



## THE FEAST OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI BLESSING OF THE PETS

October 6, 2024, Proper 22  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II - 10 am

### *Welcome to St. Thomas'!*

*For your convenience and use, the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) is the red book in your pew racks, the Hymnal 1982 is the blue book, "S" numbers (for service music) appear in the beginning of the Hymnal 1982. Wonder Love and Praise (WLP) is the green book. Music is from Hymnal 1982 unless otherwise noted.*

HYMN

THE COLLECT OF PURITY

BCP 355

THE GLORIA

BCP 356

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may, for love of you, delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON

Job 39: 1-18

"Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? Can you number the months that they fulfil, and do you know the time when they give birth, when they crouch to give birth to their offspring, and are delivered of their young? Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open; they go forth, and do not return to them. "Who has let the wild ass go free? Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass, to which I have given the steppe for its home, the salt land for its dwelling-place? It scorns the tumult of the city; it does not hear the shouts of the driver. It ranges the mountains as its pasture, and it searches after every green thing. "Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Will it spend the night at your crib? Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes, or will it harrow the valleys after you? Will you depend on it because its strength is great, and will you hand over your labour to it? Do you have faith in it that it will return, and bring your grain to your threshing-floor? "The ostrich's wings flap wildly, though its pinions lack plumage. For it leaves its eggs to the earth, and lets them be warmed on the ground, forgetting that a foot may crush them, and that a wild animal may trample them. It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own; though its labour should be in vain, yet it has no fear; because God has made it forget wisdom, and given it no share in understanding. When it spreads its plumes aloft, it laughs at the horse and its rider."

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

PSALM 121 *Levavi oculos*

BCP 779

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

- 3 He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.

#### THE SECOND LESSON

Acts 4: 32-35, 5: 1-11

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. But a man named Ananias, with the consent of his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property; with his wife's knowledge, he kept back some of the proceeds, and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' feet. "Ananias," Peter asked, "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, were not the proceeds at your disposal? How is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You did not lie to us but to God!" Now when Ananias heard these words, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard of it. The young men came and wrapped up his body, then carried him out and buried him. After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you and your husband sold the land for such and such a price." And she said, "Yes, that was the price." Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." Immediately she fell down at his feet and died. When the young men came in they found her dead, so they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. And great fear seized the whole church and all who heard of these things.

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

HYMN

GOSPEL

Luke 12: 13-21

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

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to

them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Ryan Whitley

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

*Please stand or sit. The Leader and People pray responsively*

O God, whose name is Love, you created this world and all that is in it. We ask you to look with compassion and mercy upon us all. Look upon your wild creatures, O God, which delight us by their variety and beauty. Be with them in their struggle for existence, and shelter them from the natural and human dangers which surround them. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Look upon the companion animals, O God, which share our homes and our lives, and which show us a love and loyalty few people can surpass. Bless them for the pleasure and companionship they give, and protect all those who suffer cruelty and neglect. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Look, especially, O God, upon all those your creatures who suffer at the hands of humans in laboratories, factory farms, slaughterhouses, traps, sport, and entertainment. Be with them in their fear, pain and suffering, and hold them in your loving hands. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Look upon men and women, O God, your creation with love and mercy. Forgive us our selfishness and cruelty and lead us gently back into your way of love. Transform our hearts until they truly reflect the way shown to us by your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, whose love was perfect and who loved to the end that he gave his own life for us. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Forgive us our bitterness against those who abuse your creation, for Christ taught us to forgive, even as he forgave. Yet change the hearts of all who use animals with cruelty so that they may be filled with your love and mercy. Inspire all governments, and those in authority, to change the direction of medical research and food production, and to bring an end by law to all animal abuse. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Guide us all by your Holy Spirit into his transforming way of truth and love, and nurture in us a Christ-like spirit of compassion which is boundless and perfect. O God, we await the coming of your Kingdom, in our hearts and in your world. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

For the sick and dying we pray. That all who have asked for our prayers, especially those on our parish prayer list and those we now name \_\_\_\_\_, may know the healing power of God, and that those who die today may not die alone, especially remembering \_\_\_\_\_, we pray to the Lord. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant*

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation

with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN	BCP 360
THE PEACE	BCP 360
HYMN 380, [v. 3 only]	<i>Old 100th</i>
THE HOLY COMMUNION, EUCHARIST PRAYER A	BCP 361
SANCTUS	BCP 362
LORD'S PRAYER	BCP 364
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD	BCP 364
FRACTION	
COMMUNION	
HYMN	
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER / BLESSING	BCP 365/366
HYMN	
DISMISSAL	BCP 366

**Prayer List:** Dona, Geoff, Sharon Joanne, Barbara, Chris, Carrie, Yvonne, Jo, Terry, Julia, John, Russ, Kevin, Freddy, and all those adversely impacted by hurricane Helene.

*Thank you to those who are serving today:* **Acolytes:** Caroline Whitley, Jace Viera, Amelia Nickel. **Altar Guild:** Linda Sordan, Nancy Day. **Flower Guild:** Caron Burges, Laura Vrooman. **Greeters:** Diane Robinson. **Healing:** Liz Stiles. **Lay Eucharistic Minister:** Tom Shevlin. **Lectors:** Tom Alison, Lloyd Chapin. **Oblations:** Tyson Martin, Russ Martin. **Prayers of the People:** Mary Mellstrom. **Ushers:** George Burkhart, Bill Thomas.

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The Rev. Ryan Whitley, *Rector* • The Rev. Martha Goodwill, *Deacon*  
Jordan Markham, *Organist and Choirmaster* • Russ Martin, *Parish Administrator*  
Joe Master, *Director of Finance* • Jon Ward, *Sexton*

(*Vestry Class of 2024*) Bill Barns, *Secretary* • Pam Holley • Mary Jane Park, *Sr. Warden*  
(*Vestry Class of 2025*) Mary Clark, *Treasurer* • Wade Hamby • Kayla Mitchell  
(*Vestry Class of 2026*) Colin Burkhart • Michael Labbee • Tom Shevlin, *Jr. Warden*



*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 sign in. Choose "Hurricane Relief" or "Discretionary Fund" to help with current needs brought about by Helene.*

**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.