

**The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Youth and Young Adult Sunday  
September 28, 2025**

**The Celebrant and Children's Homilist:** The Very Rev. Canon Martini Shaw

**Assisting:** The Rev. Fr. Gerald Collins

**Homilist:** The Rev. Fr. Daren E. Evans

**Verger:** Karen Ragland

**Music Ministry:** St. Thomas Gospel Choir

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**Order of Service**

**The Prelude**

St. Thomas Music Ministry

**The Opening Hymn- "Lord, Here We Are Again"**

**Lord, here we are again, giving your Name the praise**

**For all that you've done for us, in oh, so many ways.**

**We've come to give you the Honor,**

**We've come to give you the Glory,**

**Because you've been good Lord,**

**We've come to give you the praise.**

**A Word of Welcome**

The Celebrant

**The Opening Salutation**

**The Celebrant:** Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**The People:** And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. AMEN.

**The Collect for Purity**

**Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355**

**The Celebrant:** 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 in excelsis**

**The Celebrant and The People**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, the Father. AMEN.**

**The Proclamation of the Word**

**The Collect of the Day**

**The Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**The People:** And also, with you.

**The Celebrant:** Let us pray

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. AMEN.

**The First Reading: Jeremiah 32:1-3, 6-15**

Kayla Byrd

**A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah.**

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and

the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

Jeremiah said, "The word of the LORD came to me: Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours." Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the LORD, and said to me, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself." Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

**The Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**The People:** Thanks be to God.

#### **Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16**

Malkam Yates

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, \*  
**abides under the shadow of the Almighty.**

He shall say to the LORD,  
"You are my refuge and my stronghold, \*  
**my God in whom I put my trust."**

He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter \*  
**and from the deadly pestilence.**

He shall cover you with his pinions,  
and you shall find refuge under his wings; \*  
**his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.**

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, \*  
**nor of the arrow that flies by day;**

Of the plague that stalks in the darkness, \*  
**nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.**

Because he is bound to me in love,  
therefore will I deliver him; \*  
**I will protect him, because he knows my Name.**

He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; \*  
**I am with him in trouble;**  
**I will rescue him and bring him to honor.**

With long life will I satisfy him, \*  
**and show him my salvation.**

## **The Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-19**

Heaven Sedziafa

### **A Reading from the First Book of Timothy.**

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time-- he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

**The Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**The People:** Thanks be to God.

### **The Gradual Hymn- "We'll Understand It Better" Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS) #207 (vv. 1-2)**

**1) We are often tossed and driv'n on the restless sea of time,  
Somber skies and howling tempest oft succeed a bright sunshine;  
In that land of perfect day, when the mists have rolled away,  
We will understand it better by and by. [Chorus]**

**Chorus: By and by when the morning comes,  
When the saints of God are gathered home,  
We'll tell the story how we're overcome;  
For we'll understand it better by and by.**

**2) We are often destitute of the things that life demands,  
Want of food and want of shelter thirsty hills and barren lands;  
We are trusting in the Lord, and according to His word,  
We will understand it better by and by. [Chorus]**

### **The Holy Gospel: Luke 16:19-31**

**The Priest:** The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus said, "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house-- for I have five brothers-- that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this

place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

**The Priest:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Homily Hymn--"We'll Understand It Better"**

**LEVAS #207 (v. 3-4)**

**3) Trials dark on every hand, and we cannot understand,  
All the ways that God would lead us to that blessed promised land;  
But He guides us with His eye, and we'll follow till we die,  
For we'll understand it better by and by.**

**Chorus: By and by when the morning comes,  
When the saints of God are gathered home,  
We'll tell the story how we're overcome;  
For we'll understand it better by and by.**

**4) Temptations hidden snares often take us unawares,  
And our hearts are made to bleed for many a thoughtless word or deed;  
And we wonder why the test when we try to do our best,  
But we'll understand it better by and by.**

**The Homily  
The Children's Homily  
The Call to Christian Discipleship**

**Fr. Daren Evans  
Fr. Martini Shaw  
The Celebrant**

**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.**

**The Prayers of the People**

Chase Miller

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

**The Concluding Collect**

The Celebrant

**The Confession**

BCP 360

**The Celebrant:** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.  
Let us kneel and confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (Silence is kept)

**The Celebrant and The People:**

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and 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.**

**The Absolution**

The 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**

**The Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**The People:** And also, with you.

## The Holy Eucharist

### The Offertory Sentence

**Offer your gift now via text: Text “AECST” to 73256**

### The Offertory Selection

St. Thomas Gospel Choir

#### The Great Thanksgiving

**The Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**The People:** And also, with you.

**The Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.

**The People:** We lift them to the Lord.

**The Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**The People:** It is right to give God 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. *(Celebrant adds a short Proper Preface)*

Therefore, we praise you, joining with Angels and Archangels and all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

#### The Sanctus

**The Celebrant and the People:**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**The Celebrant:** 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:

**The Memorial Acclamation**

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

**The Celebrant:** We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer 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 forever. **AMEN.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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

**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, forever and ever. AMEN.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

**The Celebrant:** Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed.

**The People:** Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

### **The Agnus Dei**

**The Celebrant:** Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world.

**The People:** Have mercy upon us.

**The Celebrant:** Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world.

**The People:** Have mercy upon us.

**The Celebrant:** Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world.

**The People:** Grant us thy peace.

### **The Prayer of Humble Access**

Let us pray: We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy; Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **AMEN.**

**The Celebrant:** 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 Distribution of Communion**

#### **The Post-Communion Prayer**

**The Celebrant and the 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.**

### **Sending Forth of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors**

**The Celebrant:** In the healing name of Jesus and with the compassionate embrace of this parish family, I send you forth bearing these Holy Gifts to those to whom you go today, so that they may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

**The People:** We who are many are one body, and we all share one bread and one cup.

### **The Announcements**

**The Youth and Young Adult Announcements**

Richard Jones, Rector's Warden

Landon Leys

**The Recognition of Visitors and Guests**  
**The Blessing of Birthdays, Anniversaries and Travel**

**Procession to the Columbarium**

**Inurnment of Leatrice Joy Tompkins Snowden**  
**September 26, 1938-November 13, 2023**

**Inurnment of The Rev. Dr. Thomas Gayle Snowden**  
**November 7, 1938-December 15, 2024**

**The Final Blessing**

The Celebrant

**The Closing Hymn- “Be Strong in the Lord”**

**Be strong in the Lord**  
**In the power of His might**  
**There’s a battle to be won**  
**But you must fight**

**Be strong in the Lord**  
**In the power of His might**  
**There’s a battle to be won**  
**But you must fight**

**God will give us the victory**  
**God will give us the victory**  
**God will give us the victory**

**We’re gonna win**  
**We’re gonna win**  
**We’re gonna win**

**The Dismissal**  
**The Postlude**

St. Thomas Music Ministry