ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH + SCHOOL

Worship | Study | Friendship | Compassion
November 8, 2026—10:00AM

If you are watching online, please fill out an online Connection Card by clicking the link in the comments. If you are in person, you can find a Connection Card in the church pews.

Baptized Today:

Beatrice Armstrong-Tice
Truman Armstrong-Tice

Grounded in God

Your faithful giving helps our church grow in ministry, mission, and community. As we plan for 2027, your annual pledge plays a vital role in supporting the life and work of St. Thomas.

Please submit your pledge card online by scanning the QR code or drop it in the offering plate. We will follow up with member families who we haven't heard from this week. Thank you for your generosity!

Sunday Sermon Series:

Hope That Holds:
Comfort for the Grieving
November 1st–November 15th

Today is week two of our three-week sermon series. Together, we're exploring what Christian hope looks like in the midst of grief and loss. Scripture reminds us that faith doesn't mean pretending sorrow doesn't hurt. Rather, God meets us in our grief with comfort and a hope that holds. Because Jesus died and rose again, our grief is real, but it is never without hope.

Missed a Sunday?
Previous sermons are available on our YouTube channel.
www.youtube.com/c/tom1604.

The rosebud on the altar today is in thanksgiving for the birth of Haven Lea Hylton, born October 31, 2026, to parents Warren and Kaitlin Hylton.

St. Thomas Ofrenda

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Ofrenda. Your photos helped make the display truly special. All pictures are now ready for pickup in Gosnell Hall. Please stop by to collect yours.

Haven for Hope

Monday, November 9th

Meet at St. Thomas at 2:30pm or 3:30pm to carpool to Haven for Hope

Join the Community Outreach Ministry at Haven for Hope as we serve dinner to people in need. After volunteering, stay and connect with volunteers as we gather for dinner.

Youth Group Sunday Hangout: Friendsgiving

Sunday, November 15th
4:00pm - 6:00pm, in the Youth Room
6th - 12th grade

What's better than good food and good friends? Come celebrate Friendsgiving with us for an afternoon of food, laughter, and time together. Bring a friend, bring your appetite, and come ready to celebrate.

A Litany of Healing

Sunday, November 22nd

During both Sunday services, a special Litany of Healing will be offered for those in need of additional prayers. Anointing with oil for healing will also be available during the services. Following Communion, individuals desiring additional prayers are invited to proceed to the Chapel of the Cross, located to the left of the altar.

Christ the King Sunday

Sunday, November 22nd

The St. Thomas Music Ministry invites you to participate in Christ the King Sunday. On November 22nd we will sing "Halleluia Chorus" from "Messiah" by G. F. Handel at the 10:00am service. All who would like to sing are welcome to join us at 9:00am for rehearsal and participate at the 10:00am service. If you would like music in advance, contact Music Minister, Ryan Becker at rbecker@tom1604.org.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship and PieFest

Wednesday, November 25th, 7:00pm

St. Thomas invites you to an evening of worship and pie. Worship begins at 7:00pm. After worship all are welcome to the Parish Hall for a slice of pie. Please bring a pie to share.

Save the Date: Advent Family Night

Sunday, November 29th, 5:30pm-7:30pm

Kick off the holiday season with St. Thomas! We invite you to join us for an evening of crafts, pizza, fellowship, and family fun.

Discipleship Hour Sundays at 9:00am

Christ the King: The Reign of God in Scripture and Tradition

November 15th–November 22nd
in the Parish Hall led by Fr. Mike

What does it mean to call Jesus King? We'll explore the biblical vision of Christ's reign and the story behind the Feast of Christ the King, discovering why this celebration still matters for how we understand Jesus and His kingdom today.

Children's Sunday School

Ages 3 - 5th grade, in Room 112

Each Sunday, children will journey through the Old Testament. Using Bible stories, prayer, activities, and conversation, kids will grow in faith, experience God's love, and learn what it means to follow Jesus.

Discipleship for Moms

in Room 111 led by Paige Martin

This fall we're walking through *Abide* by Jen Wilkin, a study of John's letters and the call to remain in Christ's love. As we gather around Scripture, prayer, and conversation, we'll encourage one another and make room to listen for God's presence during everyday life.

Youth Group Series: Faith in Action & Justice

October 18th – November 15th
6th - 12th grade, in Room 109

Faith is more than what we believe—it shapes how we treat others and respond to the world around us. Together, we'll wrestle with what it means to seek justice, practice mercy, love our neighbors, and have the courage to speak up when something isn't right.

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026 • 10:00 AM

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people's responses are in ***bold.***

This type of note, offering directions about the service is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red) referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of
Tom Galvin.
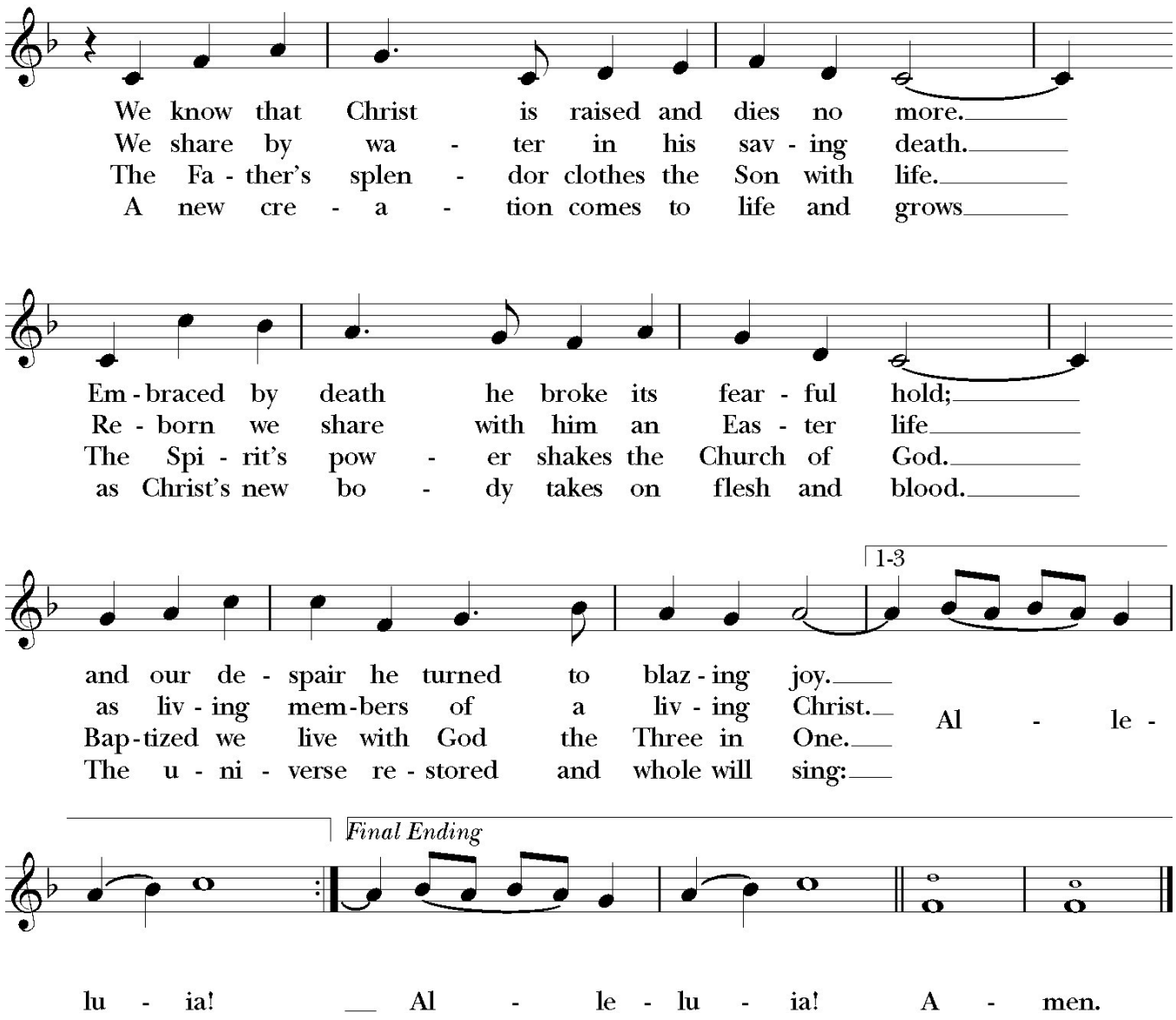
THE ENTRANCE RITE

THE VOLUNTARY

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN • 296

Engelberg



THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BOOK OF **C**OMMON **P**RAYER **299**

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant then continues

There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
One God and Father of all.

THE WORD OF GOD

The proper of the mass are the scriptural texts that change with the liturgical calendar. The collect, lessons, psalm, Gospel and preface to the communion liturgy are propers. Our lessons come from a prescribed cycle of readings called the lectionary. The lectionary consists of a three year cycle: Year. Each year we retell the story from Advent through Pentecost.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that "collects" or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

We invite your child to join our Children's Church program this morning! Children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to come up for the children's sermon and then follow our Children's Church Leader, to a classroom down the hallway in our education wing. After the exchange of the peace, children are ushered back to their seats.

THE FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

[1]Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. [2]And Joshua said to all the people, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. [3]Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

[14]'Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. [15]Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.'

[16]Then the people answered, 'Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; [17]for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight.

He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; [18]and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.'

[19]But Joshua said to the people, 'You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. [20]If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.' [21]And the people said to Joshua, 'No, we will serve the LORD!' [22]Then Joshua said to the people, 'You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him.' And they said, 'We are witnesses.' [23]He said, 'Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.' [24]The people said to Joshua, 'The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey.' [25]So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 78:1-7 *spoken responsively by half verse* *Attendite, populo*

The psalms are sung prayers that cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. The psalm is a response to hearing the Old Testament lesson and usually it relates to the themes heard in the lesson.

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
and the wonderful works he has done.
5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;
6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments;

THE EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

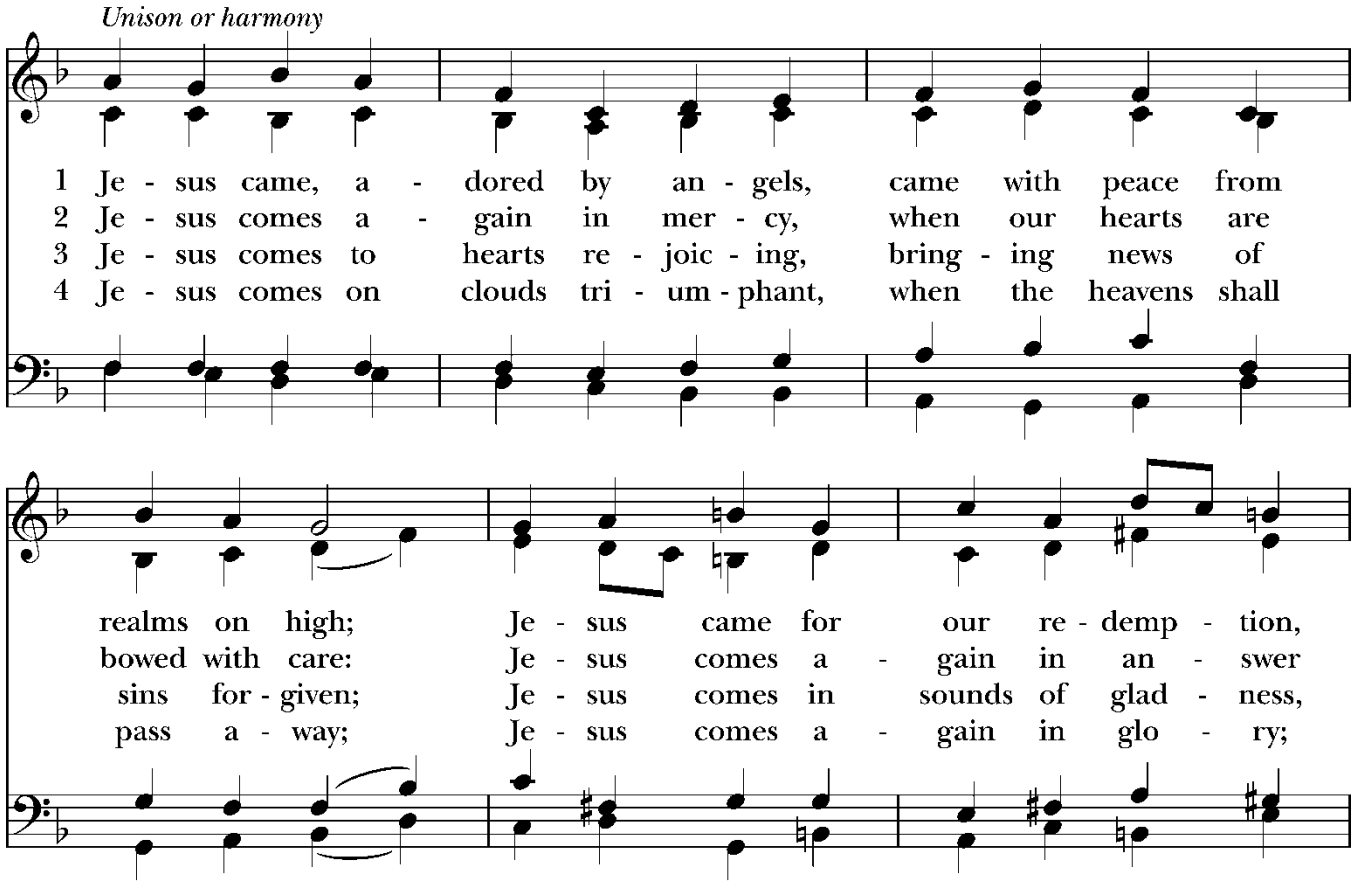
This reading from the New Testament is typically from a letter (epistle) from Paul to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

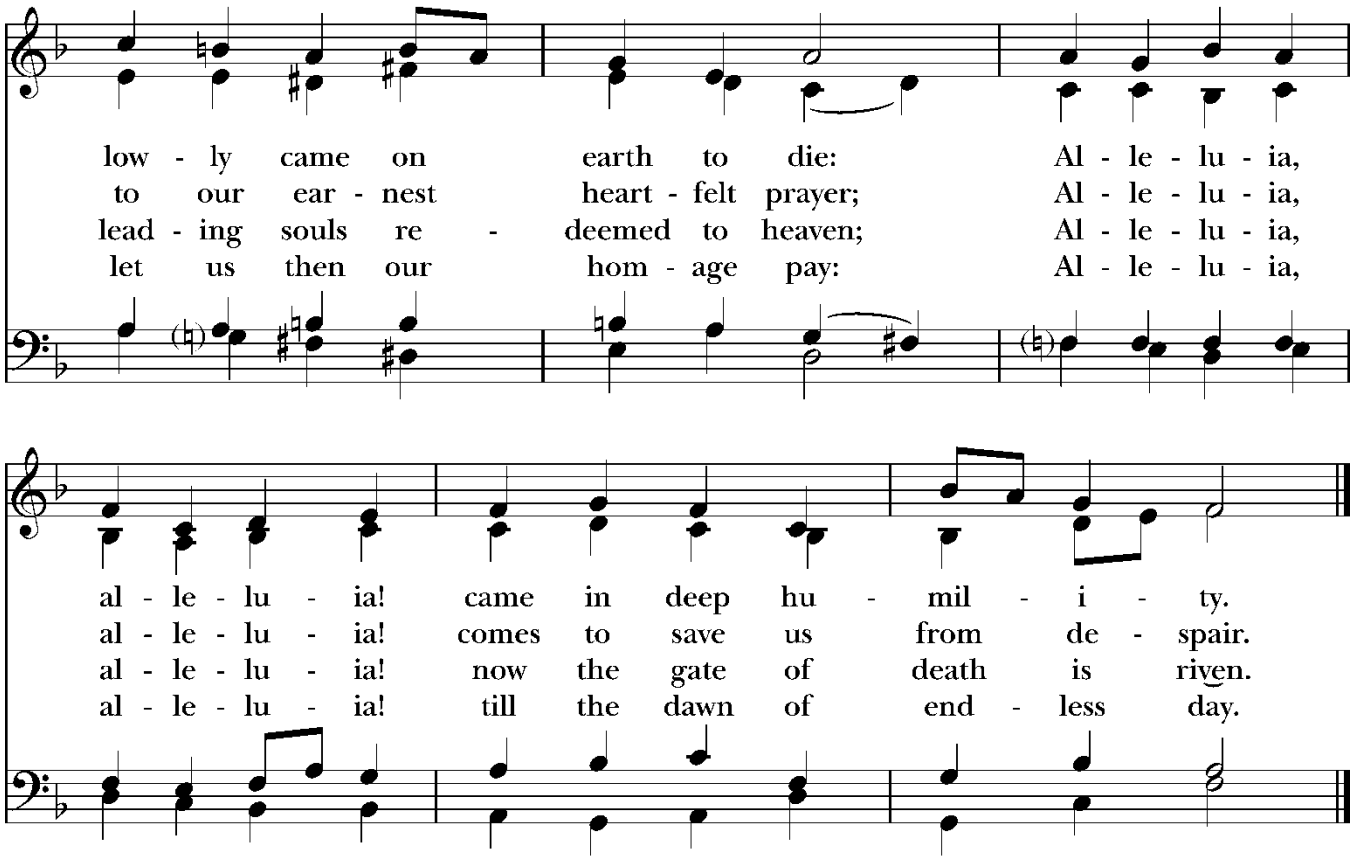
[13]But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14]For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. [15]For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16]For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17]Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. [18]Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE HYMN • 454 *Lowry*





Words: Godfrey Thring (1823-1903), alt. Music: *Lowry*, Gerald Near (b. 1942). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel is the summit of the Liturgy of the Word and means "good news" and specifically the good news of Jesus. We stand for the Gospel reading to show respect for the particular importance of Jesus' words and actions.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[1]"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went
to meet the bridegroom. [2]Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3]When the foolish
took their lamps, they took no oil with them; [4]but the wise took flasks of oil with their
lamps. [5]As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6]But at
midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." [7]Then
all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. [8]The foolish said to the wise, "Give us
some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." [9]But the wise replied, "No! there will not be
enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves."
[10]And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with
him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. [11]Later the other bridesmaids came
also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." [12]But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you."
[13]Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Rev. Mike Michie

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES BCP 301

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsor

I present Beatrice Armstrong-Tice to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant asks each candidate when presented

Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate

I do.

Sponsor

I present Truman Armstrong-Tice to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant

Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate

I do.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Celebrant then says

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT BCP 304

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES BCP 305

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER BCP 306

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM BCP 307

Beatrice, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Truman, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying

Beatrice, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

Truman, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness and shared in the peace, we are prepared for Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give.

All are invited to make a gift to support St. Thomas' ministry of sharing God's love with the world.

The altar is prepared for Holy Communion.

THE OFFERTORY G. F. Handel

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be rais'd incorruptible, and we shall be chang'd.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality

THE DOXOLOGY *Old 100th*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A BCP 361

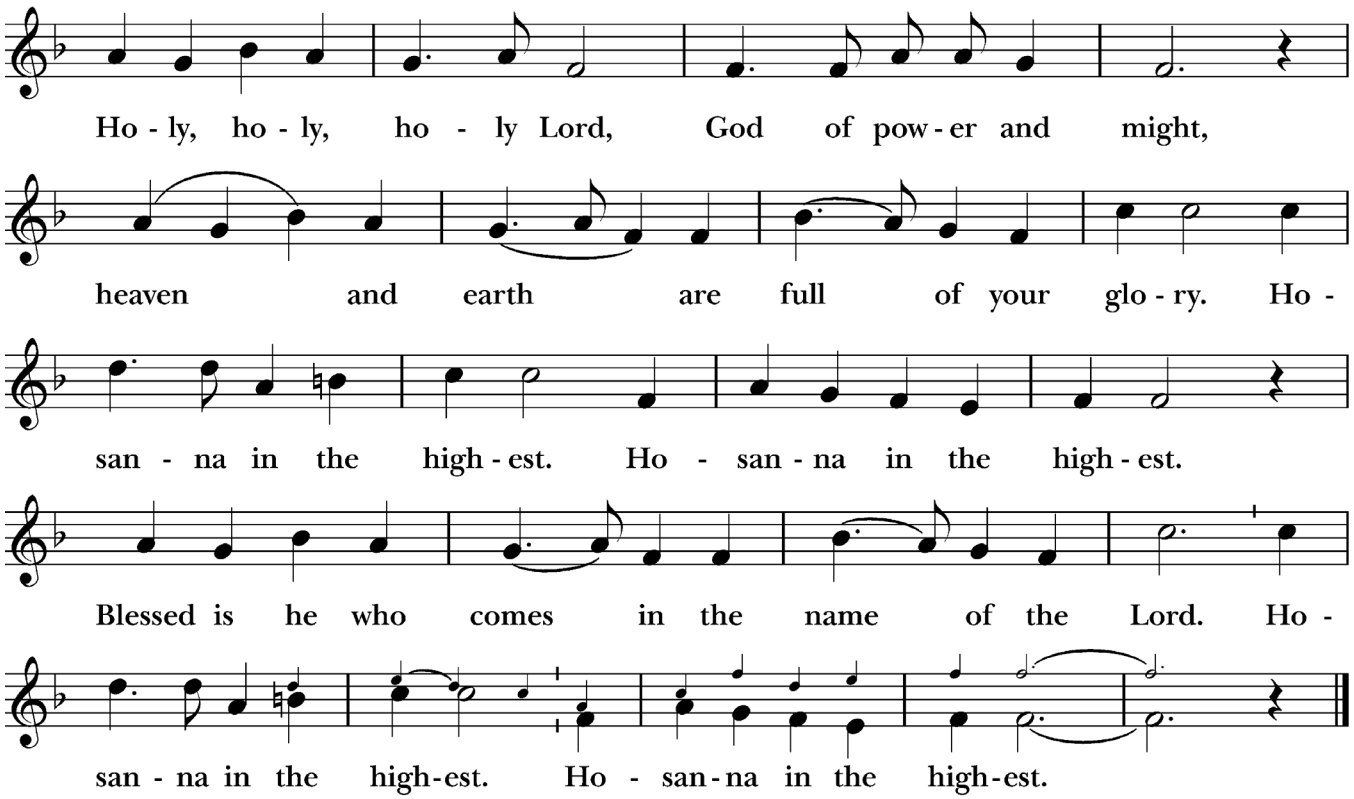
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *(Here a Proper Preface is sung or said.)* 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:

THE SANCTUS • S 125 Richard Proulx



The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 BCP 364

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 FRACTION ANTHEM

The presider breaks the bread.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The people are invited to come forward to receive communion. Gluten –free wafers are available. Inform the priest when they come to you.

For communion, you may choose to drink from the chalice or receive communion by intinction (dipping the wafer into the wine). If you wish to drink from the chalice, eat the wafer, and the chalice will be brought to you. If you prefer intinction, hold the wafer in your hand, and the intinction cup will be brought to you.

Individual prayers for healing are offered in the Chapel of the Cross. We encourage you to visit them after receiving communion.

THE HYMN • 615 *St. Flavian*

THE HYMN • 324 *Picardy*

THE HYMN • 317 *Morestead*

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER BCP 365

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.

THE SENDING OUT

We send you out to share the communion today.
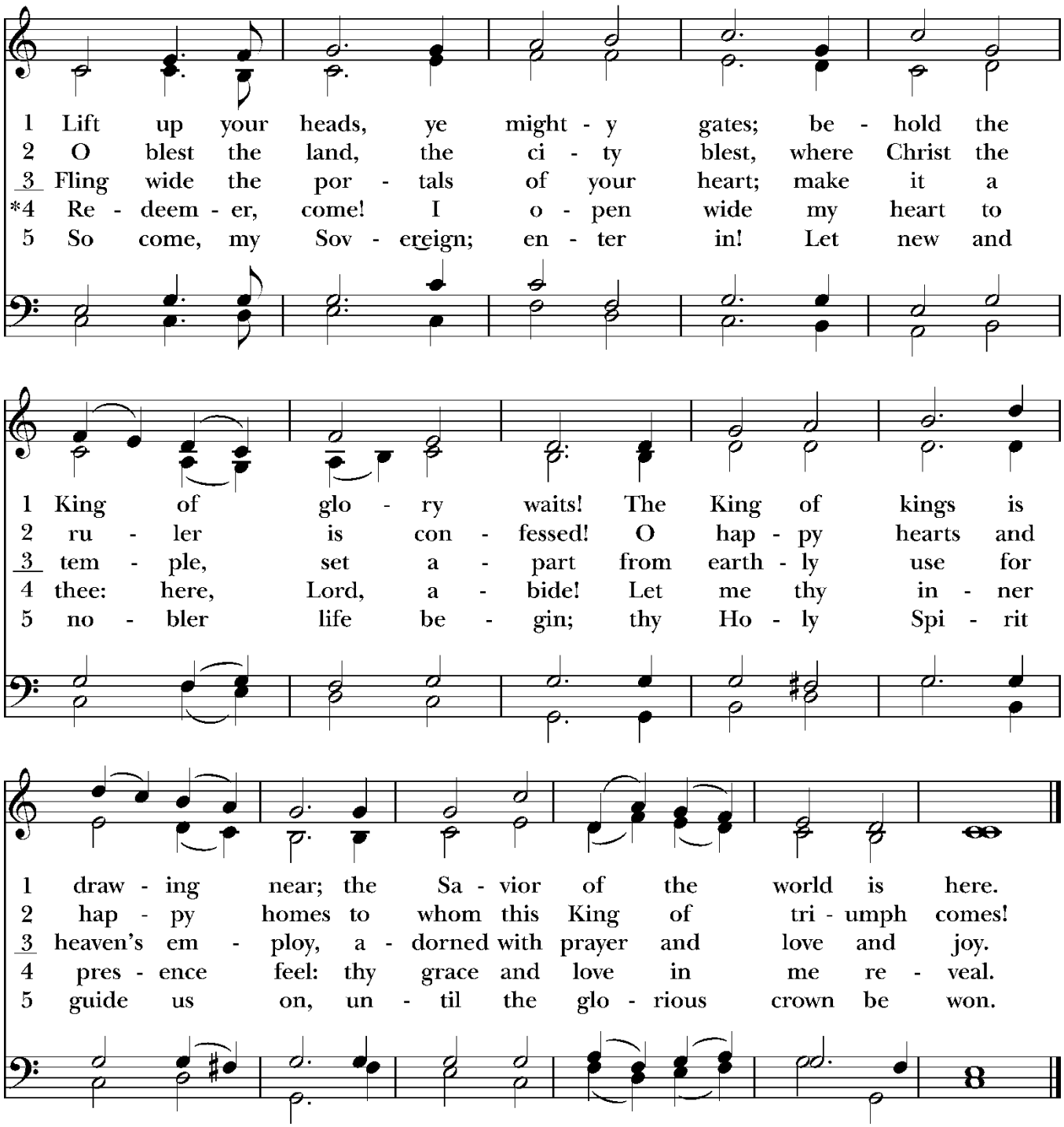
May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.

May those who receive it from you be strengthened and encouraged in that community we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

THE HYMN • 436

Truro



THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY

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