vocal line then sings "Fa - ther, — Lord Je - sus Christ, — on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Fa - ther, —". The piano accompaniment includes triplet markings over the final measures of the first system and the beginning of the second system. The score concludes with the lyrics "Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the".

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, 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.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Isaiah 65:17-25

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord-- and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent-- its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah *(We will pray this canticle responsively by half verse)*

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

1 The Lord will come and not be slow, his foot - steps can - not err;
 2 Truth from the earth, like to a flower, shall bud and blos - som show;
 3 Rise, God, judge thou the earth in might, this wick - ed earth re - dress;
 4 The na - tions all whom thou hast made shall come, and all shall frame
 5 For great thou art, and won - ders great by thy strong hand are done:

1 be - fore him right - eous - ness shall go, his roy - al har - bin - ger.
 2 and jus - tice, from her heaven - ly bower, look down on us be - low.
 3 for thou art he who shalt by right the na - tions all pos - sess.
 4 to bow them low be - fore thee, Lord, and glo - ri - fy thy Name.
 5 thou in thy ev - er - last - ing seat re - main - est God a - lone.

Words: John Milton (1608-1674), alt. Music: *York*, melody from *The CL Psalmes of David*, 1615; adapt. *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1621; harm, John Milton, Sr. (1563?-1647).

The Gospel

Luke 21:5-19

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to

prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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, David, 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 Betsy Heilman, Claudia Johnston, Gig Mikell, and all those celebrating birthdays this week; Dorene and Paul Ryder, 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, Lynn, Emily and Dave, Yusuf, John, Jan, Erin, Andy, Diane, Alison, Bill, Katie and Scott, Frank, Christian, Chuck, Dani, Dave, Anne, Skeets, Mariah, Colin, Hilary, Lorain, Debby, Cristina, Wilma, Karen, Steve, Tricia, Danny, Janette, Fran, Barry**, 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 Frank Gardner, in whose memory the altar flowers are given, and 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.**

Together, let us say a prayer for times of conflict.

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Together, let us pray for St. Thomas Church.

Almighty God, by your Spirit the whole body of your Church is governed and sanctified, hear our prayer for St Thomas, build in us a renewed vision of your Church; shape our life according to your will; empower us with the gifts to make us one that together we may grow as a church in the spiritual strength of community and reach out to include all people in Christ's love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Confession and Absolution of Sin

Let us confess our sins 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.

Stewardship Ingathering

The Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

- Ephesians 5:2



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*With Your Lives Adore Him***Robert J. Powell**

Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise,
with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise!
By Him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;
Sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.

By Him the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring,
the hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.
He filleth with His goodness all things with large increase;
He crowns the year with goodness, with plenty and with peace.

Bring to His sacred altar the gifts He gave,
the golden sheaves of harvest, the souls He died to save.
Your hearts lay down before Him when at his feet you fall,
and with your lives adore Him, who gave His life for all.

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

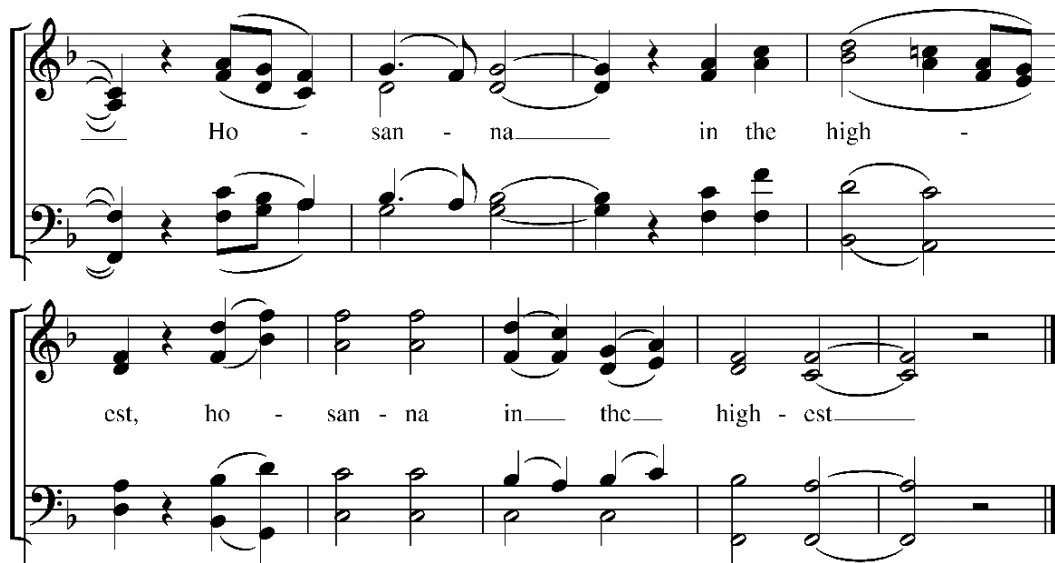
ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

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.



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



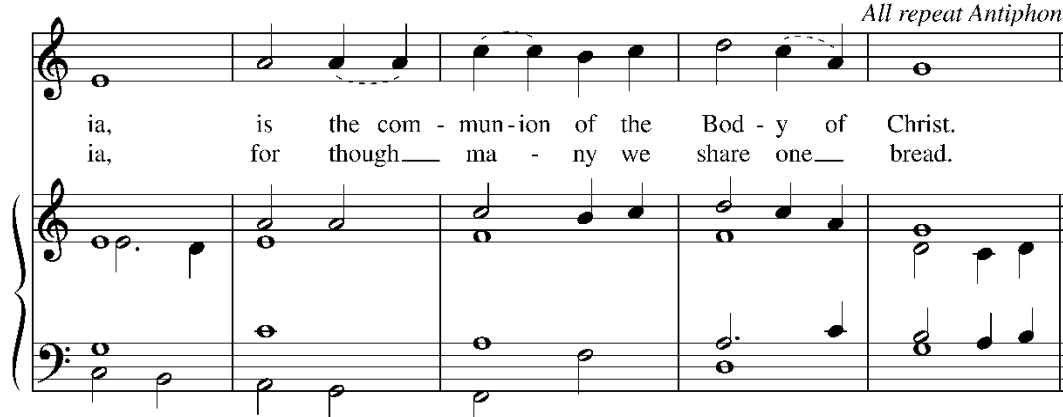
The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing

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:

If you would like to receive by intinction, please go to the left side of the altar. If you would like to sip from the common cup, please go to the right side of the altar rail. Gluten free wafers are available by request.

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

Steal Away

#103 Lift Every Voice and Sing II

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first system covers the first line of the hymn, and the second system covers the second line. The third system contains four verses of the hymn. The fourth system covers the final line of the hymn, ending with a double bar line and the marking 'D.C.' (Da Capo). The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

Steal a - way, steal a - way, steal a - way to Je - sus!

Steal a - way, steal a - way home, I ain't got long to stay here!

1. My Lord calls me, He calls me by the thun - der;
2. Green trees are bend - ing, Poor sin - ner stands a - trem - bling;
3. Tomb stones are burst - ing, Poor sin - ner stands a - trem - bling;
4. My Lord calls me, He calls me by the light - ning,

The trum - pet sounds with - in - a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Edward C. Deas. Arr. Copyright © Sunday School Publishing Board.

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

Thou Whose Almighty Word

#371 Hymnal 1982

1 Thou, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard,
2 Thou who didst come to bring on thy re - deem - ing wing
3 Spi - rit of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly Dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,

and took their flight; hear us, we hum - bly pray, and, where the
heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the
speed forth thy flight! Move on the wa - ters' face bear - ing the
wis - dom, love, might; bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

Gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light!
in - ly blind, now to all hu - man - kind, let there be light!
gifts of grace, and, in earth's dark - est place, let there be light!
full - est pride, through the world, far and wide, let there be light!

Words: John Marriott (1780-1825), alt. Music: *Moscow*, Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916, based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude



**The altar flowers are given by Fran Gardner-Smith and David Smith
in memory of Frank Gardner on the 29th anniversary of his death.**

Worship Participants

Presider	Fr. Will Drosos
Preacher	Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith
Acolytes	Mary Coogan & Will Ferris
Altar Guild	Ed Rhodes
Digital Usher	Jennifer Alexander
Digital Verger	Chuck Grimes
Children's Chapel	Lael Lyons & Rev. Caroline
Flower Guild	Sarah Thompson
Lector / Intercessor	Debby Reed
Eucharistic Ministers	Louise Armitage & Anthony Amato
Healing Minister	Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith
Usher	Lynne Montgomery
Fellowship Hour Hosts	Tanya, Mary, & Bonnie Coogan

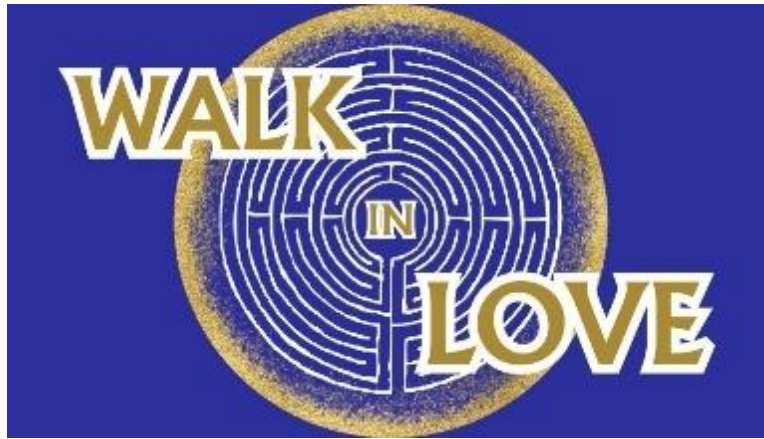
NOVEMBER VESTRY PERSON

Lynne Montgomery

lkrmontgomery@gmail.com

703-298-7181

Questions, comments, concerns, compliments, all welcome.



Thank you to everyone that has already made their pledge to St. Thomas for 2026, and thank you for joining us today as we gather to bless the pledges we have received.

Our campaign goal is 70 pledgers and a pledged target of \$405,000.

As of noon on Friday, November 14th, we are well on our way with 46 pledgers and a pledged total of \$363,192. Thank you!

As you “Walk in Love” throughout your week please consider what these words mean to you, and what St. Thomas means to both you and our community.

If you haven’t already made a pledge, it’s not too late! It’s never too late.

How to Pledge: Pledges can always be made online (either via the website or by the app). Full instructions are on the Stewardship page of the website. Physical pledge cards can be returned in the mail or by dropping in the offertory plate. Even better is to take a photo of your completed card and email that to Rishabh.

At any point, please feel free to contact a member of the Stewardship committee if you have any questions about the pledge campaign.

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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*

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The Skinny at St. Thomas November 16th, 2025



More information about many of these events can be found on the Announcements page on our website. Scan the QR code to see them.

Thanksgiving Bags for Second Story

This has been a challenging time for many of our neighbors. We have a chance to help some of our neighbors in need by providing shopping bags for Second Story. Those bags will go to the families who participate in the "Second Story in the Community" program that serves some of our neighbors who are most at risk. If you are interested in supporting, please pick up a bag in the Narthex and fill it with the items on the flyer. Filled bags must be returned by tomorrow, November 17th. You can also make donations online today and we'll do the shopping.

November ECW Meeting

The next meeting of the ECW will be on Sunday, November 16th at 11:30 am in the ELC and on Zoom. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85195872594?pwd=pp0vmtC1N13C93cYo9k3ZqzaF9qNug.1>

Meeting ID: 851 9587 2594 Passcode: 785714

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Today

Our friends at St. John's Episcopal Church ([6715 Georgetown Pike](#)) will host an interfaith Thanksgiving service today, Sunday, November 16th at 2:30 pm. There will be participation from multiple faith communities in the McLean area. We invite you to attend if you are able!

Ladies Lunch Bunch Tomorrow

St. Thomas Ladies, please join us for lunch.

Time: 11:15 AM

When: 3rd Monday, November 17th

Where: Chiang Mai Thai Cookhouse

6828 Old Dominion Dr. #C, McLean

<https://g.co/kgs/4XkumvA>

To RSVP, text Audrey Adair at 813.956.7550

ECW Treats and Treasures Sale

We are busy preparing for the annual ECW Treats & Treasures Sale on December 7th and 14th. Please bring any donations to the church before December 1st. They can be placed in the ECW Closet which is in Hudson Hall. A sign up sheet to volunteer to help prepare for the sale is posted in Hudson Hall. Please help with this major fundraiser whose proceeds support local charities and projects at St. Thomas.

Board Game Night in November

Saturday, November 22nd at 7:00 PM in Hudson Hall. Bring Friends! Bring Your Favorite Games. **Games for All Ages.** Strategy games. Games that make you laugh. Word Games. (Even games for people who don't like board games.) Please Bring Snacks and Drinks to Share!

Volunteer to Support Fairfax Diapers

Thursday, December 4th at 10am

Join us for the next monthly repackaging meeting at Fairfax diapers. The task is simply repackaging diapers from bulk quantities to household-size bundles to be distributed to needy families. If you are interested, please access the sign up by scanning the QR code below. Questions? Please contact Anne Spear by phone at (703) 915-4300.



Living the Gospel in Empire, Empowered by Christ: Pilgrimage to Italy and Greece

Rev. Fran and Rev. David will lead a pilgrimage to southern Italy and Greece from May 4 – May 15, 2026 based on their sabbatical trip earlier this year.

For details: <https://episcopaljourneys.com/gospel-in-empire-italy-greece-26023/>

Living the Gospel in Empire, Empowered by Christ: Bible Study Continues Next Week

The next class in Rev. David and Rev. Fran's Bible Study will be on **Monday, November 24th at 7:30 pm.** We do plan to record the class for those who cannot make it. Reach out to the office for the Zoom link.

Shakespeare Opera Theatre: Hansel & Gretel

This December, Shakespeare Opera Theatre shares the classic fairy-tale *Hansel & Gretel*. Mischief, hunger, and an amble into the mythical Black Forest lead to an encounter with the Witch and her gingerbread house. All's well that ends well (thanks, Shakespeare), but this story is about the adventures along the way! Built on folk-inspired themes, the music brings playfulness and intensity to the beloved story. Table seating opens 30 minutes before each performance. Themed food and drink is available before and during the show. Shop the ECW Treasures Sale at intermission--Children are welcome and encouraged! Invite everyone in the community to join us for fun and fellowship at St. Thomas!

Tickets: shakespeareoperatheatre.com

Or email boxoffice@shakespeareoperatheatre.com

November SHARE Needs

The federal Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) was not fully funded past October 31. This has created a crisis for many low-income families. Combined with the government shutdown rendering many federal employees and contractors without income, the demands on area food banks have risen exponentially. Please consider bringing food for SHARE, our McLean area food bank. Non-perishable food can be left in the Narthex to be delivered by volunteers in our congregation. The need is severe. Please help.



This Week

Monday November 17th

11:15 am – Ladies Lunch Bunch

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

7 pm – SOT Rehearsal

Tuesday November 18th

12 pm – Holy Eucharist

7 pm – Vestry Meeting

Wednesday November 19th

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

7 pm – SOT Rehearsal

7:30 pm – ECW Book Group

Thursday November 20th

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

7 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Friday November 21st

11 am to 3 pm – McLean Islamic Center Worship

7 pm – SOT Rehearsal

Saturday November 22nd

12 pm – SOT Rehearsal

7 pm – Game Night

Sunday November 23rd

8:45 am – Choir Rehearsal

10 am – Worship

3 pm – SOT Rehearsal

3:30 pm – Confession

5 pm – High Mass