

St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church



The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 14, 2024 8:45 AM

Welcome GUESTS & VISITORS!

We are glad you are here. If you are new to St. Thomas, stop by the Reception Desk in the lobby and identify yourself to our clergy and people so we may properly welcome you. You may also fill out an “I’m New” card located on the backs of the chairs in the church. If you need assistance with the order of service, feel free to ask the person next to you.

Auditory Assistance is available – ask an usher or a greeter about obtaining a hearing device.

To request prayers, please fill out the form on the “Pray” card located on the backs of the chairs. We invite you to list your specific concerns and leave them in the Prayer Request box at the back of the church, place them in the offering plate, or bring them to the church office. Prayers of the People are written weekly. Normally they are offered for three weeks, but any request may be resubmitted as needed.

Loving care is offered in our Nursery, open from 8:30am – 12:15pm (6 months-age 4).

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Opening Hymn

God of Wonders

Byrd and Hindalong

Lord of all creation, of water earth and sky
The heavens are Your tabernacle. Glory to the Lord on high.

Chorus 1:

***God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are holy holy
The universe declares Your majesty, You are holy holy
Lord of heaven and earth. Lord of heaven and earth***

Early in the morning I will celebrate the light
When I stumble in the darkness I will call Your name by night

Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth)

Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth)

Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth)

You are holy

Chorus:

***God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are holy holy
Precious Lord reveal Your heart to me, Father hold me hold me
The universe declares Your majesty, You are holy holy holy holy***

Collect for Purity

All standing, the Celebrant says

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

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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.**

Gloria

Holy is Your Name / Luke 11:46-55

Cantor: My soul is filled with joy as I sing to God my savior:
you have looked upon your servant, you have visited your people.

Refrain:

***And holy is your name through all generations!
Everlasting is your mercy to the people you have chosen,
and holy is your name.***

The Collect

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Children pre-school through 3rd grade will process to Children's Church.

The Lessons

The First Reading: *Samuel 3:1-10[11-20]*

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” [¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever.”

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” He said, “Here I am.” ¹⁷Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, “It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.”

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.]

The word of the Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

¹**LORD, you have searched me out and known me; ***

you know my sitting down and my rising up;

you discern my thoughts from afar.

²**You trace my journeys and my resting-places ***

and are acquainted with all my ways.

³**Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, ***

but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

⁴**You press upon me behind and before ***

and lay your hand upon me.

⁵**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; ***

it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

¹²**For you yourself created my inmost parts; ***

you knit me together in my mother’s womb.

¹³**I will thank you because I am marvelously made; ***

your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

¹⁴*My body was not hidden from you, *
 while I was being made in secret
 and woven in the depths of the earth.*
¹⁵*Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
 all of them were written in your book; *
 they were fashioned day by day,
 when as yet there was none of them.*
¹⁶*How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
 how great is the sum of them!*
¹⁷*If I were to count them,
 they would be more in number than the sand; *
 to count them all,
 my life span would need to be like yours.*

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

¹²“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Amen – Cantor only





The Holy Gospel: *John 1:43-51*

All stand.

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

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

⁴³Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Gospel Response

Amen (Congregation)

The Sermon

Nicene Creed

All stand.

***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

Deacon or other leader

. . . Let us gather our prayers saying, "**Hear our prayer.**"

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Leader and People

***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.***

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 children will return from Children's Church.

The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music

All in All

Dennis Jernigan

You are my strength when I am weak. You are the treasure that I seek
You are my all in all, seeking You as a precious jewel
Lord to give up I'd be a fool. You are my all in all

Chorus

Jesus Lamb of God. Worthy is Your name

Jesus Lamb of God. Worthy is Your name

Taking my sin, my cross my shame.
Rising again I bless Your name, You are my all in all
When I fall down You pick me up. When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all (Chorus)

Offertory

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.
People ***And of thine own have we given thee.***

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

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.***

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

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions.

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

D Dadd9 Dsus4 D G Em A G A D

mf

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

E E7 A D F#m Bm Bm4/A

God of pow'r and might. Heav - en and earth are full of your

G Em A G Em Bm Bm7

glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na on

E Melody A D F# Bm Bm4/A

high. Bless - ed is he who comes in the

G Em A D G Em

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -

D G Em A F# Bm Bm4/A

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

G A D D9 D

san - na on high.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God . . .
. . . Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

And we offer our sacrifice and thanksgiving . . .

. . . 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

People and Celebrant

*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

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Brother, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.*

*We are pilgrims on a journey, we are brothers on the road
We are here to help each other, walk the mile and bear the load.*

*I will hold the Christlight for you in the night-time of your fear
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.*

*I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh I'll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.*

*When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.*

*Brother, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.*

Sending Forth

When a Lay Eucharistic Visitor is to take the sacrament to those hospitalized, ill at home or home-bound, the following is said:

In the name of this congregation, go forth bearing these holy gifts; that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

*Congregation **We who are many are one body,
because we all share one bread; one cup. Amen.***

Let us pray.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant 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.*

Blessing

Hymn

I Will Follow

Tomlin/Ingram/Morgan

Where You go I'll go. Where You stay I'll stay. When You move I'll move. I will follow.
Your ways are good, all Your ways are sure. I will trust in You alone,
higher than my sight; high above my life. I will trust in You alone

Chorus 1:

***Where You go I'll go. Where You stay I'll stay. When You move I'll move. I will follow
You. Whom You love I'll love. How You serve I'll serve. If this life I lose. I will follow
(You)***

Light into the world. Light into my life. I will live for You alone. You're the One I seek.
Knowing I will find all I need in You alone, in You alone.

In You there's life everlasting. In You there's freedom for my soul.
In You there's joy unending joy. And I will follow.

Yeah I will follow You, yeah

Dismissal

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude

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