

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR A Service of Holy Eucharist May 7, 2023 10 A.M.

Whether you are new or returning, WELCOME!

To participate in worship today all you need is this bulletin.

Face masks are optional. Our expectation is that everyone who can be has been vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19. Please be respectful of those who continue to mask by observing social distancing. Know that there is no mechanical air exchange in the church portions of the building. The Lounge has high efficiency air filters but no mechanical air exchange.

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 **restroom with baby changing table** is in the Vesting Room, located opposite the double doors near the pulpit. All restrooms are all-gender single-use.

ALL are invited to receive Holy Communion. Baptism is not required; church membership is not required.

We are again offering wine during Holy Communion. To receive wine, you must sip from the common cup—you may not intinct (dip the bread into the wine). It may seem counterintuitive, but sipping is safer than intinction, because your hands touch many more surfaces than do your lips. You may choose not to partake of wine—Holy Communion is complete and efficacious when received in one kind only. Additional instructions for Holy Communion are included below at the appropriate points below.

If you are new, please consider filling out a **blue information card** (located in the pew rack). You can use it to request a nametag, and next Sunday it will be waiting on the table inside the main entrance.

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.

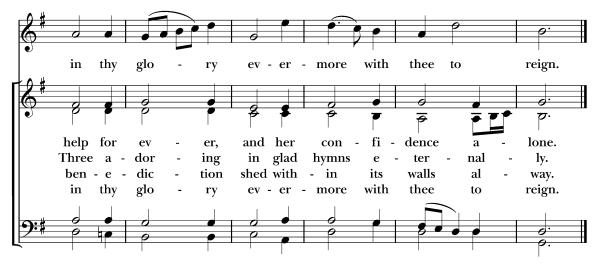
VOLUNTARY

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

HYMN

Christ is made the sure foundation (518, The Hymnal 1982)





Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1856), alt. Music: *Westminster Abbey*, Henry Purcell (1659-1695), adapt; desc. James Gillespie (b. 1929). Descant by permission of Church Society, London.

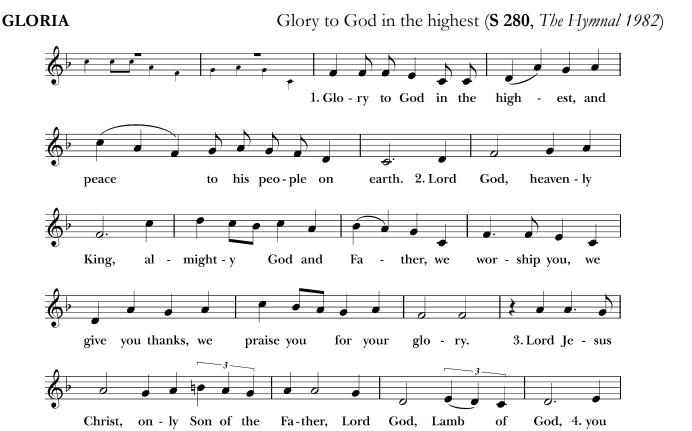
OPENING ACCLAMATION & PRAYER FOR THE ANNIVERSARY OF A CHURCH

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Presider

Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the 175th anniversary of this house of prayer: We give you thanks for the fellowship of those who have worshiped in this place, and we pray that all who seek you here may find you, and be filled with your joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**





SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON ACTS 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

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

PSALM 31:1-5,15-16 (sung by the Choir)

Tone VII.3

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; * deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; * make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; * for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, * for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, * for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth.
- 15 My times are in your hand; * rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, * and in your loving-kindness save me.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 PETER 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner",

and

"A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

All stand.



When Stephen, full of power and grace (243, The Hymnal 1982)



Words: Jan Struther (1901-1953), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: Salvation, melody from Kentucky Harmony, 1816; harm. Songs for Liturgy and More Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1971; alt. harm. Eugene W. Hancock (b. 1929).

THE GOSPEL JOHN 14:1-14

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All are seated.

THE SERMON

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

THE NICENE CREED

Presider and People

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:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 Rev. Keri Aubert]

Presider

Our Savior is resurrected from the dead, bringing renewal to Christians around the globe. With joyful gratitude, we pray for the church and for the world, saying, Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

Intercessor and People

We pray for the church universal: guide the ministers of your Word as they honor the traditions of the past, tend the cares of the present, and build the communities of the future. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for the leaders of the world: plant wisdom and compassion in their hearts, and teach them to sow seeds of righteousness and mercy. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for this wondrous creation: continue to reveal its bountiful complexity and fragile beauty, and inspire us to safeguard these gifts for all posterity. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for your human family: take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for this holy gathering of the faithful: strengthen us to continue in the way of the apostles, proclaim the Good News of God in Christ, seek and serve Christ in all persons, and strive for justice and peace among all people. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for those in any need or trouble: feed the hungry, tend the sick, relieve the weary, bless the dying, and soothe the suffering. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died: give them Christ's triumph over death, and bring them into your perpetual light. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for the concerns that we now lift to you, either aloud or in the stillness of our hearts. [You are invited to offer your prayer intentions.]

Presider

Risen Christ, hear the prayers offered by these your gathered people; instill in our hearts the assurance of your resurrected life, that we may follow your Way in faith, hope, joy, and love; in the name of the one Holy and undivided Trinity. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

Please remain in place while greeting your neighbors with a sign of peace. You may then be seated for brief announcements and the **Offertory Anthem**.

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!

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O taste and see

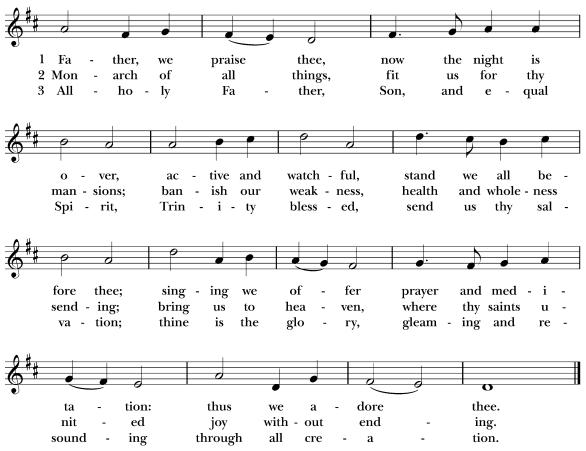
O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:

blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

Words: Psalm 34:8 Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958), 1952

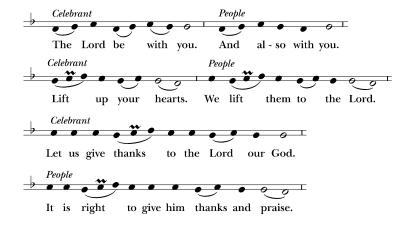
During the singing of the **Offertory Hymn**, the Ushers bring the gifts forward and the Presider sets the table. The People follow the Ushers and encircle the altar for the Eucharistic prayer. You are encouraged to position children where they can see. Standing time is approximately 15 minutes. If this is difficult for you, feel free to sit in a chair near the altar or in the the front row of pews. You may also remain where you are.

OFFERTORY HYMN



Words: Latin, 10th cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936). Music: *Christe sanctorum*, melody from *Antiphoner*, 1681; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

THE HOLY COMMUNION THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B



Presider

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

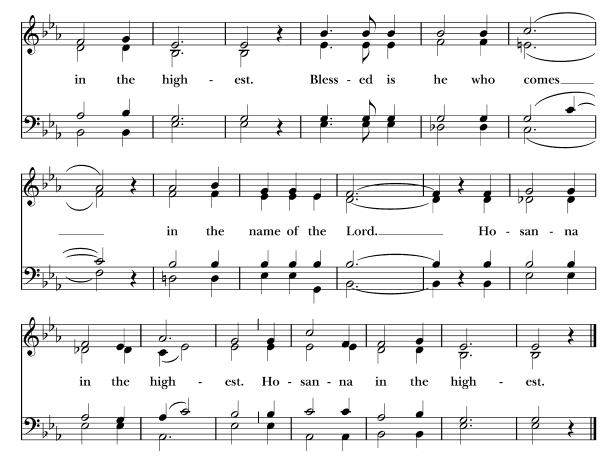
But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord (**S 130**, *The Hymnal 1982*)





Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Presider

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory; Presider

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN**.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM



Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to receive Holy Communion at God's table in this church. Baptism is not required; church membership is not required. For the distribution of Holy Communion, the priest and Eucharistic minister will come to you. To receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms over your chest. To receive wine, you must sip from the common cup—you may not intinct (dip the bread into the wine). After receiving communion or a blessing, please return to your original seat.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a Way, as gives us breath: Such a Truth, as ends all strife: Such a Life, as killeth death. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a Joy, as none can move: Such a Love, as none can part: Such a Heart, as joys in love.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a Light, as shows a feast: Such a Feast, as mends in length: Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Words: George Herbert (1593–1633), The Temple, 1633 Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958), 5 Mystical Songs (1911)

After all have received communion, all stand.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PASCHAL BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**



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

DISMISSAL

Presider: [The Presider dismisses the People.] Alleluia, alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

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

VOLUNTARY

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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 (www.stthomasnewhaven.org), click **Enews Archive** for the latest edition or **Enews (subscribe)** to subscribe.

Updated COVID-19 pandemic response policies are in place. Face masks are no longer required for the congregation or choir but are required in the Vesting Room and Sacristy. **Communion wine** will be offered during communion, but you may receive only by sipping from the common cup; YOU MAY NOT INTINCT.

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; spring and summer clothing. 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.).

Thursday Night Study Group, 7:30 p.m., on Zoom. On Thursday we began an eight-week study of Exodus using the Yale Bible Study curriculum. Watch the video and check out the other materials ahead of time, and then join us for conversation and fellowship. See the Enews for info and links.

The New Haven Oratorio Choir will present Let His Crown Flourish here at St. Thomas's on Saturday, May 13 at 7:30 PM. Tickets are available at the link in the Enews.

2nd Annual Growing Hope Forging Peace: A CALL TO CHANGE AND ACTION — FOR GOD'S PEOPLE WEARY OF GUN VIOLENCE. Overnight Program (for middle and high school youth): May 12-13, 2023. Day Program: May 13, 2023. The keynote speaker is Shane Claiborne. See the Enews for details. Registration required.



Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Music Director: Jill Brunelle Eucharistic Minister: Lector: Jane Nichols

Intercessor:

Sacristan: Madeleine Anderson

Usher: Gary Robison Coffee Hour Hosts:

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Vestry

Jennifer Herdt (Senior Warden)
Linda Meyer (Junior Warden)
Bill English (Treasurer)
Denise Terry (Clerk)
Madeleine Anderson Max Ballardo
Valerie Cicero Claire Scully
The Rev. Keri Aubert (Rector)

Church (Volunteer) Associate Priests

The Rev. Canon K. Dexter Cheney

The Rev. Jakki Flanagan

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for this year's Inquirers Class:

Josh M., Josh P., Justin, Morgen, Nancy, Sheldon (from St. Thomas's); Milton, Veronica (from St. PJ's)

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:

the people of Ukraine

Pray for those who have died.

In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

Intentional Episcopal Communities in Connecticut, including the Episcopal Church at Yale, Seabury Retirement community, Haven community and All Saints Chapel, West Cornwall; Parish prayer groups; intercessory prayer chains; healing prayer groups, and parish and community bible studies

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

The Church in Wales

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

India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

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Gina Panza, Head of School ◆ gpanza@stthomasday.org