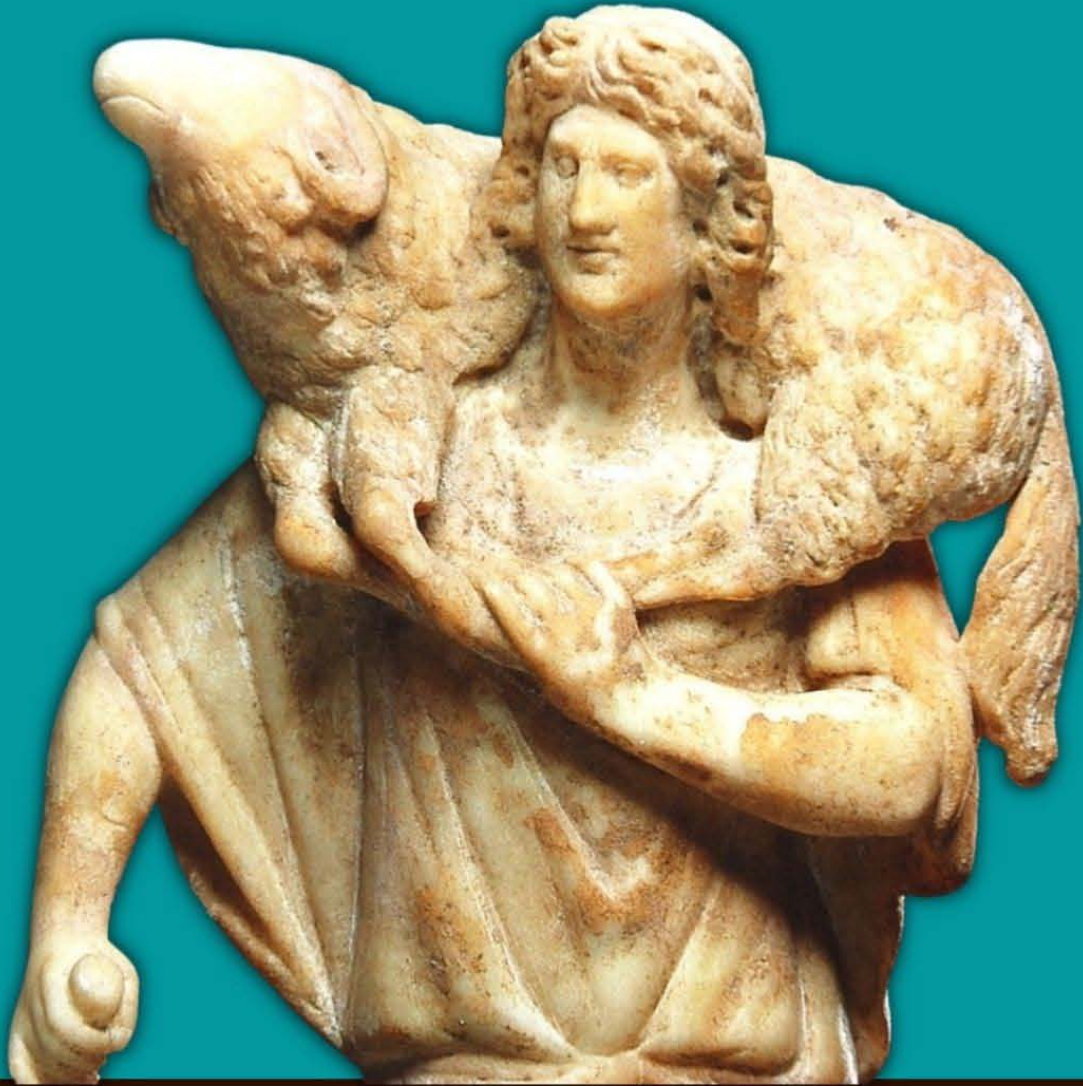


Please note, this service is being live-streamed on YouTube. Anyone in the room may be "on camera".

APRIL 25TH
AT 9AM
LIVE ON YOUTUBE



4TH SUNDAY OF
EASTER

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 worshiping 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!

PSB: Praying Shapes Believing

Whether it is your first time, or your thousandth, reading, reciting, and praying the traditional Rite II worship, it is worthwhile to ask why. In this section of the leaflet, we will examine some of our prayers and collects to help us find more meaning and connection in the ritual.

The Song of Praise

The *Gloria in Excelsis* usually, except in Lent and Advent, when the *Kyrie Eleison* or the *Trisagion* is used. Other songs or hymns might be used.

What is it?

This hymn probably started in Latin/Western churches (our ancestors) as a way of helping the people to join in the beginning of worship. Before many popular hymns existed, the chants used in the prayer services of the church – the *Gloria* was one such – were the religious songs they knew best.

Why do we do it?

By including a sung prayer of praise to God near the beginning of our worship, we call to mind God's blessings to us, including the blessing of being a community that can worship together.

What it says about God

God is worthy to be praised by us, as much as by angels.
Jesus is both our judge and our advocate at the throne of God.
God is unique in holiness, different from all the rest of the created order.

Messages for how we live

Gratitude to God is the foundation of the Christian life.
Praise is as important a component of our prayer life as is petition.
Thankfulness is the key to generosity.

For more – Have a look at Luke 2:13-15

Prelude

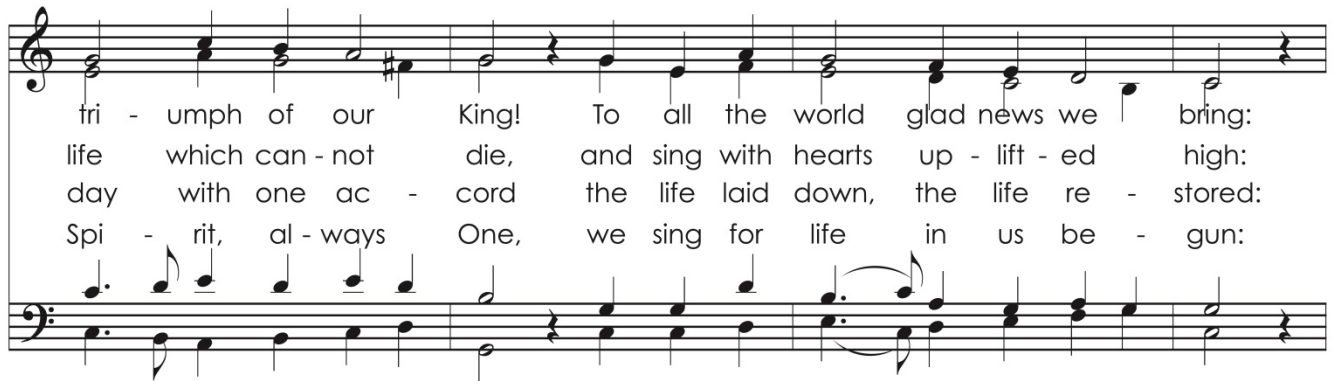
Procession

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!

Hymnal 205



1. Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the
3. Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
4. Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -
5. To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the



tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:
Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:



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

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

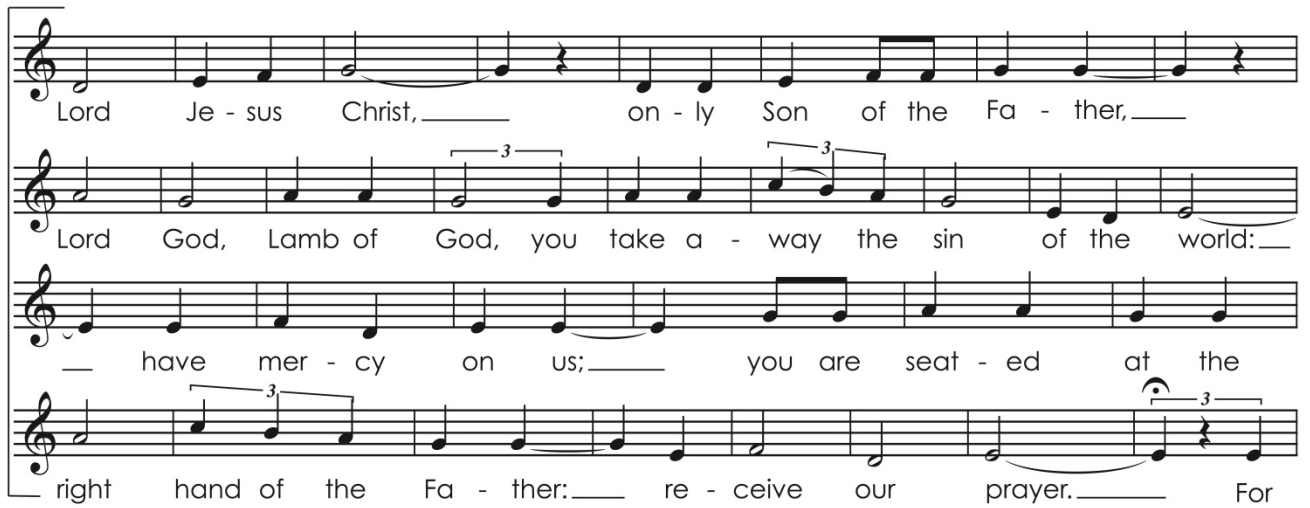
Gloria in Excelsis

John Rutter

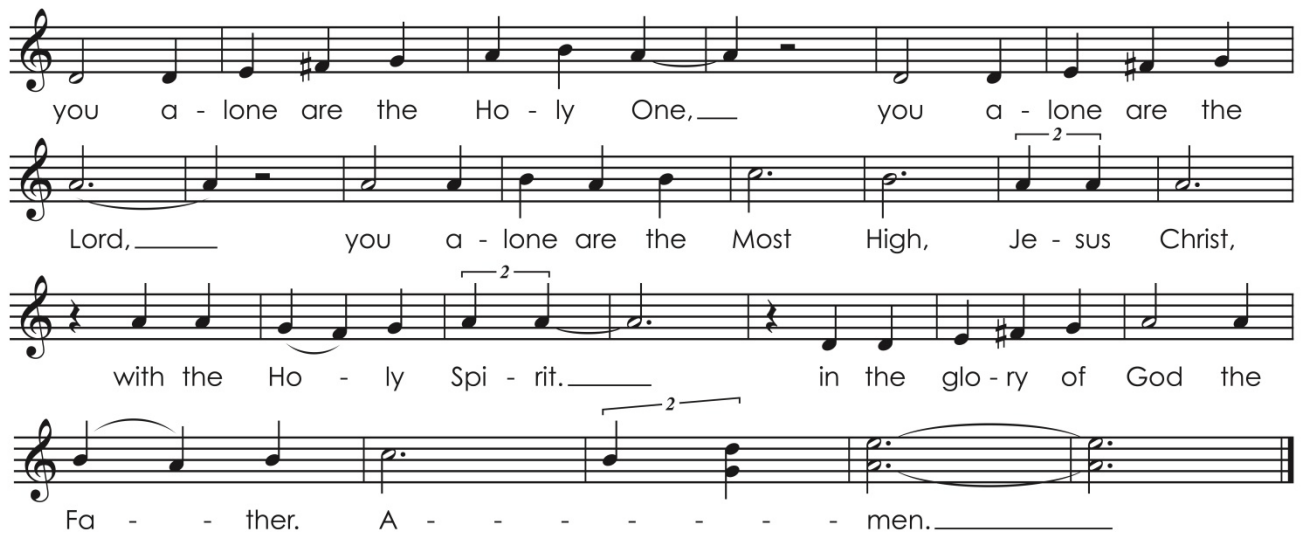
(intro)



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

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

Acts 4:5-12

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

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

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

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

Dominus regit me

1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

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

- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
*
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Epistle Lesson

1 John 3:16-24

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

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

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

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Praise and Glory- G.P. Telemann

Helen Spence, *Soprano*

Laura Czekaj, *Mezzo Soprano*

Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, might
and pow'r be unto our God forever and forever more. Amen.

All stand

The Gospel

John 10:11-18

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

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

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Fr Sasser

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

With joy and gladness, let us pray to the Lord.

For the Church throughout the world, that it may be a sign of new life to the weary and the lost, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For all the leaders of the Church, that they may lead us in paths of peace and renewal, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For the nations of the world and those who lead them, that they may strive for justice and a new birth of freedom, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For the peace of the world, that those who use violence and those who condone it may have a change of heart, mind, and soul, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For all whose labor eases our lives, especially those who work in health care, long-term care, and hospice, that they may know themselves to be the hands of God, and may see God's holy angels at work among them, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For the sick, the disabled, and all who suffer, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they may see new growth from branches long barren, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For The Nippon Sei Ko Kai, and for St Martin's in the Field Church, Selbyville, that they may know and share the joy of the empty cross and empty tomb, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For all who serve in the armed forces and all who go in harm's way to protect others, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For those who have died, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they may have light and peace, and rest with all the saints, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

With saint and angels, we proclaim:

[All say together]

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death with death, and bringing life to those who dwell in tombs. 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.

Offertory Hymn

Shepherd of Souls

Hymnal 343

1. Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen
2. We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy
3. Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not
4. Lord, sup with us in love di - vine, thy Bo - dy

pil - grim flock with man - na in the
word of grace, in strength of which we
then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with
and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.
trav - el on to our a - bid - ing place.
us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.
heaven - ly wind, be our im - mor - tal food.

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:

Sanctus S-125

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 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

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 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 among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

At the Procession

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Hymnal 708

1. Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
2. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,

for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

*The leaflet picture this morning is an are interpretation of the image of the Good Shepherd
in a sculpture from the late Roman Empire (3rd Century),
probably Asia Minor, now in the collection of the Cleveland Museum of Art.*

Parish Prayer List

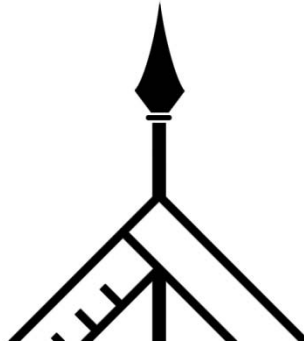
Alan L	Delores	Luke	Rick R
Alma	Doug H	Lynn Dunham	Roman
Amanda	Elmer	Margurite	Roxanna
Andre	Erin L & babies	Maria	Ruth
Archer Family	Fred & Lori	Marian & Family	Samuel
Arline	Freda Reynolds	Marie	Sandy
Alana Davies	Giorgio & Family	Mary & Family	Sandy Sorenson
Ayla H	Greg	Michael	Shirley
Beverly and Larry	Hailu He	Mike & Angie	Sondra & Jeff
Becky	HarrisonFamily	Mike Reynolds	Sophia & Family
Beryl	Ina	Morgan & Family	South Family
Bill & Sandy	Jane & Family	Nan	Susan & family
Bob T	Jean & Richard	Nancy & Family	Stacy L
Bosco Family	Pawl	Nate	Stanley
Brian Smith	Geoff Coons	Nathalie & Maya	Steven
Cathy	Jenna Puleo	Nelson	Stover
Carol	Jim	Nicholas & Family	Sue James
Carol Mullinix	Johanna and Philip	Nicole	Terrie W
Carolyn Bowman	Josh Moyer	Nikki & Family	Thadine
Charles Baxter	Jude	Noah	Tom
Chaun	Jule & Family	Noah P	Thomas
Chris & Ginger	June	Norman H	Tim & Family
Christine & Erich	Kelly & family	Olivia	Vicki
Christine & Francis	Ken & Family	Pat & Dan	Vivian
Christopher Corbin	Kevin	Pat & Emmett	Wanda
Cindy	Kizis family	Peter & Mike	Wayne
Colin	Lane Family	Phil & Terri	WeaverFamily
Dale & Family	Larry	Phyllis	William McClements
Darnell	Laurie J	Rashida	WilsonFamily
Darrell	Linda Alexis	Ray Cook	
Dawn & DW	Lisa	Reginald	
Deacon Cecily	Liz & Family	Reid	

We pray for all who serve our country abroad, in the military, in embassies, and in non-governmental organizations, especially...

Adam	James	Marvin
Annie	Joe	Matthew
Ben	Josh	Nate
Bob	Kagen	Nicholas
Bradley	Kate	Stuart
Brett	Kathy	Tina
Brian	Kevin	Tyler
Christie	Luke	Victoria

Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

4/20/2021



LEADERSHIP OF ST THOMAS'S

StThomasParish.org 302.368.4644

The Vestry

Rector's Warden: Connie Cooper
Treasurer: Amy Keach

People's Warden: Jill Englund Jensen
Clerk of the Vestry: Madeline Johnson

Class of 2022

Mark Burchess
LaRue Manning
Jamie Sloan
Kelly Tompkins

Class of 2023

Barbara Graham
Jill Englund Jensen
Madeline Johnson
Kristin Sausville

Class of 2024

Larry Duggan
Cami Seward
Phillipa Sunnergen

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SEXTON		
<i>position open</i>		