

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B
Service of Morning Prayer
April 21, 2024 10 A.M.

St. Thomas's Church Welcomes Everyone

Wherever you happen to be on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you here, and we invite you to participate as fully as you wish. There is a saying in the Episcopal tradition that answers many a question: "All may, some do, but none must." We gather to feast on Word and sacrament and song, to learn and inquire, to enjoy relaxed fellowship and find mutual support. And we are sent out to be the Body of Christ in the world, to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

To participate in worship today all you need is this bulletin. If you are new or visiting, we invite you to consider filling out a blue information card (located in the pew rack). You can use it to request a nametag, which will be waiting for you on the table inside the main entrance.

All church spaces are accessible. Handicapped parking and a wheelchair ramp are located in back of the building; a lift for access to the second floor is located at the stairway.

Restrooms are located on the second floor. Go through the double doors near the pulpit, upstairs to the second floor, and to the far end of the hallway. A **gender-neutral restroom with baby changing table** is in the Vesting Room, located opposite the double doors near the pulpit.

Three seating areas at the front of the nave are reserved for **families with small children**: the area under the array of paper cranes (for children age 3 and under), and the two areas in front of the front pews (for children age 10 and under). For safety, every child should be accompanied by a caregiver.

Wireless access in the Sanctuary is accessible by connecting to wireless network STEC – Guest. Your device will open a web browser and the St. Thomas's website. Bulletins are posted in the website's Bulletin Archive. To reduce printing, we encourage worshippers to use their smart devices to follow the service.

St. Thomas's Church is located on Eansketambawg (Quinnipiac) land. This acknowledgment compels us to pause: in gratitude for the Quinnipiac and other Algonquin-speaking stewards of the territory that is now Connecticut; in regret for Christianity's participation in the colonization of the Americas; and in faith that God's reconciling power will bring true healing to the Earth and all its inhabitants.

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

HYMN

All people that on earth do dwell (377, The Hymnal 1982)



Words: William Kethe (d. 1608?); para. of Psalm 100. Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseaumes octante trois de David, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).

OPENING SENTENCE

Officiant: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Officiant

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Officiant

Let us confess our sins to God. [Silence is kept.]

Officiant and People

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.

Officiant

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

JUBILATE (sung by the Choir)

Edward John Hopkins

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *

he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;

go into his courts with praise; *

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; * and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

All are seated.

PSALM 23 (sung by the Choir)

Edward Cuthbert Bairstow

1 The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures * and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; * you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, * and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

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.

THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

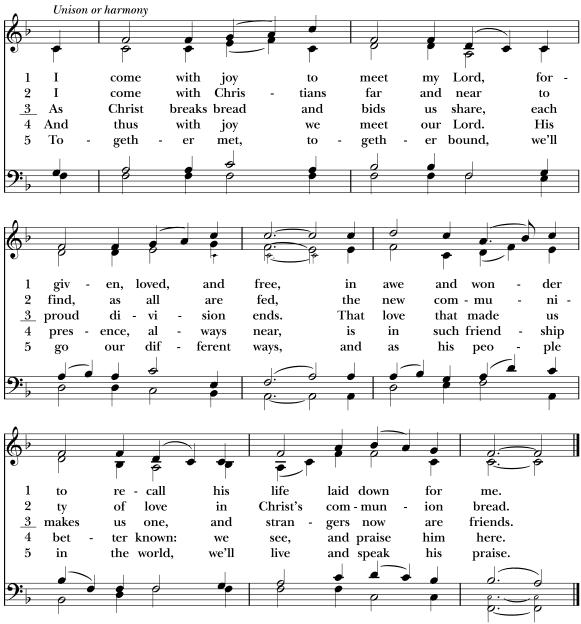
There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

All stand.

HYMN

I come with joy to meet my Lord (304, The Hymnal 1982)



Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

All are seated.

1 JOHN 3:16-24

THE SECOND LESSON

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God

CANTICLE 9 (sung by the Choir)

(**S 213**, *The Hymnal 1982*)

Antiphon:

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

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. [Ant.]

THE THIRD LESSON JOHN 10:11-18

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

All stand.



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); para. of Psalm 23. Music: Resignation, American folk melody, acc. David Hurd (b. 1950).

All are seated.

THE SERMON

After the sermon, all remain seated for a period of silence. Then all stand.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant and People

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Officiant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

You are invited to say the Lord's Prayer in the language of your choice.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Officiant: Show us your mercy, O Lord; **People:** And grant us your salvation.

Officiant: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People: Let your people sing with joy.
Officiant: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People: For only in you can we live in safety.

Officiant: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Officiant: Let your way be known upon earth;

People: Your saving health among all nations.
Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Officiant

(The Collect of the Day) O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(A Collect for the Renewal of Life) O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(A Prayer for Social Justice) Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(A Prayer for Mission) O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Officiant may add prayers of intercession and thanksgiving.

All are seated.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

The King of love my Shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his And he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow My ransomed soul he leadeth, And where the verdant pastures grow With food celestial feedeth.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill With thee, dear Lord, beside me; Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me. Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thy unction grace bestoweth: And O what transport of delight From thy pure chalice floweth.

Perverse and foolish, oft I stray'd But yet in love he sought me, And gently on his should laid, And home, rejoicing, brought me.

And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise Within thy house for ever.

Words: Henry William Baker (1821–1877), paraphrase of Psalm 23 Music: Edward Cuthbert Bairstow (1874–1946), 1931

All stand.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

THE PEACE

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Please greet your neighbors with a sign of peace, in whatever way seems welcome. You may then be seated for brief announcements.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

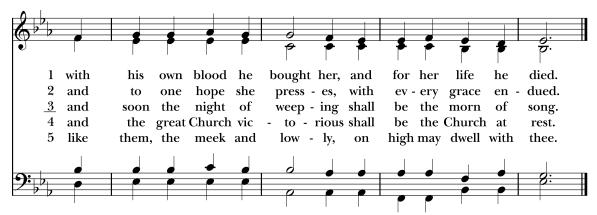
Your financial support is sincerely appreciated. To give online, go to the Church website Home page (www.stthomasnewhaven.org), and click GIVE NOW. If you are viewing this document electronically, simply <u>CLICK HERE</u>. Thank you!

All stand.



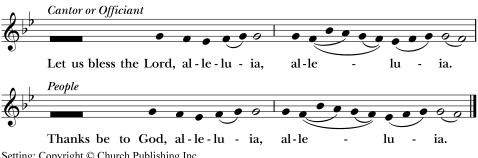
The Church's one foundation (525, The Hymnal 1982)





Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900). Music: Aurelia, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1818-1876).

DISMISSAL AND CONCLUDING SENTENCE



Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Officiant

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20, 21

You may be seated for the voluntary or exit the church.

VOLUNTARY

All Glory Be to God on High Paul Manz (1919-2009)

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Announcements

For all the latest news and information, see last week's edition of the Weekly Parish Enews. From the Parish website Home page (<u>www.stthomasnewhaven.org</u>), click Enews Archive for the latest edition or Enews (subscribe) to subscribe.



Clergy Transition Update

The Vestry is glad to share that the diocese has approved our request to search for a half-time priest-in-charge, and the job posting is now live! The diocese will collect all applications received in the coming weeks before sending them on to the Vestry for consideration.

Upcoming Worship Schedule. During our leadership transition, we will have a combination of lay-led worship and services led by supply clergy. Please join us!

April 21	Morning Prayer led by Denise Terry (w/ sermon)
April 28	Eucharist with Rev. Dr. Carolyn Sharp preaching and presiding
May 5	Eucharist with Rev. Mo Peitler-Lederman preaching and presiding
May 12	Morning Prayer led by Jennifer Herdt (w/ sermon)
May 19	Morning Prayer led by Madeleine Anderson (w/ sermon)
May 26	Eucharist with Rev. Dr. Carolyn Sharp preaching and presiding
June 2	Morning Prayer led by Sheldon Campbell (w/ sermon)
June 9	Eucharist with Rev. Mo Peitler-Lederman preaching and presiding

TODAY, Denise Terry will be preaching and leading the congregation in Morning Prayer. Denise, who is Clerk of St. Thomas's, came to the Episcopal Church from a Roman Catholic tradition (Albertus Magnus College, '68). Denise's work has been in education as a classroom teacher at Sidwell Friends School and as a tutor at the Kingsbury Center. Denise was formally accepted into the Episcopal Church at St. Columba's Church in Washington, DC in 1995, where she volunteered for several years with an "I Have a Dream" class sponsored by the parish. She and her husband Don came to St. Thomas's in November of 2015, moving to this area to be near their daughter Amy Sheehan and her family. Denise spends summers in Falmouth, MA, where she and her husband are on the board of The Carousel of Light. Denise coordinates Sunday School at St. Thomas's and has recently become a lay preacher. The Diocese (ECCT) provides support and training for lay people who are interested in preaching! Don and Denise have four daughters and seven grandchildren.

On **April 28**, the Reverend Dr. Carolyn Sharp is with us as preacher and presider. A biblical scholar and professor of homiletics at Yale Divinity School, Carolyn has written commentaries on Joshua, Jeremiah 26–52, and Micah. Carolyn is interested in how preaching can deepen the formation of Christian community via biblically grounded theology, prophetic witness, feminist perspectives on power, and ecotheology. Carolyn is serving as St. Thomas's Preacher-in-Residence. She stands ready to offer resources to lay preachers in our congregation, and will gladly discuss Gospel proclamation (in and beyond the pulpit) with anyone who wishes at Coffee Hour.

Sunday School Spring 2024

There will be a few different options for youth education at St Thomas's this April and May. Young people of all ages are welcome. Please contact Denise Terry (terry.df@gmail.com) with any questions. Here is the schedule:

April 21 – GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY – there will be crafts and books in the area under the origami cranes. Please feel free to take materials to your pew, to the carpeted area at the front, or remain in the children's area.

April 28 -- Nothing planned for youth education.

May 5 – Children are welcome in the KidZone (room next to the lounge) at 9:45 a.m. We will learn about the Holy Spirit and plan for Pentecost (May 19th). Children will join the service in time for the sermon.

Study Group, Thursdays 7:30-8:30pm

Study Group meets weekly Thursdays 7:30-8:30. Please check the E-news for schedule updates.

Interested in joining St. Thomas's Choir?

The St. Thomas's Choir sings for Sunday morning and special liturgies during the program year, offering anthems, canticles and psalms. The choir includes volunteers and professional section leaders. Its repertoire is drawn from the rich tradition of Anglican choral music, spanning many centuries.

The St. Thomas's Choir rehearses on Sundays at 9 a.m. and from 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m., from September to June. New members are always welcome; an ability to read music and prior choral experience is desirable. Contact Linda Meyer at lindarossmeyer@gmail.com

Donating Clothing for Loaves and Fishes. Our support for the clothing ministry is ongoing. Please be thoughtful in your selection of items. Current specific requests include: men's/women's jeans; men's short-sleeved shirts, sweaters, jackets, shoes, new socks; winter clothing only until March 15. Bring donations to St. Thomas's (leave them in the tub at the Whitney Ave. entrance) or to Loaves and Fishes (Thurs-Sat, 9-11 a.m., in the driveway at 57 Olive St.).

Coffee Hour Hosting Sign-Up Link. You are invited to consider hosting coffee hour at St. Thomas's following Sunday worship. Do you have a treat from your kitchen or favorite neighborhood bakery that you would love to share, but you are not sure that you can manage a whole coffee hour? Contact the coffee hour host to discuss what you can bring and how you can help out. Visit this link to sign up: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4AACAD2CABFE3-coffee. Please contact Julie Kelly with any questions. Thank you for contributing to our time of fellowship!



Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: Denise Terry Music Director: Matthew Cramer

Organist: Noah Klein Lector: Claire Scully

Ushers: Gary Robison, Claire Scully

Vestry Host: Jennifer Herdt

Hosting Coffee Hour: Max & Trudi Ballardo

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Preacher-in-Residence

The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Sharp

Church Vestry

Jennifer Herdt (Senior Warden)
Linda Meyer (Junior Warden)
Bill English (Treasurer)
Denise Terry (Clerk)
Madeleine Anderson
Max Ballardo
Morgen Campbell
Ricardo Chavira
Alexandria Robison
Claire Scully

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL 830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511 (203) 777-7623 ♦ www.stthomasnewhaven.org

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially: the people of Russia and the people of Ukraine; the people of Gaza and the people of Israel; all who are afflicted by war and natural disaster

Pray for those who have died.

In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer, pray for: St. Mark's, Mystic; St. Michael's, Naugatuck; St. Mark's, New Britain; Clergy whose work is not in parishes; multi-vocational priests; clergy of ECCT whose ministry is carried out in other countries or dioceses

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for: The Anglican Church of Australia

In the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, pray for: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia

Matthew Cramer, Music Director
Noah Klein, Organist

◆ music@stthomasnewhaven.org
Julie Kelly, Administrator ◆ j.kelly@stthomasnewhaven.org