



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EASTER DAY, YEAR A

Service of Holy Eucharist

April 9, 2023 10 A.M.

Whether you are new or returning, WELCOME!

Besides being Easter Day, today is the 175th Anniversary of St. Thomas's Church! You are invited to stay after worship for a festive celebratory brunch.

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

Face masks are optional. Our expectation is that everyone who can 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.

INTROIT

The trumpet shall sound

Behold, I tell you a mystery;
we shall not all sleep,
but we shall all be changed in a moment,
in the twinkling of an eye,
at the last trumpet.

The trumpet shall sound,
and the dead shall be raised incorruptible,
and we shall be changed.

Words: 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 Music: George Frideric Handel (1685–1759), *Messiah*, 1742

At the ringing of the bell, please stand. During the singing of the hymn, the People are invited to accentuate the Easter "alleluias" with the ringing of bells.

HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today (207, *The Hymnal 1982*)

Descant

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Latin, 14th cent.; tr. *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt. St. 4, Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Easter Hymn*, from *Lyra Davidica*, 1708; adapt. *The Compleat Psalmodist*, 1749, alt., desc. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, Revised, 1950. Descant by permission of Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

OPENING ACCLAMATION & PRAYER FOR THE ANNIVERSARY OF A CHURCH

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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.**

During the singing of the Gloria, the People ring their bells to signal the joy of the resurrection.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest (S 278, *The Hymnal 1982*)



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -



might - y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -



ceive our prayer. 6. For



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

7. 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.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR EASTER

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
“His mercy endures for ever.”
- 14 The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 “The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!”
- 17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 “This is the gate of the LORD; *
he who is righteous may enter.”
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD’s doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

THE SECOND LESSON

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

HYMN

Alleluia! The strife is o'er (T208, *The Hymnal 1982*)

Antiphon (at the beginning)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Ped.

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -
 2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their
 *3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, he ris - es
 4 He closed the yaw - ning gates of hell, the bars from
 5 Lord! by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

1 ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph
 2 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shout of ho - ly
 3 glo - rious from the dead: all glo - ry to our
 4 heaven's high por - tals fell; let hymns of praise his
 5 sting thy serv - ants free, that we may live and

1 has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 tri - umphs tell! Al - le - lu - ia!
 5 sing to thee. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Words: Latin, 1695; tr. Francis Pott (1832-1909), alt. Music: *Victory*, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594); adapt. and arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 20:1-18

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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 [CLICK HERE](#). Thank you!

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
your sweetest notes employ,
the Paschal victory to hymn
in strains of holy joy.

For Judah's Lion bursts his chains,
crushing the serpent's head;
and cries aloud through death's domains
to wake the imprisoned dead.

Devouring depths of hell their prey
at his command restore;
His ransomed hosts pursue their way
where Jesus goes before.

Triumphant in his glory now
to him all power is given;
to him in one communion bow
all saints in earth and heaven.

While we, his soldiers, praise our King,
His mercy we implore,
within his palace bright to bring
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
while endless ages run.

Alleluia! Amen.

Words: Fulbert of Chartres (c. 952–1028) Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924), Op. 123, 1910

*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

At the Lamb's high feast we sing (174, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our vic - to - rious King,
 2 Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword;
 3 Might - y vic - tim from on high, hell's fierce powers be - neath thee lie;
 4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, these a - lone do sin de - stroy.

who hath washed us in the tide flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;
 Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
 thou hast con - quered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light:
 From sin's power do thou set free souls new - born, O Lord, in thee.

praise we him, whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred Blood for wine,
 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread;
 now no more can death ap - pall, now no more the grave en - thrall;
 Hymns of glo - ry, songs of praise, Fa - ther, un - to thee we raise:

gives his Bo - dy for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.
 with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na from a - bove.
 thou hast o - pened par - a - dise, and in thee thy saints shall rise.
 ris - en Lord, all praise to thee with the Spi - rit ev - er be.

Words: Latin, 1632; tr. Robert Campbell (1814-1868), alt. Music: *Salzburg*, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

God of power and might, _____ hea-ven and earth are

full, _____ full of your glo - ry. Ho -

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

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes _____

_____ in the name of the Lord. _____ Ho - san - na

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

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

Presider

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Presider and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Presider

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs and matriarchs, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. **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

Jesus, Lamb of God (S 164, *The Hymnal 1982*)

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

The first line of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major. The treble staff has a melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second line of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first line. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:
 give us your peace, give us your peace.

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

I know that my Redeemer liveth

I know that my Redeemer liveth
 and that He shall stand
 at the latter day upon the earth.

And though worms destroy this body,
 yet in my flesh shall I see God.
 For now is Christ risen from the dead,
 the first fruits of them that sleep.

Words: Job 19:25-26; 1 Corinthians 15:20 Music: George Frideric Handel (1685–1759), *Messiah*, 1742

After all have received communion, all stand for the hymn.

COMMUNION HYMN

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing (182, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
 2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
 4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,
 5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
 3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
 4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
 5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
 2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.
 3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.
 4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
 5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), rev. Copyright © 1975 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmodia Evangelica, Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

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

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN

He is risen, he is risen! (180, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! Tell it out with
 2 Come, ye sad and fear - ful - heart - ed, with glad smile and
 *3 Come, with high and ho - ly hymn - ing, hail our Lord's tri -
 4 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! He hath o - pened

joy - ful voice: he has burst his three days' pris - on;
 ra - dian - t brow! Death's long sha - dows have de - part - ed;
 um - phant day; not one dark - some cloud is dim - ming
 hea - ven's gate: we are free from sin's dark pris - on,

let the whole wide earth re - joice: death is con - quered,
 Je - sus' woes are o - ver now, and the pas - sion
 yon - der glo - rious morn - ing ray, break - ing o'er the
 ris - en to a ho - lier state; and a bright - er

we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.
 that he bore— sin and pain can vex no more.
 pur - ple east, sym - bol of our Eas - ter feast.
 Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), alt. Music: *Unser Herrscher*, Joachim Neander (1650-1680).

DISMISSAL

Presider: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!***You may be seated for the voluntary or exit the church. Happy Easter!*

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*May abundant blessings
be upon you and yours
this Eastertide!*



Easter Offerings

*Jakki Flanagan & Keri Aubert, in memory of
Mary Ann & Pat Flanagan, Ginny & AJ Aubert, and Dorothy Asch*

Jennifer Herdt

*James Mansfield, in memory of Robert & Sharon Mansfield,
Kenneth & Caroline Mansfield, Roy Graham & Sally Lawson, and Leo Brunelle*

Chris Martinez

Gary Robison

Denise Terry, in memory of Sally Edwards

This Easter season, we give thanks for the St. Thomas's Choir ...

<i>Soprano</i>	<i>Alto</i>	<i>Tenor</i>	<i>Bass</i>
<i>Morgen Campbell</i>	<i>Faith Fowler Brill</i>	<i>Sheldon Campbell</i>	<i>Robert Herdt</i>
<i>Jennifer A. Herdt</i>	<i>Nancy Campbell</i>	<i>Donald Edwards</i>	<i>Samuel Kidd</i>
<i>Maggie Lieberman</i>	<i>Linda Meyer</i>	<i>Sullivan Hart</i>	
<i>Sherezade Panthaki</i>	<i>Heather Robison</i>	<i>Noah Horn</i>	
<i>Alexandria Robison</i>	<i>Sandra Sharis</i>	<i>Jane Nichols</i>	
		<i>Gene Stenger</i>	

A Brief History of St. Thomas's Church

Founding

St. Thomas's was founded in 1848, by a group of lay people who felt the need for a third Episcopal church in New Haven (the first two being Trinity and St. Paul's). They worked efficiently: after a first meeting on February 24, they established bylaws, secured a worship location, and called a priest. Their new rector presided over the Church's first worship service on Easter Sunday, April 23.

Location

The congregation initially rented space for worship in the Orange Street Lecture Room (near Crown Street). In 1849 the Church purchased a lot, located on Elm Street between Church Street and Orange Street, and constructed a "temporary chapel." On the same site, the Church built a permanent building, of Portland (Connecticut) brownstone, that was consecrated in 1855.

Over time that area became more commercial and families moved north, and by 1923, the Church began to consider relocation. The goal became to move as far north on Whitney Avenue as possible within the New Haven city limits, and the church secured the current property. Funds were limited, so the Church, lacking a parish hall, built that first, with completion in 1931. After funding was provided through a large bequest, the church itself was constructed and consecrated in 1939. Both are in the English gothic style, with masonry walls of Glastonbury (Connecticut) granite and a slate roof. Relocated from the old church were the pulpit dating to 1894 and the original 1855 lectern and font. The architects were Allen & Collens, who also designed Riverside Church and The Cloisters, two iconic houses of worship in New York City.

As to the old Elm Street church, in 1948 a bank in the art deco style was literally constructed around it. The most recent owner, Webster Bank, sold the building to a hotel developer. Demolition begun in late 2019 briefly exposed the old church before tearing it down. The site remains empty, as the hotel has not yet been constructed.

Ordained Leadership

In 175 years, St. Thomas's has had only six rectors: the Rev. Eben Edwards Beardsley, DD (1848–1891), the Rev. William A. Beardsley, DD (1892–1934), the Rev. Robert S. Flockhart, DD (1934–1949), the Rev. William R. Robbins, S.T.D. (1949–1984), the Rev. Michael F. Ray (1985–2015), and the Rev. Keri T. Aubert (2015–present). The parish has had many curates and assistant priests, as well as innumerable seminarian interns.

Eben Edwards Beardsley, the Church's first rector, was also its longest-serving: he served for over 43 years, until his death at age 83. Rather fittingly, he died on December 21, the Feast of St. Thomas. Beardsley was a noted leader in the Diocese of Connecticut and the national Episcopal Church. He attended eight consecutive General conventions and was twice elected President of the House of Deputies. An important early historian of the Episcopal Church, his books included a history of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut and biographies of Samuel Seabury (the first American bishop) and William Samuel Johnson (the first president of Columbia University). Many of his sermons were published individually, and a collection of his sermons was published shortly after his death. Beardsley's wife, Jane Margaret Matthews, died in 1851, at the tragically young age of 27. Their daughter, Elisabeth, was only 6 years old. Eben never remarried. Jane was a published poet; shortly before his own death, Eben published a collection of her work, *The Unforgotten and Other Poems*. Original oil portraits of Eben and Jane hang in the church Lounge.

Beardsley's successor was his nephew, William A. Beardsley. At the time of the elder Beardsley's death, the younger Beardsley was serving as his curate; when called as rector, he had been ordained priest less than a year. This Beardsley would set in motion the church relocation. After retiring from parish ministry, he wrote *History of St. Thomas's Church, New Haven, Connecticut, 1848-1941* (a scanned copy of which is available online), and *The Life of the Reverend Eben Edwards Beardsley*.

Robert S. Flockhart would see the church into its new home and help guide St. Thomas's community through the Second World War.

William R. Robbins is most noted for having established St. Thomas's Day School in 1956. It began as a small nursery school with a few children and two volunteer staffers. Under the leadership of Robbins and Dr. Dorothy Asch, it became by 1970 an elementary school serving children through grade six. Now in its 67th year, St. Thomas's Day School continues to excel as a center of both academic excellence and child-centered learning.

During his tenure, Michael R. Ray embraced the liturgical renewal of the time with measures including introduction of the freestanding altar. He would also lead St. Thomas's in becoming a leader in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut in affirming ministry to and full inclusion of people who are LGBTQ+. Since 1986 St. Thomas's has been the rehearsal home of the Connecticut Gay Men's Chorus. In 2000 the vestry adopted a statement making our message of LGBTQ+ inclusion more explicit. And in 2004 the Vestry adopted a resolution calling for St. Thomas's clergy to treat all couples equally in administering the sacrament of marriage. The result was a moratorium on weddings at St. Thomas's that lasted for two years.

Music

It would seem that music has always been an important part of life at St. Thomas's. The original organizers of the church, before securing a place to worship or calling a priest, procured an organ. They authorized procurement of the organ with this resolution:

Whereas, in the conduction of Public Religious Worship Music has ever been considered an important and beneficial part of the same, and believing that such care should be taken to render this act of devotion serious, and impressive to our outward ear as well as acceptable to our Heavenly Father, therefore for the encouragement and promotion of Sacred Music and for the better assistance in the execution of the same:

Resolved; That the Wardens and Vestry of St. Thomas' Church be authorized to procure an Organ, upon such terms as they may deem best for the interests and welfare of said Church."

The organ was originally located in the gallery of the Elm Street church; relocation to the chancel was completed in 1908. The first documentation of a choir occurs in a Vestry resolution of 1849. The first vested choir, a choir of men and boys, was introduced in 1889, installed in choir stalls that had been added to the chancel. In 1893 Charles Ives, then a student at Hopkins Grammar School, served as organist at St. Thomas's. He would go on to be an important and groundbreaking composer.

The current organ is original to the current building. It is in the American Romantic style, incorporating pipework from earlier instruments by Steere & Turner, Hall, and Aeolian-Skinner. There are 61 ranks spread across three manuals and pedals. The instrument was last rebuilt with tonal additions and updated components in 1991.

For decades the St. Thomas's Choir has enjoyed a choral excellence. In recent years it has sung services at Westminster Abbey, the Chapel Royal, Windsor Castle, Gloucester Cathedral, Wells Cathedral, Saint Thomas Church on Fifth Avenue in New York City, and Washington National Cathedral. The choir includes volunteers and professional section leaders. Its repertoire is drawn from the rich tradition of Anglican choral music, spanning many centuries. The Schola Antiqua is a professional chamber ensemble made up of members drawn from the St. Thomas's Choir.



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.**

Today is the 175th Anniversary of St. Thomas's Church! St. Thomas's 175th Anniversary celebration continues with Easter Brunch following worship. Please stay for feasting and fellowship (and leave well-fueled for the work of preparing your own private celebrations later in the day). Play the St. Thomas's History Trivia Quiz—lucky winners will take home a special Easter prize! **Thanks to all who provided food for the celebration!**

Easter Gifts. We hope you will consider making a special gift to St. Thomas's Church this Easter. Giving envelopes are at the doors, or you can donate online from the St. Thomas's website. Thank you!

Loaves and Fishes. A hearty note of gratitude to all who donated funds or clothes to Loaves and Fishes!

Thursday Night Study Group, 7:30 p.m. This week: the last week of Brene Brown and Richard Rohr. Stay tuned for what's next.

ECCT 10th Annual Spring Training & Gathering: Zoom Workshops April 17-27; In-Person Event: April 29, 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., Capitol Community College, Hartford. See the Enews for information and registration.

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Assisting Priest: The Rev. Jakki Flanagan

Music Director: Dr. Noah Horn

Eucharistic Minister: Ben Schafer

Crucifer: Lucy Sheehan

Lector: William English

Intercessor: Jennifer Herdt

Sacristan: Madeleine Anderson

Usher: Gary Robison

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:

St. Peter's, Milford; Trinity, Milton; St. Peter's Grace, Monroe; Hospital chaplains; Stephen Ministers; pastoral care groups; ministries of healing; nurses; wellness programs; recovery ministries

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan
Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

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

Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

830 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511

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Day School: (203) 776-2123 ♦ www.stthomasday.org

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