



ST. THOMAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**LEAD
WITH
LOVE**

**The Last Sunday After Epiphany
Holy Eucharist**

March 2, 2025
2201 Dexter St., Denver, CO
saintthomasdenver.org

Welcoming Statement

St Thomas Episcopal Church offers sanctuary and spiritual renewal to everyone regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious background, social or economic circumstance, political affiliation or where you are on your spiritual journey. We welcome all who desire deep relationships and value our relationships with others over the differences that separate us.

Our Commitment

We believe all people are beloved of God and we strive to live and proclaim God's love through all our actions and words. As a community and as individuals, we **Lead With Love**, shine light in the darkness, create safe spaces and offer hope, courage, peace and strength for the journey. We are here for each other and for those in need of any kind. St. Thomas is a place of refuge for those who are wearied by the world and desire nourishment for the spirit and the soul. We welcome you to come as you are and to join us in the sacred task of loving a new world into being.

The Meaning of the Conch Shell

The resonant sound of the conch shell is considered a sacred call, symbolizing the start of a ritual and invoking divine presence. Our parishioner, Tana Knopf, gifted St. Thomas with a conch shell and introduced this practice as a call to worship. This is one of the ways that we incorporate a diversity of cultures and traditions into our liturgy and, of course, the children love it.

Learn More About St. Thomas

If you would like to learn more about St. Thomas, we invite you to visit our website (www.saintthomasdenver.org), subscribe to our weekly newsletter (link is on website), or schedule a conversation with our priest by emailing her at terri@saintthomasdenver.org.

Inclusive Language:

At St. Thomas, we support and encourage the use of inclusive language. Towards that end we often choose more contemporary prayers and hymns for our worship service. However, we recognize that many parishioners also appreciate and love our traditional prayers and hymns that employ more patriarchal language. When such prayers or hymns are included in our worship, we encourage you to substitute the word or pronoun that most resonates with you when you pray or sing.

Preaching and Presiding this Week: The Rev. Terri Hobart

Music Leaders

Kari Miles
Angela Pleasants
Geoff Wodell
Brandon Bennett

Godly Play and Nursery

Maria Perez

Seminarian: Cate Colburn-Smith

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Opening Hymn

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Hymnal 1982 #490

Please stand in body or spirit.

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the brightness of God.
3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to follow Je sus.
I want to look at Je sus.
I want to be with Je sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je sus.
show me the way to the Fa ther.
shall know the joy of Je sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The
night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934). Copyright © 1970, 1975, Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: Houston, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934).

Opening Acclamation

Presider Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. *1 John 4:7,8*
 Blessed are you, our beloved God.
People In you is glory and love forever.

Hymn of Praise

Glory to God

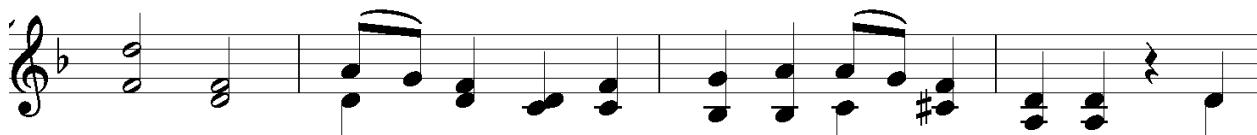
LEVAS #243

Glo - ry,

Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name,___ Glo-ry,

Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name.____

1. Glo-ry to God___ in the high-est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



2. Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



3. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, Glo-ry,



Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, Glo - ry,



Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. 4. You



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us, 5. You are



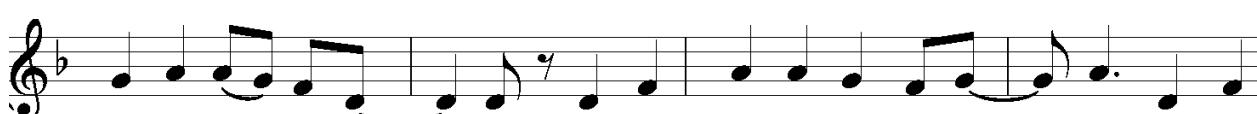
seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,



7. You a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the



glo - ry of the Fa - ther. Glo - ry, Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we

praise your Ho - ly name,___ Glo-ry, Glo-ry hal-le- lu - jah, Lord we

Women

Praise your Ho - ly name.

Men

Praise your Ho - ly name.

A - - - men.

The Collect of the Day

Presider May God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transfigure us into his likeness, so that, as a people changed and changing, we may illumine the world with your compassion. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit as you are able.

A Reading from Exodus

Exodus 34:29-35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

The Response

After the Reading:

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 99

God reigns; let the people tremble; *

God is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.

God is great in Zion *

and is high above all peoples.

Let them confess God's Name, which is great and awesome; *

God is the Holy One.

"O mighty Ruler, lover of justice,

you have established equity; *

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

We proclaim your greatness, O God,

and fall down before your footstool; *

you are the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among your priests,

and Samuel among those who call upon your Name, *

they called upon you, and you answered them.

You spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *

they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

“O Holy God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.”

Proclaim the greatness of our God
and worship on God’s holy hill, *
for our God is the Holy One.

A Reading from Second Corinthians

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

The Response

After the Reading:

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

“*Alleluia, Alleluia*”

Please stand.

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

The Gospel

Luke 9:28-36

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"--not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

After the Gospel:

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Dismissal Of Children for Godly Play Story

Sung after final gradual verse as children leave the church.

Go on your way in joy, my friends!
Go on your way in joy, my friends!
Go on your way in joy, my friends!
Let your left foot say 'Glory!'
and your right say, 'Amen!'

Homily

Please sit.

Affirmation of Faith

Please stand in body or spirit.

We believe in the God of Life,
who creates and loves people,
who acts in history
and who promises never to leave us alone.

We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,
who is our brother,
who wants not to be idolized but to be followed.

We believe that we dwell in the presence of the Holy Spirit;
without her we are nothing;
filled with her we are able to become creative,
lively, and free.

We believe in the Church of Jesus Christ,
a community where we find companions and
courage for the struggles of life,
where we grow in our understanding of the faith,
through worship, prayer, nurture, and service.

We believe that God has a use for us in this time and
place, that though we walk through the valley of
the shadow of death, we are called to be
instruments of God's peace.

We believe in living, hoping, laughing, and enjoying
the good of the earth;

We believe that people can change, and God keeps
pulling us to life and to a new world of joy
and peace. ~ *Women's Uncommon Prayers*

The Prayers of The People

Please stand or kneel in body or spirit.

During the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Leader Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always.

Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we
may be bold to heal the earth, and pour your blessing upon all who work for
the good of the planet.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all who
dwell in it, and grant us the wisdom and will to conserve it.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed.
God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Author of the book of nature, receive our gratitude for places of restoration and healing, and continue to bless those places that feed our lives and spirits.
God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Wise Creator, whose works are full of mystery, give us wonder and appreciation for your creatures with whom we find ourselves in conflict.
God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Divine Physician, heal our communities, especially those where neglect, greed, or violence inflicts suffering upon people and other creatures.
God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help especially ...
God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died.
God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

The Collect

Eternal God, the light of all who know you, come and fill our hearts with your love. Help us stand for what is right when many sit in indifference. Increase our faith and charity, until your kingdom comes and heaven and earth rejoice in everlasting glory; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Confession

Please kneel as you are able.

All

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.

The Absolution

The Peace

Presider May the peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of Christ. Please remain at your seat and greet the people adjacent to you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Presider Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Each week we gather to proclaim God's love for all and to offer strength and courage for the journey. We are convinced that the hope, love and good news that we offer are exactly what people need to navigate these challenging times in which we live. If you share our conviction and values, we invite you to generously support St. Thomas and help us to continue to make a difference in our community and the lives of people that we serve.

If you give electronically, please place a giving card from the pew in the offering plate in lieu of your gift. Scan to donate:



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Credit Card

Offertory Anthem*Your Peace Shall Make Us One*

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.
You are speaking truth to power, you are laying down our swords,
replanting every vineyard 'til the brand-new wine is poured;
your peace will make us one.

Refrain

Glory, glory, hallelujah! [3x]
Your peace will make us one.

I've seen You in our home fires burning with a quiet light;
You are mothering and feeding in the wee hours of the night
your gentle love is patient, You will never fade or tire;
your peace will make us one

Refrain

In the beauty of the lilies you were born across the sea,
with a glory in your bosom that transfigures you and me;
dismantling our empires 'til each one of us is free;
your peace will make us one.

Refrain

Presentation Hymn*Please stand as you are able.**Doxology*

Hymn #380 v3

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

The Great Thanksgiving*Presider* The Lord be with you.*People* **And also with you.***Presider* Lift up your hearts.*People* **We lift them to the Lord.***Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.***Presider* All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

LEVAS #255

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

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est

Ho - san - na in the high - est

Presider continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

All

Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with [blessed _____, and] all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

All

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

Presider

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Albert Hay Malotte

Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en, hal-low-ed be thy Name,
Thy king-dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heav - en.
Give us this day our dai - ly bread. And for-give us our debts as we for-give our debt - ors.
And lead us not in-to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv-er us from e - vil. For thine is the
king- dom, and the pow- er, and the glo - ry, for ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of The Bread

Fraction Hymn

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

WLP #784

Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es! All our
Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -

hearts are filled with glad - ness! Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your
bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa

prai - ses! All our hearts are filled with glad - ness!
ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.

Christ the Lord to us said: "I am wine, I am bread, I am
Je - sus says to us still: "All who do the Lord's will, all who

wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger!"
do the Lord's will are my sis -ters and my bro - thers." **D.C.**

The Invitation to The Table

The Communion of the People

All who love God and seek Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table. To receive the bread, please place one hand over the other. If you choose not to receive communion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicating your desire by crossing your arms over your chest. Gluten free communion wafers and chalice are available. Simply, indicate your desire to the clergy. If you need to have communion brought to you, please alert an usher and the clergy will come to you. Please note: For reason of sanitation, we do not allow intinction.

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

LEVAS #152

1. Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees (on our
 2. Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees (on our

1. knees); Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees (on our
 2. knees); Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees (on our

1. knees). When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun, Oh— Lord, have mer - cy on me (on me). me).

Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees (yes, on our knees); Let us

praise God to - geth-er on our knees (yes, on our knees). When I

fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun, Oh—

Lord, have mer - cy on me (on me).

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals*. Arr. Copyright © 1992 Carl Haywood.

Post-Communion Prayer

Please stand or kneel.

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.**

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Blessings

Welcoming Visitors

Announcements

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Final Blessing

Please stand in body or spirit.

Recessional Hymn

Lead With Love

By Melanie DeMore

You gotta put one foot in front of the other
And lead with love
Put one foot in front of the other
And lead with love

Verses (call & response)

Don't give up hope
You're not alone
Don't you give up
Keep movin on

Lift up your eyes
Don't you despair
Look up ahead
The path is there

I know you're scared
And I'm scared too
But here I am
Right next to you

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

COMMUNICATION COVENANT

1. If we have a concern or issue that involves someone, we will discuss it with that person privately.
2. If someone has a concern or issue with another person and comes to us, we will send them to that person.
3. If someone is reluctant to speak to the person with whom they have a concern, we will offer to accompany him or her to see that person.
4. We will not interpret what others say or mean. (We will ask them if we are unclear of their intentions.)
5. If something is confidential, we will not share it with anyone. Exception: If you are aware that a) someone is going to physically harm someone else; b) someone is going to harm herself/himself; c) a child has been physically or sexually abused, please consult with the clergy.
6. We will not read or react to unsigned letters or notes.
7. We will not act on anonymous complaints brought by others.
8. We will not manipulate; We will not be manipulated. We will not let others try to manipulate others through us.
9. When in doubt, we will just say what is on our minds. The only dumb questions are the ones that are not asked.
10. When in disagreement, we will say it. We cannot resolve issues that are left unspoken. We cannot work together without mutual understanding and trust.
11. Our relationships with each other are the most important asset in our community. So, if we have a concern, we will pray and then, if led, speak up.



OUR WHY: To Lead With Love

We lead with love by:

- Being an inclusive, welcoming space for all.
- Seeking the holy in ourselves, each other, and the world
- Making a difference in our community

LEAD
WITH
LOVE

CORE VALUES

• ATTEND TO OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES

Through prayer, spiritual practices and formation, we weave our relationship with the Holy into the fabric of our daily lives. Prayer and discernment guide ministries and worship. (Foundational)

• CHOOSE LOVE

We act from love not fear; build bridges not walls. (Foundational)

• CREATE AND SUSTAIN COMMUNITY

We gather and care for each other. We cultivate deep relationships. We will prioritize our relationships with each other over the differences that separate us. (Foundational)

• WELCOME ALL

All means all and all are welcome. We promote an inclusive culture by 1) fostering the skills to shift our cultural perspectives and appropriately adapt our behavior to bridge cultural differences; 2) cultivating the self-awareness and empathy needed to value difference in working toward equity. (Missional)

• HONOR DIVERSITY

All are welcome. Our leadership, worship, music and ministry initiatives will reflect our diversity. (Missional)

• PROMOTE THE DIGNITY OF ALL

Through formation, lobbying and other initiatives we prayerfully engage in social justice activities that promote and protect the dignity of all people. (Missional)

• CARE FOR CREATION

We value our interdependence with creation and recognize our role as stewards. We incorporate practices that protect, sustain, and nourish our fragile earth and her inhabitants.

• ENGAGE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

We open our hearts and doors to our individual and church neighbors, strive to understand their needs and support them.

(Missional)

• NURTURE THE NEXT GENERATION

We offer, support and staff worship and formation opportunities for families and children. (Missional)

• CULTIVATE BEAUTY

We tend to the beauty of our space, worship and music that evokes a sacred sense of awe, stillness and joy. (Missional)

THANK YOU!

None of this would be possible without your financial support.

www.saintthomasdenver.org

Believe OUTLOUD™