



Welcome to St. Thomas'!

For use in your pew racks: *Book of Common Prayer (BCP)* is noted in red, *The Hymnal 1982* is noted in blue, *Wonder Love & Praise (WLP)* is noted in green, *Lift Every Voice (LEVAS)* is noted in purple.

*All music is for the 10 AM service only.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

VOLUNTARY "Variations on Lully, Lulla" arr. *Charles Callahan*

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*HYMN 57 "Lo! he comes with clouds descending" *Helmsley*

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT OF PURITY **BCP 355**

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 KYRIE "Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena" *S-91 / **BCP 356**

Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT OF THE DAY **BCP 211**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 2: 1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

EXPLANATORY NOTES &
RUBRICS

Please stand as you are able.

Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (adventus) of Christ in his incarnation, and also looks ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time.

The Collect for Purity is a prayer of preparation as we enter worship.

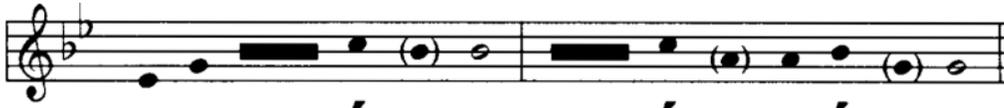
The Collect of the Day is a traditional prayer, following a particular formula, that is part of the Propers for the day (assigned set of texts, including the readings).

Please be seated.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 122 *Lætatus sum*

Tone V.1



I WAS glad when they said únto me, *
We will go into the hóuse of thé LORD.
Our feet shall stand ín thy gates, *
--- Ó Jerúsalem.
Jerusalem is built as a cíty *
that is at únity ín itself.
For thither the tribes go up (*) even the tribes of the LÓRD, *
to testify unto Israel (*) to give thanks unto the Náme of
thé LORD.
For there is the seat of júdgment, *
even the seat of the hóuse of Dávid.
O pray for the peace of Jerúsalem; *
they shall próser that lóve thee.
Peace be within thy wálls, *
and plenteousness withín thy pálás.
For my brethren and companions' sákes, *
I will wísh thee prospéry.
Yea, because of the house of the LÓRD our God, *
I will séek to dó thee good.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 13: 11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***HYMN 601** [vv 1-3] "O day of God, draw nigh"

St. Michael

GOSPEL

Matthew 24: 36-44

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying

In the Episcopal Church, we read a full complement of lessons from Scripture each Sunday. We follow the Revised Common Lectionary used by many denominations. The Old Testament Lesson and the Gospel are usually chosen to complement each other.

The Psalm highlights a theme in one or both of those lessons.

At 8 AM we recite the Psalm together. At 10 AM, the Choir sings the psalm according to one of several varieties of traditional chant.

The "Four Last Things" – Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell – have been traditional themes for Advent meditation. The characteristic note of Advent is therefore expectation, rather than penitence, although the character of the season is easily colored by an analogy with Lent. The anticipation of Christmas under commercial pressure has also made it harder to sustain the appropriate sense of alert watchfulness, but the fundamental Advent prayer remains 'Maranatha' – 'Our Lord, come' (1 Corinthians 16.22). Church decorations are simple and spare, and blue is the our liturgical color for the season.

The New Testament lesson is read in a semi-contiguous pattern and does not normally interact thematically with the other lessons.

Please stand as you are able.

The Gospel is the most important reading of all the lessons, and is accompanied by more ceremony. It, like all the Lessons, is Proper to the Day.

and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

SERMON

The Rev. Ryan R. Whitley

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Ryan and David, our priests; Martha, our Deacon; and Yamilet, our seminarian. Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for Donald our President; Ron, our Governor; Ken, our Mayor; and all those in civic authority. Before you rulers will stand in silence. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Please be seated when the Preacher so indicates.

Please stand as you are able.

The Nicene Creed is the official and ecumenical (meaning agreed upon by most of the churches) statement of the faith and of the Universal Church accepted by the Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople in the Fourth century.

Many people choose to bow their heads in reverence at the portion of the creed that mentions the Incarnation.

The strange word "Maranatha" is actually two Aramaic words put together (Marana - tha). Aramaic was the dialect of Hebrew spoken by Jesus. The phrase is generally interpreted as a statement of belief, meaning: "Our Lord has come." When combined in these petitions with the prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus," we are holding together the two themes of Advent - preparing for the annual remembrance of the Nativity of Christ, and preparing for our Lord's Second Coming at the end of days.

Come to the suffering as Savior and comforter. We pray for the sick, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list, and those we now name aloud or in silence: _____. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you forever. Maranatha: **Amen.** Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. We remember those who have died and those we now name aloud or in silence: _____. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to us as a friend to all. Give to us your blessing for the coming year and be ever-present in our lives as you were present with the disciples. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to us as steward of the gifts we have in this world. We pray especially for Benison Farm and its witness to the wider community of St. Petersburg. Maranatha: **Amen,** Come, Lord Jesus.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory. Lift us up to meet you, that with blessed Thomas, our Patron saint; the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, and all your saints and angels we may live and reign with you in your new creation. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Celebrant Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people, who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God forever and ever.

People **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

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.

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.

People **Amen.**

Please stand or kneel. The Leader and People pray responsively.

At St. Thomas' we take our Prayers from a book called Intercessions for the Christian People that ties the themes and language of the prayers to the readings for that day, or from Times and Seasons, which is an authorized books of prayers from the Church of England. What these prayers do well is challenge us to pray for people, events, and things that we might not always think about. You are encouraged to add your own prayers to the petitions printed either silently or aloud.

All join the Deacon in the Confession., kneeling as able.

Another way we respond to the proclamation of God's word and pray for ourselves is with the Confession. Confession prior to receiving the Holy Communion is not only good practice but a biblical requirement: we are taught that we must examine our consciences before receiving Communion with the goal of true amendment of life. See the Exhortation on BCP p. 316 for further instruction.

The Celebrant alone stands and pronounces the Absolution.

THE PEACE

Celebrant May the God of peace make you completely holy, ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Now, all stand for the Peace.

Exchange with your Christian brothers and sisters the peace of Christ which passes all understanding, the peace that Jesus himself left to us. This is not just "good morning" and if we demote it to that we do ourselves a disservice.

Please be seated.

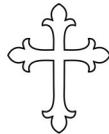
ANNOUNCEMENTS

(See upcoming events, bottom of page 7)

***OFFERTORY HYMN 11** "Awake, my soul"

Morning Hymn

Please scan the QR code to give in support of St Thomas'. Choose "Non-Pledge Income" from the drop-down menu. You may choose "Continue" if you prefer not to log in.



THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP 367

The Proper Preface changes by liturgical season.

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

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

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, ... 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:

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, ... joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

***S-114**

**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.**

Please kneel at the conclusion of the Sanctus, or remain standing.

... Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

... 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.

The Great Amen is the people's assent to the prayer of the priest. It is a great moment of unity and should be said or sung boldly.



LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

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

An intentional period of silence is kept as the priest breaks the bread. An appropriate devotion is to say quietly or silently the confession of St. Thomas, "My Lord and my God."

AGNUS DEI

***S-158**

O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Grant us peace.

All Christians baptized in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, regardless of denomination, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Come forward and kneel or stand at the Altar rail. If you do not wish to receive wine from the chalice for any reason, indicate by crossing your arms over your chest. Communion in one kind is as communion in both.

*ORGAN SOLO "Meditation on Divinum Mysterium" arr Charles Callahan

***COMMUNION HYMN 318** "Here, O my Lord, I see thee" Nyack
kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have

Healing prayers with the laying on of hands and anointing with oil is available during the Communion time at the rear of the nave.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

***HYMN 59** “Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding ” Merton

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Celebrant gives the blessing and the Deacon pronounces the dismissal.

Deacon As we await our coming Savior, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PROCESSION

VOLUNTARY “The King Shall Come” *arr. Charles Callahan*

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Please stand. During the final verse of the hymn, the clergy and altar party will form the closing procession.

Many people like to cross themselves at the mention of the Trinity.

The service is now concluded. The Acolytes will lead the Choir and the Altar Party out of the Nave. Once they have left, the Congregation may depart, though we strongly encourage you to remain for the entirety of the closing Voluntary, for which you may be seated.

Prayer List: Geoff, Sharon Joanne, Barbara, Yvonne, Jo John, Rosalie, Rick, Carol, Chris, Beverly, Pam, Larry, Connie, David, Laura, Mary, Ann, David, Nancy, Don, Linda, Evy, Carrie, James, Rene, Bill, Angie, Kevin, Suzette, Sally, Sue, Trish, Jamie, Deanna, Marilyn, Gabe, Martha.

Upcoming Events:

Christmas Flower Forms are at the Usher’s table. Order before December 15.

11/30 – Nativity Play Rehearsal, 11:30am | **12/1** – World AIDS Day | **12/2** – Canterbury’s Lessons and Carols, 5:30 pm | **12/4** – Morning Prayer at Benison Farm, 8:00 am, and Men’s Club, 6:00 pm | **12/6** – Isaiah’s Place Hot Meal Prep, 11:30 am | **12/7** – Sandwich Sunday, 9:00 am and A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, 4:00 pm | **12/8** – FAST, 6:45 pm | **12/10** – Chorus Angelorum’s *Windows of Christmas* concert, 7:00 pm | **12/21** – Giving Plate Sunday-Resurrection House, and Women’s Social Group, 12 noon, and Blue Christmas service, 4:00 pm | **12/24** – Christmas Family Service, 4:30 pm, Solemn High Christmas Choral Eucharist, 9:00 pm | **12/25** – Christmas Day Holy Eucharist, 10:00 am |

Thanks to those who are serving today:

8:00 am:

Greeter: Pat Bernfeld. **Lector and Prayers of the People:** Michael Labbee

10:00 am:

Acolytes: Joni James, Dominic Nicolas, Daniel Nicolas.

Audio Visual: Jackson Ball, Tom Brouillet. **Greeter:** Beth Finch. **Guest Organist:** Rebecca Kassang.

Healing Minister: Nancy Day. **Lay Eucharistic Ministers:** Michael Mahoney, Yamilet Roman.

Lectors: Peter Barlow, Liz Stiles. **Oblation Bearer:** Adrienne Ruga.

Prayers of the People: Elise Whitley. **Ushers:** Chris Finch, Tom Brady, Teri Andrés Coryell.

Altar Guild: Pat Bernfeld, Courtney Bermudez. **Coffee Hosts:** Ellen Burkhart, Viki Sheahan.

Counter: Tom Shevlin. **Flower Guild:** Pam Holley, Laura Vrooman.



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Website: www.stthomasstpete.org • Facebook: comeseestthomas

Rector's Cell Phone: (727) 685-9224

The Right Rev. Douglas F. Scharf, *VI Episcopal Bishop of Southwest Florida*

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Ryan R. Whitley, *Rector* • The Rev. David B. L. Gould, *Assistant*

The Rev. Martha E. Goodwill, *Deacon* • Yamilet Roman, *Seminarian*

Jordan R. Markham, *Organist and Choirmaster* • Russ Martin, *Parish Administrator*

Jon Ward, *Sexton*, Angel Bickert, *Nursery Attendant*, Joan Groendal-Patterson, *Nursery Attendant*

Vestry

(Class of 2025) Mary Clark, *Senior Warden* • Wade Hamby, *Treasurer* • Kayla Mitchell

(Class of 2026) Colin Burkhart, *Secretary* • Michael Labbee • Tom Shevlin, *Junior Warden*

(Class of 2027) Ted Badger • Ed Lanctot • Kanika Tomalin

Our Mission: Making a difference for others, because God is making a difference for us.

Our Vision: To create a safe, loving, and accepting place for all people to grow in their faith and spread love out into the beloved community.

