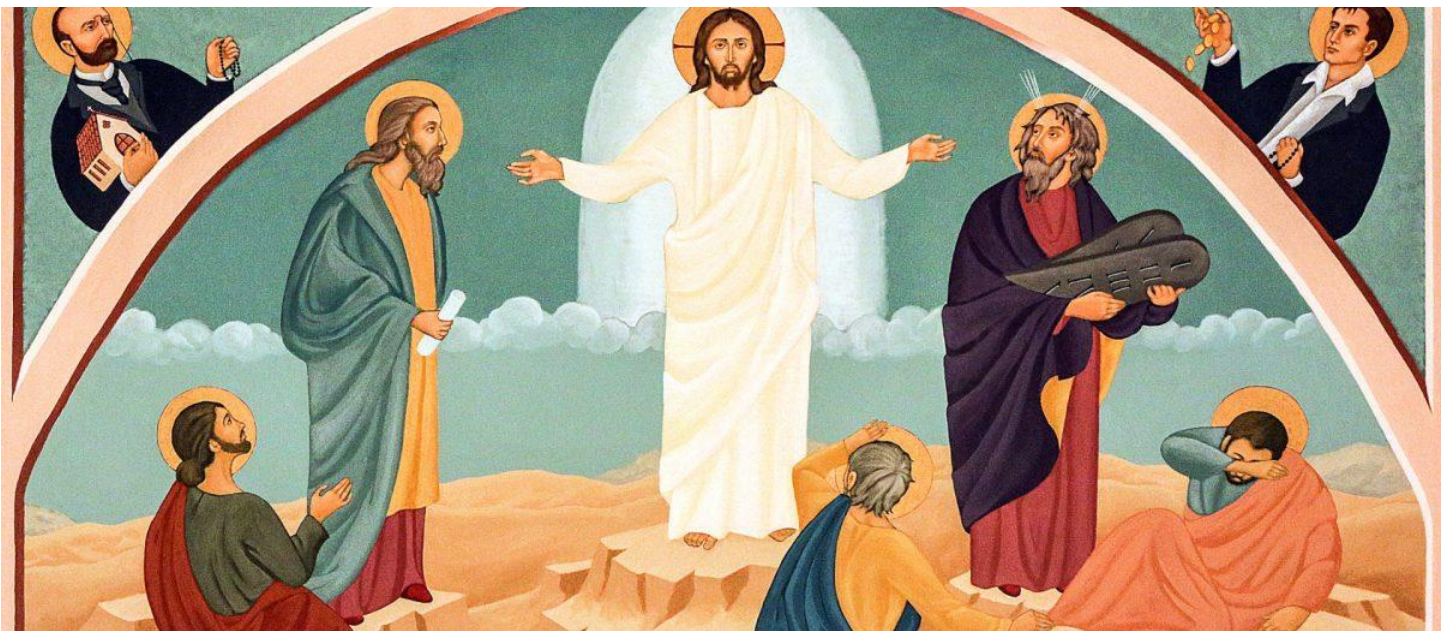


ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Petersburg, FL



THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 11, 2024

10:00 am - Rite II

Welcome to St. Thomas'!

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*We come together as the new week dawns to worship God, meet in fellowship,
and gather strength and hope for our work in the world.*

*For your convenience and use, the Book of Common Prayer is the red book in your pew racks,
the Hymnal is the blue book, and Wonder Love and Praise is the green book.*

Prelude "Sonate d'intavolatura" Domenico Zipoli

The Entrance Hymn "Songs of Thankfulness" SALZBURG
Blue Hymnal 135

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

The Celebrant and People together say

The Collect for Purity

**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.**

Hymn of Praise "Gloria"
Blue Hymnal S280

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain:
Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our
cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lord speaks to us in scripture and preaching. We respond proclaiming our belief, praying for the world, and greeting one another in His Name.

A Reading from the Second Book of Kings

2 Kings 2: 1-12

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

Psalm 50: 1-6

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



1 The LORD, the God of gods, has /spoken; *
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its/ setting.

2 Out of Zion, perfect in its /beauty, *
God reveals himself in/ glory.

3 Our God will come and will not keep/ silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging /storm.

4 He calls the heavens and the earth from a/bove *
to witness the judgment of his /people.

5 "Gather before me my loyal/ followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with /sacrifice."

6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his/ cause; *
for God himself is/ judge.

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

2 Corinthians 4: 3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

The Gospel Acclamation Blue Hymnal 137

"O Wondrous Type!"

WAREHAM

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

Mark 9: 2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for

Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Ryan Whitley

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

The Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel.

The work of God calls us to see that all the places and occasions of the world, even places of sorrow and death, are transfigured by the presence of the glory of God in Jesus Christ. Let us now call to mind all who are in any need and commend them to God's transforming care, saying: O merciful God, hear our prayer.

For those who are alone, for widows and widowers and orphans, and for the divorced, for the imprisoned, and for those whose only home is the streets. O merciful God,

Hear our prayer.

For the hungry, for those who cannot feed their children, and for the unemployed. For refugees, for the victims of warfare, and for those held in poverty by racial discrimination. O merciful God,

Hear our prayer.

For the people of our nation, our city, and our community. We pray especially for Joe, our President; Ron, our Governor; Ken, our Mayor and all those in civic authority. Guide them into ways of justice and peace. O merciful God,

Hear our prayer.

For the church and its leaders, formed by the light-bearing word of Christ. We pray especially for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Ryan and Anne, our Priests; Martha, our Deacon; and David, our Postulant and Canterbury Chaplain. O merciful God,

Hear our prayer.

For this assembly, feeding on the word of Christ. O merciful God,

Hear our prayer.

For all who labor in the world and in the church and for those who hold the care of your creation dear. We pray for hands, hearts, and minds at Benison Farm, that in a season of growth this holy place may flourish becoming a life-giving resource in this beloved community, our home. O merciful God,

Hear our prayer.

For the sick, bring healing to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We pray for those we know and love, especially those on our Parish prayer list, for those who care for them, and those we now name.....O merciful God,

Hear our prayer.

For those who have died, fill us with expectation and eager longing of that day when no one will suffer, but all will be gathered together in heavenly joy and eternal prosperity, especially (_____), and for all the departed. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant

With Moses and Elijah and all the people of God, with the church throughout the ages bearing witness to the great light of God shining in dark places, we commend to you all for whom we pray, O merciful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

Please kneel.

Deacon The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Savior Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us confess our sins.

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.**

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. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Community Announcements and Welcome of Visitors

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

To sustain us until he comes for the final time

the Lord comes to us now in His sacrifice banquet and we receive Him

A Communion Class Pastoral Introduction

Today we celebrate with Tenlyn Jordanov, Blythe Mitchell, and Brynn Stutzman, who share faithfully and regularly in our worship. A person is admitted to communion on the basis of their baptism, the sign and pledge of incorporation into the death and resurrection of Christ and the new life of the kingdom of God. We welcome them today as they conclude their communion class and look forward to learning with and from them as we journey together on the Way of Christ.

The Offertory
Choir

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Stephen Cleobury

Please stand.

The Presentation Hymn
Blue Hymnal 618

“Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
St. 4

*O friends in gladness let us sing,
Supernal anthems echoing, alleluia, alleluia
To God the Father, God the Son
And God the Spirit three in one,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

† The Great Thanksgiving †

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP p. 361

Sanctus
Green Hymnal 859

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Ronald Arnatt

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.
**Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

After the Sanctus, the people remain standing or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Fraction Anthem Blue Hymnal S169

“My Flesh is Food Indeed”

Ray W. Urwin

The musical score is written on four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature. Above the staff, the text "Cantor or Choir" is written. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Below the staff, the lyrics "My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -" are written. The second staff continues the melody and includes a first ending bracket labeled "1 All" and a second ending bracket labeled "2 Cantor or Choir". The lyrics "deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my" are written below. The third staff continues the melody with the lyrics "flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. My". The fourth staff concludes the piece with the lyrics "flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord." and ends with a double bar line.

Music: Ray W. Urwin (b. 1950). Copyright © 1984 by Ray W. Urwin. Used by permission.

The Welcome of First Communicants

Those celebrating First Communion take their place, standing at the Altar Rail.

We are God's pilgrim people.
We share in the story of God's love for the world,
God's love in Christ, calling us to himself,
God's love in the Spirit, giving strength for our journey of faith.
We celebrate this love in word and song,
we feed on Jesus in bread and wine and make him known through our life together.
As the people of God in this place, we share the responsibility of encouraging one another in our worship and supporting one another in our discipleship, by our example and our prayers. *Tenlyn, Blythe, and Brynn*, we welcome you in Jesus' name to receive communion with us.

The Questions

Brothers and sisters, today we are celebrating with *Tenlyn, Blythe, and Brynn*. As parents and godparents, and as the community of St. Thomas' we share the responsibility of encouraging them in their worship, and of supporting them by our friendship, our example and our prayers. Will you help them to grow in faith and love?

All We will.

Tenlyn, Blythe, and Brynn you love God, you follow Jesus, and you live the Christian life. Do you wish to receive Holy Communion?

We do.

As Tenlyn, Blythe, and Brynn receive today the sacrament of the body and blood of Christ, let us pray that we may all know and reflect the love of Christ. God of life, you invite us to eat at your table; may we know your love as we share your heavenly food, and shine with your light all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All baptized persons regardless of denomination are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

If you desire a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free host is available.

As part of our life together at St. Thomas' Church, we continue a ministry practiced by our Lord Jesus Christ – the laying on of hands and anointing with oil. If you wish additional prayer for any reason, please gather around the Baptismal font after you receive Holy Communion. We welcome you to participate in this life-enriching ministry.

Communion Motet
Choir

“Day by Day”

Martin How

Communion Hymn
Blue Hymnal 321

“My God, Thy Table Now is Spread”

ROCKINGHAM

The Post-communion Prayer

BCP p. 366

Please stand or kneel. Celebrant and People together say,

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.

THE SENDING OUT OF THE LORD'S PEOPLE

We go out into the world having received the Body and Blood of Christ. As our time of worship ends, our time of service begins.

The Epiphany Blessing

Celebrant May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

Processional Hymn
Blue Hymnal 122, Text

"Alleluia, songs of Gladness"

DULCE CARMEN
Blue Hymnal 559, tune

The Dismissal

Deacon Led on by the light of Christ, now made manifest to the world, let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

"Fanfare"

Arthur Bliss

Community Announcements

FACEBOOK LIVE SERVICES

Holy Eucharist, Sunday, 10 am

WOW, WOMEN OF THE WORD

Thursdays at 9:15 am in the Founder's Room

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday's at 7:30 am in the Founder's Room.

EVENING EUCHARIST SERVICE

Wednesdays at 5:15 pm

SUPPER, SONG, AND PRAYER

Wednesday at 6:00 pm

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Dona, Geoff, Sharon Joanne, Tara, Anne, Ed, Yvonne, Howard, Marcia, Ann, Jean, Jan, Pat, David, Billy, Carolyn, Brenda, Marissa, Katrina, Joe, Cindy, John, Sharon, Joey, Mike, Nancy, Anne, Donna, Michael, Tricia, Joyce, Susan, Charlie, Don, Robert, Estelle, Doug, Matthias, Jennifer, Matthew, Andrea, Chris, Barbara, Lily, Jane, Logan, Kathy, Mary, Diane, and Ronnie.

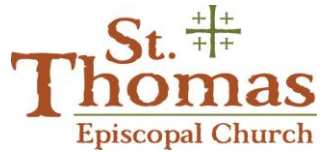
FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

Our February 11th "Behind the Scenes" will be Lenten Liturgy and a Sacristy Tour for families. Meet by the altar after the 10am service!

"Stations of the Cross: An Intimate Perspective," by St. Thomas' parishioner and St. Petersburg artist Ellen Burkhart, will be on display in our main worship space during Lent. Please join us from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday for a reception celebrating Ellen and her work. Ellen earned a degree in fashion design at Parsons School of Design in New York City. She worked in the fashion industry for 20 years. Ellen, her husband, George, and their adult twin sons, Colin and Tyler, have been members of St. Thomas' since 2006. She has spent most of the past year creating the images, which depict the final events of Jesus' life. The exhibition runs through March 29 and may be viewed on Sundays during regular worship hours; at other times, by appointment. For information, please email stthomasartproject@gmail.com

BLACK BAG LENTEN PROJECT

The Lord said we should feed and clothe the needy! Here is an opportunity to do just that!! The first day of Lent is Wednesday, February 14 and here's an easy discipline for you! Each day of Lent, remove one item from your closet that you no longer wear or need. Place the item in the black bag, offering a prayer of thanksgiving. At the end of Lent, donate these items to Mercy Keepers or your favorite charity where they will be shared with someone who can really use them! You can bring your bags to church this year as we have volunteers to deliver them to Mercy Keepers. The Black Bags can be found on the Welcome Table. Help yourself!



ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1200 Snell Isle Blvd.
St. Petersburg, FL, 33704

The Rev. Ryan R. Whitley, *Rector*

Thanks to those who are helping today ...

Acolytes: David Gould, Joni James, Caroline Whitley, Pippa Forrester
Altar Guild: Barbara Bice, Jean Irwin
Camera Operator: Everett Jennings
Coffee Host: Liz Stiles
Flower Guild: Marilyn Lanctot
Healing: Kay Mahoney
Eucharistic Minister: Dudley Savage
Lector 10am: Michael Mahoney, Tom Alison
Musicians: Choir
Oblations: Susan and Steve McMullen
Prayers of the People: Angie Ford
Ushers: Tom Shevlin, Dick Nelson

Church Telephone: 727-896-9641
Rector's Cell Phone: 727-685-9224
Email: graces@stthomasstpete.org
Website: www.stthomasstpete.org
Facebook: [comeseestthomas](https://www.facebook.com/comeseestthomas)

The Rev. Anne Hartley, Curate
The Rev. Martha Goodwill, Deacon
Ruth Cobb, Interim Organist/Choir Director
Joe Master, Director of Finance
Grace Smith, Director of Communications
Jon Ward, Sexton

Vestry Members

Class of 2024

Bill Barns, *Secretary*
Pam Holley
Mary Jane Park, *Sr. Warden*

Class of 2025

Mary Clark, *Treasurer*
Wade Hamby
Kayla Mitchell

Class of 2026

Colin Burkhart
Michael Labbee
Tom Shevlin, *Jr. Warden*

Please scan to donate in support of St Thomas. Choose "Non-Pledge Income" from the drop down menu. You may hit "Continue" if you prefer not to sign in.

