

**JULY 26TH, 2020 AT 9AM
LIVE ON YOUTUBE**

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCHES OF
SAINTS NICHOLAS & THOMAS**

God loves you. No exceptions.



The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.

Greetings! We're delighted you are here, and want for you to be comfortable so you can worship God and enjoy your visit today. We suspect you may have some questions. Everybody you see here was a newcomer at one time, and we've *all* had questions- probably some of the same you have today.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Thomas's is alive and well. We are worshiping via live streaming on YouTube. The full-text bulletins for our services can be found on our website, and by email request. We also continue to respond to the needs of the Newark Community through our collaboration with the Newark Empowerment Center and others. Those who would like to support our work may do so by going to our "Giving to St Thomas's" page.

Our prayers are with all those who are ill, all who are caring for them, and all who are striving to hear the voice of God in these challenging times.

Our weekly services, LIVE on YouTube:

Sunday 9am- Rite II (sung Eucharist)

Wednesday 12pm- Intercessory Prayer with Holy Eucharist

Thursday 7pm- evening Compline Prayer

The Christian life is a source of endless fascination. Just when we think we have seen and heard everything it has to offer, something new turns up. Committing to a life of learning and growing in the faith is an excellent way to make sure there is always enough fuel in the spiritual tank.

Ask, Seek, Knock from Matthew 7:7-8

⁷ "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

There are many opportunities for Christian growth within our parish. During this time of social distancing, many of our meetings are happening online. Our groups include:

- Children's Ministries, age 18mo-6th grade
- Youth CREW, 7th-12th grades
- Youth Confirmation, grades 7 and 8
- ECM, college age students
- The Parlor Class, adult ed
- Novel Theology, all ages
- Lectionary Bible Study, all ages

In addition to these groups, we also welcome the occasional guest speaker or activity during coffee hour, as well as special 6-week lecture series. For more information about any of our educational offerings, please visit our website: www.stthomasparish.org.

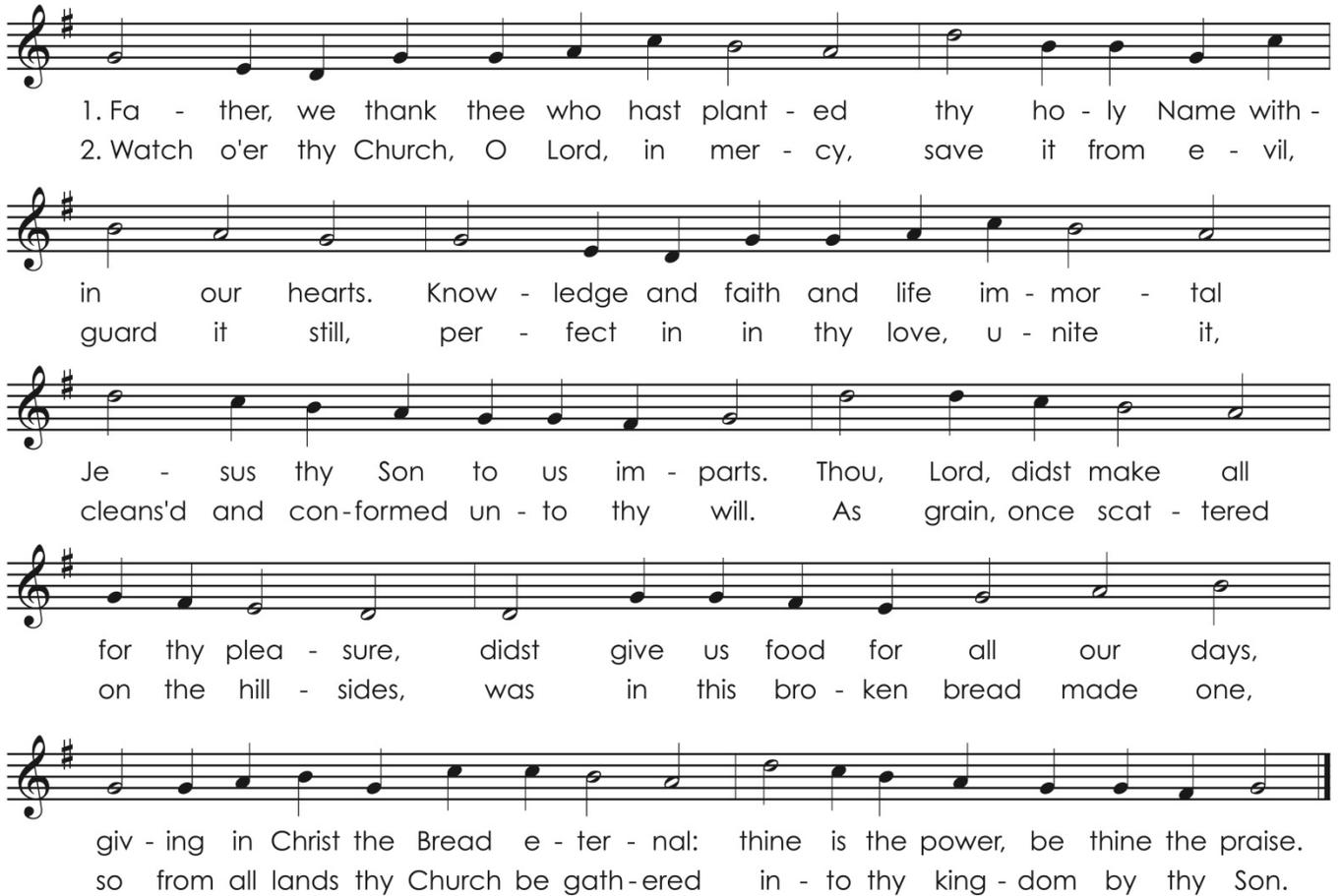
In the Episcopal Church, everybody doesn't always do things the same way. But, **when you're worshipping God, you can't get it wrong!** If you need help, ask your question in the Live Chat, or contact Fr Howie directly. We are friendly, helpful people here at St Thomas. Please bear in mind, regardless of what anybody else is doing, do what makes you comfortable.

Thank you for joining us today, and we hope to see you again soon!

Procession

Father, We Thank Thee Who Hast Planted

Hymnal 302



1. Fa - ther, we thank thee who hast plant - ed thy ho - ly Name with -
2. Watch o'er thy Church, O Lord, in mer - cy, save it from e - vil,
in our hearts. Know - ledge and faith and life im - mor - tal
guard it still, per - fect in thy love, u - nite it,
Je - sus thy Son to us im - parts. Thou, Lord, didst make all
cleans'd and con - formed un - to thy will. As grain, once scat - tered
for thy plea - sure, didst give us food for all our days,
on the hill - sides, was in this bro - ken bread made one,
giv - ing in Christ the Bread e - ter - nal: thine is the power, be thine the praise.
so from all lands thy Church be gath - ered in - to thy king - dom by thy Son.

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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.

The Gloria

Gloria in Excelsis

John Rutter

(intro)

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.
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:
have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the
right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. For
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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Most mighty and merciful God, in this time of great sickness, we flee to you for comfort. Deliver us, we pray, from our peril; give strength and skill to all who minister to the sick; prosper our efforts to protect and heal; and grant that, being aware of the frailty and uncertainty of our life, we may apply our hearts to that heavenly wisdom that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

First Lesson

1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 119:19-26



- 129 Your >> **de-crees** are wonderful;*
therefore I obey them >> **with all** my heart.
- 130 When your word goes >> **forth it** gives light; *
it gives understand->> **ing to** the simple.
- 131 I open >> **my mouth** and pant; *
I long >> **for your** com-mandments.
- 132 Turn >> **to me** in mercy, *
as you always do to those >> **who love** your Name.
- 133 Steady my foot->> **steps in** your word; *
let no iniquity have << **dom-in-ion** over me.
- 134 Rescue me from >> **those who** op-press me, *
and I will >> **keep your** com-mandments.
- 135 Let your countenance shine >> **up-on** your servant *
and >> **teach me** your statutes.
- 136 My eyes >> **shed streams** of tears, *
because people do >> **not keep** your law.

Epistle Lesson

Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the

love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

How Can I Keep from Singing – Robert Lowry, arr. Yorgason

Helen Spence, *Soprano*

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation:
I catch the sweet, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since God is Lord of heav'n and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul;
How can I keep from singing? Refrain.

What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord, my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness round me close:
Songs in the night he giveth. Refrain.

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing.
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? Refrain.

All stand

The Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

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.

Prayers of the People

Leader: With faith in God, let us pray.

We pray for the peace and unity of the Church of God, that all who know Christ may praise his name and serve the world by his grace. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For the leaders of all the Churches, and especially the leaders of our own Church: Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Kevin, our Bishop, that the shepherds of Christ's flock may lead us with wisdom and gentleness. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For the leaders of the nations, all who serve in positions of public trust, and all who serve in the armed services, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they might use the powers entrusted to them to build and not destroy, gather and not scatter. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For the lonely, the lost, and the hopeless in our community, that they may find comfort and that we may see in them the image of Christ. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For those in our community and throughout our region who struggle with addiction, that our concern for them may grow into Spirit-filled action. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For the sick, those who travel, those in any trouble, and all for whom our prayers are asked, especially those listed in this morning's service leaflet and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they may draw strength from our prayers and actions. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For our partners in mission, especially St David's Church, Wilmington, and for the team responsible for preparing the Lambeth Conference, which was due to be taking place now- please pray for them as they consider the implications of its postponement in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, **let your will be done.**

For all who have died, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they may have peace, and that we may worship with them in the communion of saints. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts and minds of your faithful servants
and kindle in us the fire of divine love.

Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

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

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

At this point in the service the offerings of the faithful would normally be taken up. In this strange time, the church is aware that some of its members are struggling to make ends meet. If you are in this situation, please let the clergy know of your needs, pray for the church, and feel no guilt about your giving. But if you are able to give, options for giving include mailing a check to your church or online giving is available at stthomasparish.org.

Offertory Anthem

Presentation of the Offerings

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*Proper Preface*] 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:

S-125

The musical score is written on four staves in a single system. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n_ and earth_ are full_ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blest is the One who comes_ in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Richard Proulx

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues 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,

Celebrant and People

Acclamation B

S-138

We re - mem - ber his death, we pro - claim his re - sur -
 rec - tion, we a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

McNeil Robinson

The Celebrant continues 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 the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, Blessed Nicholas and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; 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 for ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior
 Christ has taught us,
 we are bold to say,

All 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 Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, Grant us peace.

Marc F. Cheban

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God,
Behold Him who takes away the sins of the world;
Happy are they who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

*O Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof,
but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.*

The Communion

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All 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.

Announcements

Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. Amen.

At the Procession

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The picture this morning is of a carved pew end in Chalmers Memorial Church in Port Seton, Scotland, which was built in the 1830s.

LEADERSHIP OF ST THOMAS'S

StThomasParish.org 302.368.4644

The Vestry

Rector's Warden: Joy Lynam
Treasurer: Amy Keach

People's Warden: Mark Burchess
Clerk of the Vestry: DJ Ferguson

Class of 2021
Denise Burgher
Larry Duggan
DJ Ferguson
Joy Lynam

Class of 2022
Mark Burchess
LaRue Manning
Jamie Sloan
Kelly Tompkins

Class of 2023
Barbara Graham
Jill Englund Jensen
Madeline Johnson
Kristin Sausville

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LEADERSHIP OF ST NICHOLAS'S

StNicholasDe.org 302.368.4655

The Vestry

Senior Warden: Mark Hughes
Treasurer: Betty Dehel

Junior Warden: Stacey Lopes
Registrar: Sue Greenplate

Wayne Buchanan
Susan DeGaff
Alice Edgell
Lynn Grier
Steve Hankins

RECTOR, The Very Reverend William B. Lane
MINISTRY OF MUSIC, David Zipse
OFFICE MANAGER, Margaret Prothero

