

Please note, this service is being live-streamed on YouTube. Anyone in the room may be "on camera"

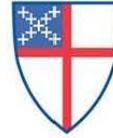
**SEPTEMBER 20TH
2020 AT 9AM**



**16TH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

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 both in -person with appropriate precautions, and 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:

Sunday 9am- Rite II (sung Eucharist)

Wednesday 12:00pm- Intercessory Prayer with Holy Eucharist

Thursday 7pm- evening Compline Prayer live via Zoom

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.

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!

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

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Glo - ry to God in the high - est, — and peace to his peo - ple on
 earth. — Lord God, heav'n - ly King, al - might - y 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.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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

Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:1-8

Exaltabo te, Deus

1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.

2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.

4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.

5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.

6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.

7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

Epistle Lesson

Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

instrumental

All stand

The Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

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 said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Fr Howie

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 and confidence, let us pray to the Lord.

We offer a prayer of thanks for people everywhere who labor for the spread of the Gospel. May we be joined with them heart to heart, and hand to hand. We ask for the grace to remember that every act of kindness, however simple, builds the Kingdom of God. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of gratitude for the bishops and others who lead Christian communities around the world, especially Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Kevin, our Bishop. May they be faithful pastors and wise guides. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of support for the leaders of the nations, especially our President, our Governor, our Mayor, and all those running for office this year. May they have zeal for justice and abundant mercy. We ask for the grace to recall that we also share in the stewardship of creation. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of hope for the needs of our nearest neighbors. May we have the eyes to see their needs and the hands to help meet them. We ask for the grace to follow in our Lord's footsteps, working to bring hope and new life to the world. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of fellowship with all human labor. We ask for the grace to be able to see in all work a reflection of the hand that created all things. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of safety for all who serve in the armed forces, all who go in harm's way to protect others, and all who carry the scars of their service. We remember especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of concern for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those listed in this morning's service leaflet and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. May they have comfort and hope, and may we be instruments of God's peace in their lives. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of fellowship with all our partners in mission, especially the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and for the Church of the Nativity. May we stand shoulder to shoulder with them in sharing God's redeeming love. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of thanks for all the blessings we have received. May they strengthen us to live with joy and gratitude. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of peace for all who have died, especially those who have gone before us in this church and all those we remember now, aloud or in our hearts. May they rest from all their labors, and may we join with them in the Communion of the Saints. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father,
guide our hands,
gladden our hearts,
and accept these prayers for Jesus' sake.
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

Let All Mortal Flesh

Hymnal 324



1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
2. King of kings, yet born of ___ Ma - ry, as of old on
3. Rank on rank the host of ___ hea - ven spreads it van - guard
4. At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth he ___ stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
on the ___ way, as the Light of Light de - scend - eth
sleep - less ___ eye, veil their fa - ces to the ___ Pres - ence,



for with bless - ing in his ___ hand Christ our God to
in the Bo - dy and the ___ Blood he will give to
from the realms of end - less ___ day, that the powers of
as with cease - less voice they ___ cry, "Al - le - lu - ia,



earth de - scend - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.
all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly ___ food.
hell may va - nish as the dark - ness clears a - way.
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Presentation of the Offerings

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

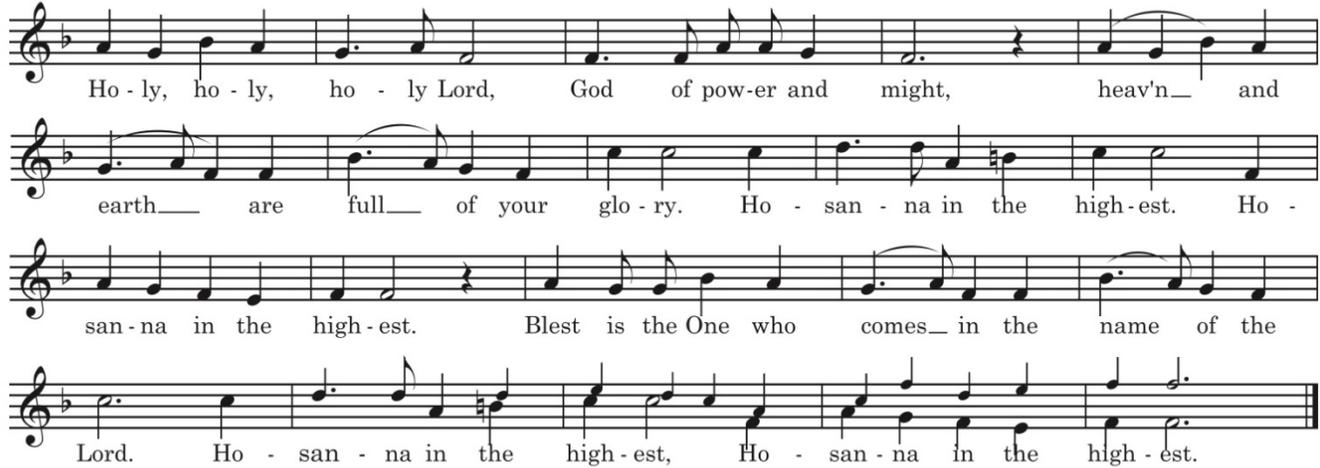
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

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:

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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

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

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

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

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

How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place

Hymnal 517

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each corresponding to a staff of music. The lyrics are: 1. How love - ly is thy dwell - ing - place, O Lord of hosts, to 2. Be - side thine al - tars, gra - cious Lord, the swal - lows find a 3. They who go through the des - ert vale will find it fill'd with 4. One day with - in thy courts ex - cels a thou - sand spent a - me! My thirst - y soul de - sires and longs with - nest; how hap - py they who dwell with thee and springs, and they shall climb from height to height till way; how hap - py they who keep thy laws nor in thy courts to be; my ve - ry heart and praise thee with - out rest, and hap - py they whose Zi - on's tem - ple rings with praise to thee, in from thy pre - cepts stray, for thou shalt sure - ly flesh cry out, O liv - ing Logd, for thee. hearts are set up - on the pil - grim's quest. glo - ry thron'd, Lord God, great King of kings. bless all those who live the words they pray.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

*The cover picture this morning is of
a sketch made for the painting entitled
"The Payment of the Workers in the Lord's Vineyard"
by Pier Francesco di Jacopo Foschi (1502-1567).*



LEADERSHIP OF ST THOMAS'S

StThomasParish.org 302.368.4644

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Treasurer: Amy Keach

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

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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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