

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Petersburg, FL



CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

PROPER 29

November 26, 2023

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

Nun Danket Alle Gott

Georg Friedrich Kauffmann

The Entrance Hymn
Blue Hymnal 450

“All Hail The Power of Jesus’ Name”

CORONATION

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
Green Hymnal 900

“Glory to God”

John Rutter

The Collect of the Day

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

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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 Prophet Ezekiel

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

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

Psalm 95: 1-7a

James E. Barrett

The choir sings refrain through once, then choir and congregation repeat the refrain.

Refrain



We are the peo-ple of his pas-ture and the sheep of his hand.

- 1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. **[Refrain]**

3 For the LORD is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.

4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also. [Refrain]

5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. [Refrain]

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Ephesians 1: 15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

The Gospel Procession “God, My King, Thy Might Confessing”
Blue Hymnal 414

STUTTGART

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

Matthew 25: 31-46

Jesus said, “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did

it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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.

Through baptism we have been raised with Christ, ordained to a royal priesthood, and made citizens in a holy nation. As faithful priests serving the King of kings, let us intercede for all the world, saying: in the name of Jesus our King, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, sovereign majesty, as your humble priests we pray for all your children who do not confess you as Lord. Enable us to live the good news convincingly, that all may inherit life eternal in the kingdom of heaven. 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. In the name of Jesus our King,
Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, ruler of all nations, cause the leaders of nations to recognize your sovereignty and to accept your gracious rule. Make them proponents of peace and lovers of justice. Crown each ruler with compassion, that all peoples may live in peace. We pray especially for Joe, our President; Ron, our Governor; Ken, our Mayor; and all those in civic authority. In the name of Jesus our King,
Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, merciful monarch, look with pity on all who suffer: those with incurable disease, those unjustly imprisoned, those denied dignity, the hungry, those without shelter, those who live without hope. Direct us toward them, that their royalty may be reclaimed and their lives celebrate your grace. We lift up in prayer your Creation, those who labor in agriculture, those who work community gardens, and Benison Farm. We pray especially for those on our Parish Prayer list and those we now name...

In the name of Jesus our King,
Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, Lord of the church, we pray for your holy catholic church on earth. Gather all who bear the name of Christ into one vigorous, fruitful community of faith, that the world may see one King of glory and one kingdom of grace. In the name of Jesus our King,
Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, benevolent judge, we pray for all your people gathered here to seek your grace. By your mercy, prepare us for the day of judgment, that we may accept it as a rich and royal gift for the eternal pleasure of the faithful. In the name of Jesus our King,
Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, divine Creator, perfecter of all life, behold the dying. Grant them peace at the last and welcome them into your heavenly dominion. When our last hour shall come, look not on our sins but accept us on the merits of our gracious redeemer, Jesus Christ. (Today, we especially pray for _____.)
In the name of Jesus our King,
Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, great healer, pray for those who are in need of your holy, life-giving, and healing touch. Comfort and bless all those who provide care and protection; we remember our Nation's Servicemen and Servicewomen, first responders, nurses, doctors, and all medical personnel. Bless all students, teachers, and administrators at Canterbury and in our community's schools. In the name of Jesus our King,
Hear our prayer.

Celebrant

Grant these petitions, O God, according to your perfect will, that your holy name be praised and proclaimed until that day when all the faithful shall gather before your throne in heaven, through the merits of Christ the King. Amen.

Please be seated

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

BCP p. 360

Please kneel.

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept

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 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

Our risen Lord comes to us in His sacrifice banquet and we receive Him with grateful hearts.

The Offertory Anthem
Chancel Choir

“Thy Kingdom Come, O God”

Martin How

† The Great Thanksgiving †

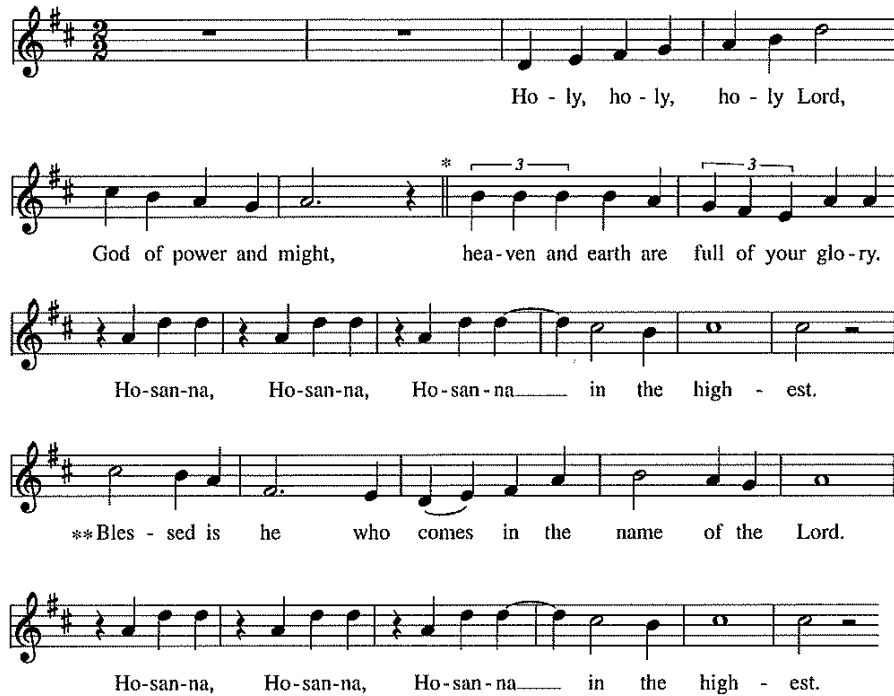
Eucharistic Prayer A
Please stand.

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.

Fraction Anthem
Blue Hymnal S161

“Lamb of God”

David Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

All baptized persons regardless of denomination are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you desire a blessing instead, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest. 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 Hymn
Blue Hymnal 328

“Draw Nigh and Take”

SONG 46

The Post-communion Prayer

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 Blessing

Please stand.

Life is short. We don't have much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk this way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind. The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

**Processional Hymn
Green Hymnal 721**

"Signs of Endings All Around Us"

TON-Y-BOTEL

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

"Rigaudon"

Andre Campra

The flowers today are given in love and thanksgiving for Dave & Pat Bernfeld and their tireless support of Benison Farm by Martha Goodwill.

Community Announcements

LIVESTREAMED SERVICE

Holy Eucharist, Sunday, 10 am on Facebook and YouTube

WOW, WOMEN OF THE WORD

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

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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

EVENING CHAPEL EUCHARIST

Wednesday at 5:15 pm

SUPPER 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, David, Charlie, Don, Robert, Estelle, Gina, Matthias, Jennifer, and Matthew.

CHORUS ANGELORUM AND THE IONA CONSORT

Present a Festival Holiday Concert, Sunday, December 3 at 7pm at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church. The concert is free and open to the public.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FAMILIES

December 3, 9am for grades 5-12, 10am for grades K-5 Christmas Pageant - 1st planning session. If you would like a reader's role - come this day!!

ST. NICOLAS CHRISTMAS CAROL SING ALONG

Wednesday, December 6 at 6:45pm in the sanctuary. Send in your requests to Ruth, rcobb@stthomasstpete.org. Christmas Cookie and Punch reception to follow. Please let us know in the office if you can bring cookies or punch!

GOD HELP US!

Our parents' group meets every Sunday at 9am in the Guild Room. This group is for school-aged children and childcare is provided.

ANGEL NEEDED

The St. Thomas' Art Project needs a volunteer or volunteers to post information about current and upcoming shows to our Facebook and Instagram accounts. The efforts are not needed daily or weekly, but we do hope for several posts announcing upcoming shows and other activities and some to recap exhibition openings.

Are you the answer to our prayers? If yes, please email art co-chairpersons Mary Jane Park (maryjanepark@aol.com) and Gina White (ginabwhite@yahoo.com).

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Thursday, December 21, 6:30-7:15 pm, St. Thomas' chapel. December 21 is the longest night of the year when the winter solstice creates more hours of darkness than light. For some, the entire Christmas season can be too long amidst the merriment of others. Feelings of bereavement, illness, estrangement or worry, can often be amplified during the holidays. On the other end of the spectrum, others may be simply overwhelmed with too much Christmas and not have time to truly reflect on its meaning. Either way, the Longest Night Service offers comfort, hope, wholeness, and renewal for a time of quiet reflection, meaningful liturgy, and music. All shared in the good news of "God is with us: Immanuel!"



Decorating for the Christmas Season

Soon the Flower Guild will be decorating the Church for the Christmas season. If you would like to remember a loved one or want to give thanks for someone, your contribution to the Christmas decorations is a way to share your remembrance with your St. Thomas family.

If you would like to make a donation of \$30 or more, for Christmas decorations, please send in your check with the name(s) of the person(s) to be remembered to Grace in the Church office. The **deadline is December 19th** in order for your dedication to appear in the Christmas bulletin.

Thank you for your generosity. From the entire Flower Guild.....
"We wish you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!"

Christmas Dedication Order Form

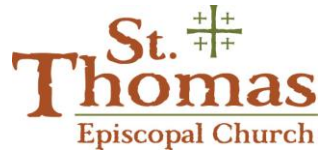
Your name: _____ Phone: _____

Donation: \$ _____

In Memory of:
Name of person(s) being remembered: _____

In Thanksgiving for:
Name of person(s) being remembered: _____

Please be sure to include your check, payable to St. Thomas, with order and send to:
St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 1200 Snell Isle Blvd. NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33704



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 ...

Acolyte: Colin Burkhart, Caroline Whitley,
Luke Evanoff
Altar Guild: Barbara Bice, Linda Sordan
Camera Operator: Molly Goodwill
Coffee Host: Laura Reitan
Eucharistic Minister: Elise Whitley
Flower Guild: Elizabeth Alison, Pam Holley
Healing: Anne Elstun
Lector 10am: Mary Mellstrom, Laura Hine
Music: Chancel Choir
Oblations: Anne and Jim Elstun
Prayers of the People: Jaime Elstun
Ushers: Tom Brady, Tom Shevlin

Church Telephone: 727-896-9641
Rector's Cell Phone: 727-685-9224
Curate's Cell Phone: 954-253-4414
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 2023

Russ Ball
Michelle Jennings
Ann Leavine, *Treasurer*

Class of 2024

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

Class of 2025

Mary Clark
Wade Hamby

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.

