St. Thomas Episcopal Church



Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Eucharist

October 6, 2024
2201 Dexter St., Denver, CO
saintthomasdenver.org

Welcoming Statement

At St. Thomas Episcopal Church, we affirm God's love for all of God's people. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your spiritual journey, and whatever your age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious background or social or economic circumstance or political affiliations, you are welcome here. We share a love of God and each other, a sense of meaning and belonging, a yearning to learn and grow in faith, and a desire to serve others. We are a vibrant, thriving community with opportunities for people of all ages for spiritual growth, fellowship, and making a transformative difference in our community. As an Episcopal Church, we are a worshipping community that is both rich with ancient tradition and relevant to life in the 21st century. We are glad you are here!

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.

Presiding this Week: The Rev. Terri Hobart
Preaching this Week: Cate Colburn-Smith

Music Leaders
Kari Miles
Angela Pleasants
Geoff Wodell

Godly Play and Nursery
Maria Perez
Akilah Walton

Seminarian: Cate Colburn-Smith

Contact Us:

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The Rev. Terri Hobart	terri@saintthomasdenver.org

St. Thomas, Civil Rights and The African American Tradition of Spirituals and Freedom Songs

Africans to enslaved in America created songs to express the hardships of slavery and their longing for freedom and home. Many spirituals combine lyrics about Christian themes with musical elements typical of West and Central Africa, making these songs one of the few ways in which slaves could preserve a small part of their native culture. Music was a common element for Africans from many disparate tribes as they faced new circumstances of terrible suffering and gradually forged a communal identity as African Americans. As they were passed down over the generations, many spirituals were adapted to new circumstances and became important sources of inspiration and expressions of protest in the 20th century, especially during the Civil Rights movement. Music energized the Civil Rights Movement, motivating protestors on long marches and providing psychological strength against harassment and brutality.

St. Thomas has a long legacy of social justice advocacy. In the 1960's a coalition of Park Hill churches, including St. Thomas, their congregants, and other neighborhood residents established the Park Hill Action Committee to create an inclusive neighborhood by dismantling school segregation and the practice of redlining. Park Hill and St. Thomas quickly became the center of the civil rights movement in Colorado. Our work continues to this day. Beginning this September 15th and continuing through the fall, the St. Thomas Choir invites everyone to join them during the offertory in singing Freedom Songs from the Spirituals Tradition. It is our deepest hope that these songs will once again inspire, energize and mobilize us to stand up to those who would strip the rights from people of color, women, immigrants, the LBGTQ community, and people of other faith traditions.

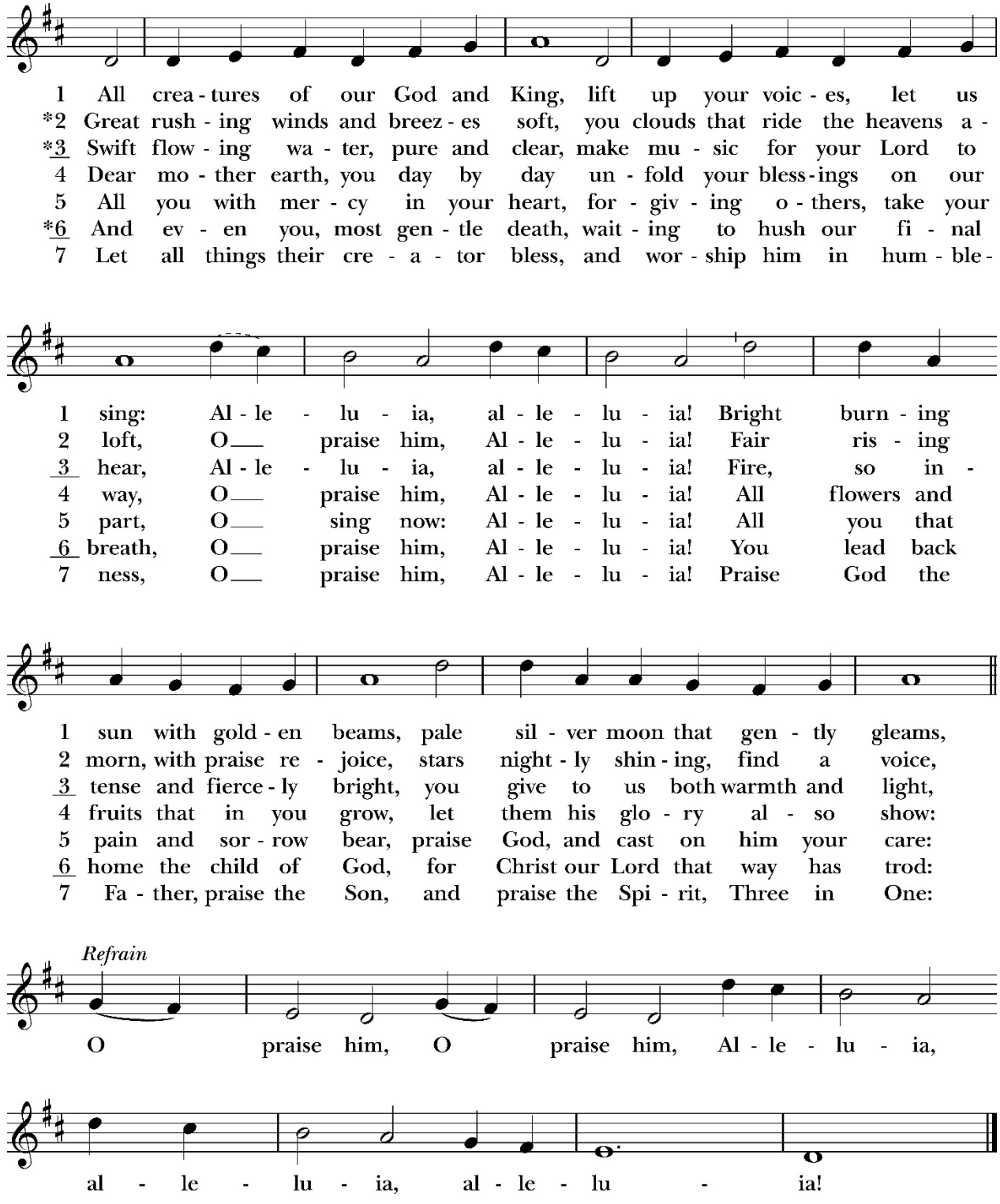
Faith and Democracy Sermon Series

In this election season as we encourage people to let the gospel values guide their actions, conversations and voting decisions, we will be six fundamental teachings of our faith drawn from Jim Wallis' book The False White Gospel: Rejecting Christian Nationalism, Reclaiming True Faith and Refounding Democracy.

September 22, 2024 The Rev. Terri Hobart	Luke 10:25-37 *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself. …Who is my neighbor?*
September 29, 2024 Mark Retherford	Genesis 1:26 *Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'*
October 6, 2024 Cate Colburn-Smith	John 8:32 *and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.'*
October 13, 2024 The Rev. Terri Hobart	Matthew 25:31-46 *As you have done to the last of these, you have done to me.*
October 20, 2024 The Rev. Terri Hobart	Matthew 5:9 *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the "children of God."*
October 27, 2024 The Rev. Terrance Carroll	Galatians 3:28 *There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.*

Processional *All Creatures of our God and King* Hymnal 1982 #400

Please stand in body or spirit.



The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

Words: St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistiche Kirchengeseng*, 123; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. *1 John 4:7-8*.

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Gloria **LEVAS #243**





Music: Carl Haywood (b. 1949) from *Mass for Grace*. Copyright © 1992 Carl Haywood.

The Collect of the Day

Presider May God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, so that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen**. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (2006) alt.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit as you are able.

A Reading from Job **Job 1:1; 2:1-10**

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." Then Satan answered the Lord, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."

So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

The Response

After the Reading:

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

Psalm 26

Give judgment for me, O God,
for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in you and have not faltered.

**Test me, O God, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.**

For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.

**I have not sat with the worthless, *
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**I will wash my hands in innocence, O God, *
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**O God, I love the house in which you dwell *
and the place where your glory abides.**

Do not sweep me away with sinners *
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,

**Whose hands are full of evil plots *
and their right hand full of bribes.**

As for me, I will live with integrity; *
redeem me, O God, and have pity on me.

**My foot stands on level ground; *
in the full assembly I will bless you, O God.**

A Reading from Hebrews **Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12**

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
or mortals, that you care for them?
You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honor,
subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

The Response

After the Reading:

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Please stand in body or spirit.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah MHSO #18



Words and Melody: Traditional Caribbean. Arr. Mark Sedio (b. 1954) © 1995 Augsburg Fortress, PO Box 1209, Minneapolis, MN 55440-1209 [www.augsburgfortress.org]. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Gospel **John 8:31-33**

Presider A Reading from the Gospel of John

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

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' They answered him, 'We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, "You will be made free"?'

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 now in peace.
Go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere
You may go

Homily

Please sit as you are able.

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.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Kym, our Rector, Terri; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.
Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.
Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. [especially_____] Pray for those in any need or trouble.
Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.
Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially_____]. Pray for those who have died.
Silence

I ask your prayers for those on your heart today:_____.
Silence

I ask your prayers of thanksgiving:_____.
Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored [especially_____whom we remember today]. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.
Silence

The Collect

Presider God of love, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, now and forever. **Amen**.

Confession

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.

Offertory Anthem *Gospel Train*

During this hymn the offering is collected. We invite you to generously support the ministries of St. Thomas. If you give electronically, please place a giving card from the pew in the offering plate in lieu of your gift. Scan to donate:

venmo
@StThomasDenver

Credit Card

The Gospel train's comin'
I hear it just at hand
I hear the car wheel rumblin'
And rollin' thro' the land

REFRAIN:
Get on board little children
Get on board little children
Get on board little children

I hear the train a-comin'
She's comin' round the curve
She's loosened all her steam and brakes
And strainin' ev'ry nerve

REFRAIN

The fare is cheap and all can go
The rich and poor are there
No second class aboard this train
No difference in the fare

REFRAIN

Presentation Hymn *Doxology* Hymnal 1982 #380 vs 3

Please stand as you are able.

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 God thanks and praise.**

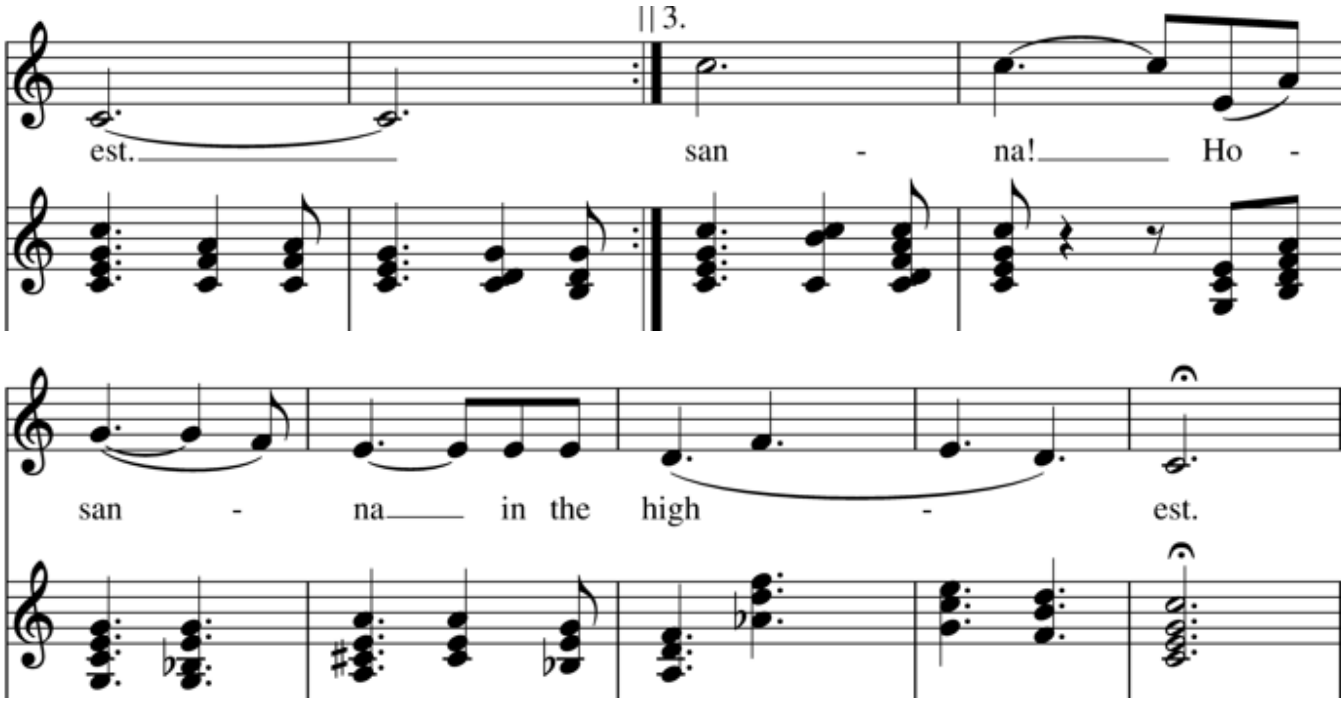
Presider It is our duty and our joy to give you thanks and praise, O God, creator and sustainer of the universe. We give you thanks for sun and sea and sky, for plants, birds and animals, for phases of the moon, for stars at night, and planets in their courses. All you make is very good. We give you thanks for our creation and our calling, for friendship and community, for love and laughter, tears and pain of growth.

For your gift of life we praise you we worship and adore you. We give you thanks with those who went before us, with saints and martyrs, evangelists and prophets. With all who stand before you in earth and heaven, from every culture, land and tongue, we praise you, giving voice to every creature, as we join the never ending hymn:

Sanctus LEVAS #253




God of pow - er and might,
1. Heav - en and earth are full
2.,3. Bless - ed is he who comes
1. of your glo - ry.
2.,3. in the name of the Lord.
1.,2.
Ho - san - na! Ho - san -
na in the high -



Music: Grayson Warren Brown (b. 1948), allr. Val Parker. Copyright © 1979 North American Liturgy Resources, 10802 N. 23rd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85029. All Rights Reserved.

The people stand or kneel in body or spirit.
Presider (continues)

Blessed are you, most Holy, in Jesus Christ, who came among us as a servant and a friend to reconcile us to yourself. We thank you for that life of love, the good news of your reign, and the promise of a banquet where all your children shall be free. To you indeed be glory, almighty God, because on the night before he died, your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup; when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: This cup is the new covenant in my blood poured out for you; do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

And so we gather around your table and with this bread of life and this cup of salvation we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

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

Therefore, loving God, recalling now Christ's death and resurrection, we ask you to accept this our sacrifice of praise. Send your Holy Spirit this bread and this wine and upon us and our celebration, that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son and be filled with your life and goodness.

Strengthen us to do your work, and to be your body in the world. Unite us in Christ and give us your peace. Through Christ our Redeemer, in the power of the Spirit, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

Blessing, honor and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and forever. **AMEN**.

© 2011 Bosco Peters *This text is authorized for use in the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia as it is consistent with A Form for Ordering the Eucharist (NZPB p.511-514).*

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER Albert Hay Malotte



The Breaking of The Bread

Fraction Hymn *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises* WLP #784

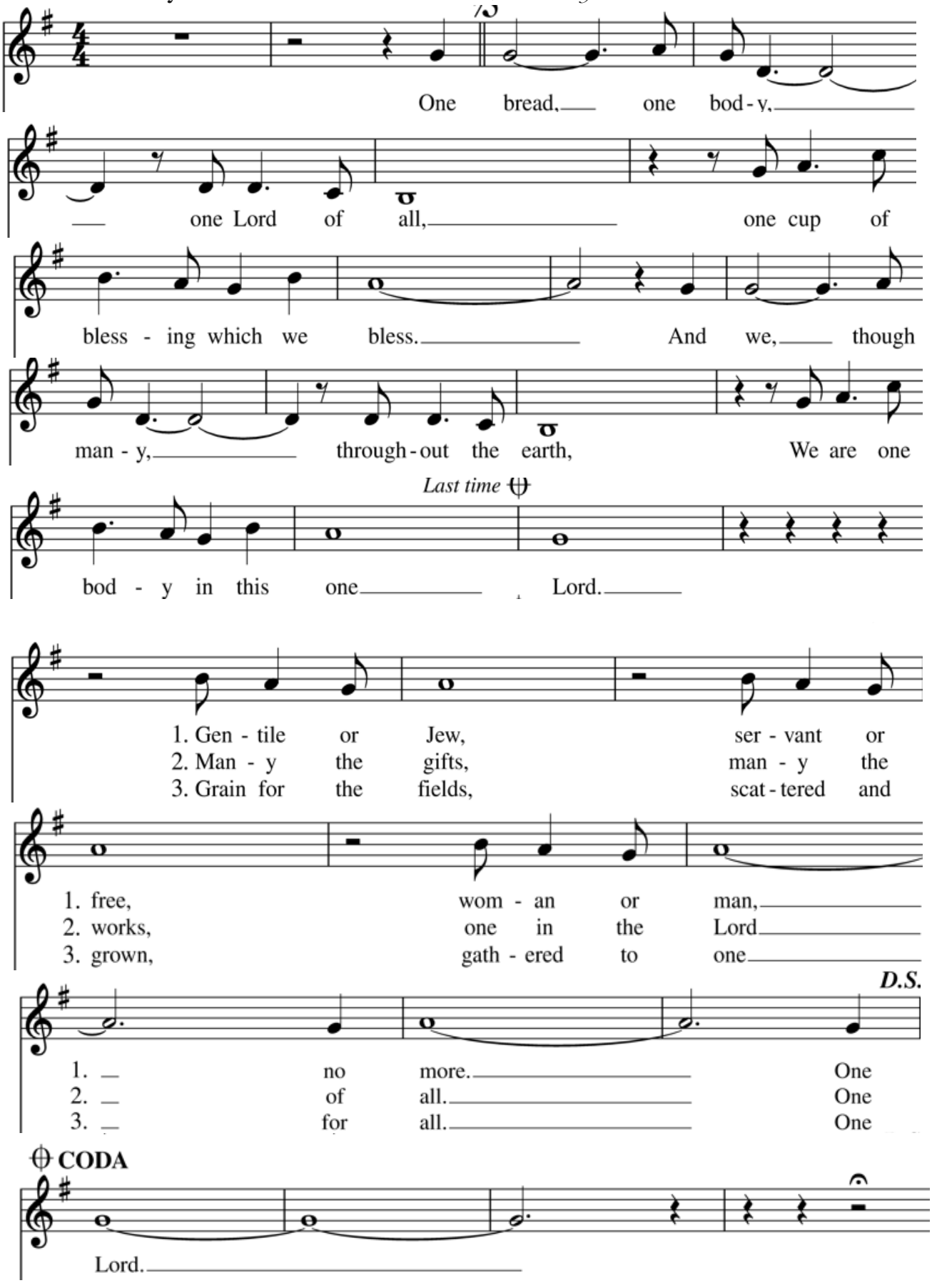


The Invitation to The Table

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. Please note: We do not allow intinction (dipping the bread into the wine.) If you need to have communion brought to you, please alert an usher and the clergy will come to you.

Communion Hymn *One Bread, One Body* LEVAS #151



Words: 1 Corinthians 10:16, 17; 12:4; Galatians 3:28; The Didache 9. Music: John B. Foley, SJ. Copyright © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and New Dawn Music, P.O. Box 13248, Portland, OR 97213. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

Post-Communion Prayer

Please stand or kneel in body or spirit.

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

Read Our Weekly Newsletter:

Final Blessing

Please stand in body or spirit.

May All Being Dwell in the Heart



Recessional Hymn *Each Little Flower that Opens* Hymnal 1982 #405



Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895). Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958), desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Used by arrangement with G. Schirmer, Inc. Descant, Copyright © 1979, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

The Dismissal

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

ST. THOMAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LEAD WITH LOVE

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

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