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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 4, 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).

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Waymaker

Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

You are here moving in our midst, I worship You I worship You You are here working in this place, I worship You I worship You

Chorus:

(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise Keeper Light in the darkness my God that is who You are

You are here touching ev'ry heart, I worship You I worship You You are here healing ev'ry heart, I worship You I worship You

You are here turning lives around, I worship You I worship You You are here mending ev'ry heart, I worship You yeah I worship You Lord

That is who You are, That is who You are, That is who You are, That is who You are,

Even when I don't see it You're working, Even when I don't feel it You're working You never stop You never stop working, You never stop You never stop working

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

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

The Lessons

The First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;
²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

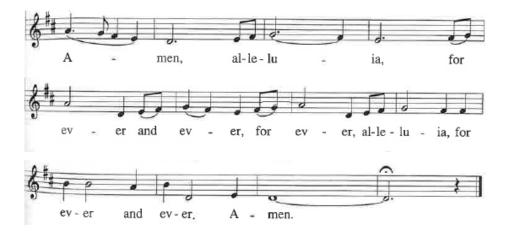
The word of the Lord. Response Thanks be to God. The Psalm: Psalm 147:1-12, 21c

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! * how pleasant it is to honor him with praise! ²The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; * he gathers the exiles of Israel. ³He heals the brokenhearted * and binds up their wounds. ⁴He counts the number of the stars * and calls them all by their names. ⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power; * there is no limit to his wisdom. ⁶The LORD lifts up the lowly, * but casts the wicked to the ground. ⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; * make music to our God upon the harp. ⁸He covers the heavens with clouds * and prepares rain for the earth; ⁹He makes grass to grow upon the mountains * and green plants to serve mankind. ¹⁰He provides food for flocks and herds * and for the vouna ravens when they crv. ¹¹He is not impressed by the might of a horse; * he has no pleasure in the strength of a man; ¹²But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, * in those who await his gracious favor. ^{21c} Hallelujah!

The Epistle: *1 Corinthians 9:16-23*

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. ¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The Word of the Lord. *Response* **Thanks be to God.** Amen – Cantor only



The Holy Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

All stand.

DeaconThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.*ResponseGlory to you, Lord Christ.*

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. 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 How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds Thy hands have made I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy pow'r thru'out the universe displayed

Chorus:

Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur, and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. (Chorus)

And when I think that God His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in That on the cross my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin. (Chorus)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation, and take me home what joy shall fill my heart. Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, My God, how great Thou art! (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 People	The Lord be with you. 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



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 ad	<i>d</i> Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Music How Great is Our God

The splendor of the King clothed in majesty, let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide, and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice

Chorus:

How great is our God, Sing with me How great is our God, And all will see how great How great is our God

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands, beginning and the End, beginning and the End The Godhead three in one, Father Spirit Son, the Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb

Name above all names, worthy of all praise My heart will sing How great is our God

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

We Are Called

Come! live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God!

Refrain:

We are called to love tenderly. We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless, so all hatred and blindness will be no more!

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love!

Dismissal

Deacon Let us bless the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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