

St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church



The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 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).

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LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Bateman/Carr

*Come, Christians, join to sing, Alleluia, Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King, Alleluia, Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
praise is His gracious choice, Alleluia, Amen!*

*Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia, Amen!
Let praises fill the sky, Alleluia, Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend, to us He'll condescend;
His love shall never end, Alleluia, Amen!*

*Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia, Amen!
Life shall not end the strain, Alleluia, Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore His goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore, "Alleluia, Amen!"*

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.***

Collect of the Day

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

The Lessons

The First Reading: *Jonah 3:1-5, 10*

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they 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.

The word of the Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: *Psalm 62:6-14*

⁶*For God alone my soul in silence waits; *
truly, my hope is in him.*

⁷*He alone is my rock and my salvation, *
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.*

⁸*In God is my safety and my honor; *
God is my strong rock and my refuge.*

⁹*Put your trust in him always, O people, *
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.*

¹⁰*Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, *
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.*

¹¹*On the scales they are lighter than a breath, *
all of them together.*

¹²*Put no trust in extortion;
in robbery take no empty pride; *
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.*

¹³*God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, *
that power belongs to God.*

¹⁴*Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, *
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.*

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

The Word of the Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Amen – Cantor only

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'A - men, al-le - lu - ia, for'. The second staff contains 'ev - er and ev - er, for ev - er, al-le - lu - ia, for'. The third staff contains 'ev - er and ev - er. A - men.' The music is written in a simple, melodic style suitable for a cantorial performance.

The Holy Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

All stand.

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

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

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

Angels Among Us
George Phillips, Soloist

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 , *mp* G Em Bm Bm7
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na on
 E 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 D# 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.

Communion Music

The Lord is On His Way

Dr. Philip First

Praise Band and Dr. Philip First, solo

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

O Master Let Me Walk with Thee

*O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;
Tell me thy secret, help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.*

*Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.*

*Teach me thy patience; still with thee in closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.*

*In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broad'ning way,
In peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.*

Dismissal

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude

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