



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.
 * Indicates 10 am service only.

VOLUNTARY "Chorale Prelude on Merton" David Thorne (b. 1950)

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Choir All TUNE: MALCOLM ARCHER (b. 1952)

Bless - ed are you, Sov - reign Lord God of our an - ces - tors: to you be praise - and glo - ry for - ev - er.

Choir: You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfillment. May we be obedient to your call and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ, a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;

Choir All

for you are our light and our sal - va - tion. Bless - ed be God for ev - er.

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

THE COLLECT OF PURITY BCP 355

THE KYRIE BCP 356

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY BCP 211

THE FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 33: 14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

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

PSALM 25: 1-9 *Ad te, Domine, levavi* Tone I.7

Unto thee, O LORD, will I lift up my soul; * my God, I have put my trust in thee: *
 O let me not be confounded, * neither let mine enemies / triumph over me.

For all they that hope in thee sháll not bé ashamed; *
but such as transgress without a cause shall be /put to `cönfusión.

Show mé thy wáys, O LORD, *
and /teach me `thÿ *paths*.

Lead me forth in thy trúth, and léarn me: *
for thou art the God of my salvation; * in thee hath been my hope áll the `däy *long*.

Call to remembrance, O LORD, thy ténder mércies, *
and thy loving-kindnesses, which have been éver `öf *old*.

O remember not the sins and offénces óf my youth; *
but according to thy mercy think thou upon me, O LORD /for thy `göödness.

Gracious and ríghteous ís the LORD; *
therefore, will he teach /sinners ín the *way*.

Them that are meek shall he gúide in júdgment; *
and such as are gentle, them shall he /léarn his *way*.

All the paths of the LORD are mércy ánd truth, *
unto such as keep his covenant /and his `tëstimónies.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

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

*HYMN 68

"Rejoice! rejoice, believers,"

Llangloffan

GOSPEL

Luke 21: 25-36

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

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the

face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Ryan R. Whitley

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Please stand or kneel. The Leader and People pray responsively

(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.)

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

Come to your Church as Lord and judge. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Ryan, our priest; Martha, our Deacon; and David, our Canterbury Chaplin. 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 Joe 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.**

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 _____. 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, especially, _____.) 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. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

THE PEACE

BCP 360

BLESSING OF THE PLEDGES

Members of the congregation are invited to bring their pledges forward to have them placed on the Altar for a blessing.

*OFFERTORY ANTHEM	"In the Stillness"	Arlen Clarke (b. 1954)
THE HOLY COMMUNION, EUCHARIST PRAYER B		BCP 367
SANCTUS		BCP 362
LORD'S PRAYER		BCP 364
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD		BCP 364
FRACTION	"Agnus Dei"	BCP 363
COMMUNION		
*HYMN 336	"Come with us, O blessed Jesus, "	Werde munter
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER		BCP 366
*HYMN 59	"Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding."	Merton
*VOLUNTARY	"Wachet Auf: Proclamation"	Aaron David Miller (b. 1972)
DISMISSAL		BCP 366

Prayer List: Dona, Geoff, Sharon Joanne, Barbara, Chris, Carrie, Yvonne, Jo, Terry, Julia, John, Russ, Freddy, Kevin, Nancy, Rosalie, Lee, Anje, Joyce, Linda, Betty, and all those adversely affected by hurricane Helene and Milton.

Thanks to those who are serving today: **Acolytes:** Luke Evanoff, Colin Burkhart, Caroline Whitley. **Altar Guild:** Joanna Ritch, Laura Labbee. **Camera Operator/Digital Commentary:** Everett Jennings/Russ Martin. **Coffee Host:** Hospitality Guild. **Flower Guild:** Teri Andrés Coryell. **Greeters 10am:** Angie Ford. **Healing:** Liz Stiles. **Lay Eucharistic Minister 10am:** Tom Shevlin. **Lector 8am:** Mike Bice. **Lectors 10am:** Nancy Day, Louise Chapin. **Nursery:** Angel Bickert, Joan Groendal-Patterson. **Oblations:** Michelle Jennings, Everett Jennings. **Prayers of the People 8am:** Mike Bice. **Prayers of the People 10am:** Joan Barns. **Ushers:** George Burkhart, Bill Thomas.

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The Rev. Ryan R. 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, *Senior Warden*
(*Vestry Class of 2025*) Mary Clark, *Treasurer* • Wade Hamby • Kayla Mitchell
(*Vestry Class of 2026*) Colin Burkhart • Michael Labbee • Tom Shevlin, *Junior Warden*



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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.