

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ST. PETERSBURG, FL

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 15, 2020

Rite II

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Coming together from our week in the world, we ready ourselves to worship God.

Prelude

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"
The Bells of St. Thomas'

arr., Terry Osman

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

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.

Canticle 20 *Spoken*

"Glory Be to God"

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the Glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

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

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lord speaks to us in scripture and preaching about how He has saved all humankind from the power of death by raising His Son to life again. We respond proclaiming our belief, praying for the world, and greeting one another in His Name.

A Reading from the Book of Judges

Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

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

Psalm 123 (Spoken)

To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

So our eyes look to the LORD our God, *
until he show us his mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

The Gospel Tract

"Gospel Alleluia"
Cantor

Rick L. Smith

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Matthew 25:14-30

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more

talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Martha Goodwill

The 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.

The Prayers of the People

Please remain standing or kneel.

The day of the Lord is soon upon us, a day not of wrath but of salvation. As children of the light and of the day, let us await the coming of the Lord in prayer on behalf of the human family around the word, saying: O God, for the sake of Christ, have mercy on us.

Let us pray for those who are not ready for the coming of the Lord, for the unbelieving, the skeptical, the scorners, that they may be brought to faith and rejoice to confess the name of the Lord. O God, for the sake of Christ, **have mercy on us.**

Let us pray for those who use their lips and lives to proclaim the good news of Christ's return, that they may persist in their zeal, empowered and emboldened through the gifts of your spirit. We pray especially for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Dabney, our Bishop; Ryan and Ann, our Priests; Martha our Deacon; Sonia, our Canterbury Chaplain; and Diana our Seminarian. O God, for the sake of Christ, **have mercy on us.**

Let us pray for those who, with joy and longing, await the return of the Messiah, that they may not grow weary in well-doing, but witness to the immediate and everlasting promise of our holy Redeemer. We pray especially for those celebrating their birthdays this week: Norm Dobiesz, Rory McMahon, Whitaker Mitchell, Linda Sordan, Dick Nelson, Michael Mahoney, Sarah Giberson, Bill Stover, and Kerry Dobbs. O God, for the sake of Christ, **have mercy on us.**

Let us pray for those whose lives are marked by hunger and need, grief and loneliness, anger and strife, discord and uncertainty, that each may be assured of the grace and mercy of God. O God, for the sake of Christ, **have mercy on us.**

Let us pray for those who suffer affliction of any kind, that God, their constant companion and champion, may grant them healing and hope and life. We pray especially Mark, Winifred, Jon, Vaughn, Marshall, Esther, Rose, Robert, Jessica, Faye, Lindsey, Shirley, Taylor, Lynn, Michael, Charlotte, Emelia, Laura, Jack, Philip, Kudzai, Audrey, Pippa, Jane, Kim, and Bill. Lay upon them your hand of mercy; renew and restore them, giving them cause to proclaim and praise your name. O God, for the sake of Christ, **have mercy on us.**

Let us pray for those who are prevented from praying with us, the persecuted and their persecutors, that each may be convinced of the good news of Jesus Christ and respond with faith and commitment. O God, for the sake of Christ, **have mercy on us.**

Let us pray for ourselves, that the Spirit will ready us for the return of our Savior and King, that we may enjoy forever the exhilarating life awaiting the faithful in heaven. O God, for the sake of Christ, **have mercy on us.**

Let us pray for the merciful Creator, and source of all compassion to look with pity upon our world. Help us overcome the ravages of war, disease, hunger, and injustice; give dignity and well-being to all the human family. Visit us with your love; grant us peace; point us to the

way that leads to fulfillment and sufficiency for all. We pray especially for Donald, our President; Ron, our Governor; Rick, our Mayor; and all those in civic authority. O God, for the sake of Christ, **have mercy on us.**

Let us pray for the divine Creator, perfecter of all life, to 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 _____.) O God, for the sake of Christ, **have mercy on us.**

Let us pray for those who are sick with COVID-19, for their friends and family especially those who are unable to be with them, for first responders, nurses, doctors, and all medical personnel, and that this pandemic may be lifted from us. O God, for the sake of Christ, **have mercy on us.**

Celebrant

Because you are God, you hear our prayers. Because you are merciful, you promise to answer. We commend to you, merciful God, ourselves and those for whom we pray, through the crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Community Announcements and Welcome to 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 Music

“Let All Things Now Living”
The Bells of St. Thomas’

arr., Lloyd Larson

† The Great Thanksgiving †

Please stand.

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **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, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore we praise you, 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

**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 or remain standing)

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

People **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,**

as we forgive those
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction

The Communion

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 as our time of worship ends, our time of service begins.

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Proclamation

"Rise Up, Ye Saints of God!"
Cantor, Singers

FESTAL SONG

The Dismissal

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

Postlude

Please remain seated until after the Postlude (camera still rolling).

*The Altar flowers have been given to the Glory of God and in
thanksgiving for the birthdays of Al, Bill, Jim, and Win
by
Kathy Stover*

Community Announcements

ST. THOMAS' EVENTS

All in person events are cancelled at this time. All meetings are live streamed or on Zoom.

FACEBOOK LIVE SERVICES DURING CORONAVIRUS ISOLATION

Morning Prayer - M-F, 9 am

Compline - W, 8 pm

Eucharist (in person), Rite II - Sunday, 9 am

Services will be livestreamed to Facebook and YouTube, uploaded to the homepage of our website at the conclusion of the livestream.

ZOOM SUNDAY COFFEE HALF-HOUR

Please join us following virtual worship today for a ZOOM Coffee Half-Hour.

Topic: Virtual Coffee Half-Hour; 10:00 am Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83606917016?pwd=TWlkdHcwMjR1dStGaDYyN09DeENrUT09>

Meeting ID: 836 0691 7016, Password: 466956

CENTERING PRAYER

Tuesdays at 5:30 pm on Zoom, Led by Tricia Schachtel & Rev. Ann

Join Zoom Centering Prayer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88101334416?pwd=RGIVOWhoOWgwbzIESWVqVHBhMGplZz09>

Meeting ID: 88101334416, Password: 617132

Whether you are more experienced at Centering Prayer or brand new to it, you have a place in the circle. If you have questions, please email Tricia at triciaschachtel@gmail.com or Rev. Ann at revann@stthomasstpete.org

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Continues on ZOOM, Wednesdays at 7:30 am

The First Apology of Justin Martyr, Chapters 29-32

https://ccel.org/ccel/justin_martyr/first_apology/anf01/anf01.ii.ii.i.html

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97348285267?pwd=b3FDL0ZTS2VWcWVKOFd6MCSxcTFHdz09>

Meeting ID: 973 4828 5267, Password: 075905

WOW, WOMEN OF THE WORD

Join the Women of the Word Thursdays, on Zoom. Fellowship at 9:15 am, prayer and lessons at 9:30 am - Continuing a study of Paul's Letter to the Ephesians with emphasis on the armor of God including the importance of prayer in times of challenging circumstances.

All women and guests are welcome. Any questions, ID and password information – call Julie Songster 727-822-6868 or rsvp4julie@aol.com

PUB HAPPY HOUR

Social Distancing Virtual Happy Hour

This will be a standing weekly event on Thursdays from 6 - 7:15 pm

Join us by connecting through Zoom at:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/96920315905?pwd=U0ZDZXlINzJoWnpmT3BSeEpiSEx2ZQOT09>

Meeting ID: 969 2031 5905, Password: 06182020

If you need a Zoom tutorial, Rev. Ann is happy to practice with you.

She can try and walk you through getting connected with audio and video. Call or email her at

Revann@stthomasstpete.org or 727-463-6112.

LESSONS & CAROLS

Holiday Outdoor Event

Front Patio and yard of St Thomas' Episcopal Church

Sunday, December 13, 5:30 pm

Join us for this special holiday event.

Bring your favorite lawn chair or beach blanket.

Set up in socially distanced seating areas. Advent, COVID-style!

2020: GRACE IN A YEAR OF TRIALS

Diocesan Event

The Effects of COVID19 on our Communities

A Pandemic, Racial injustice, and unrest. An historic Election.

2020 is already one for the history books, and we haven't yet finished writing its story. How shall we look at these cataclysmic events through the eyes of faith? Where is Christ leading us in this moment?

How will we find the strength to follow?

Monday, November 16th from 7-8 pm

"Reckoning with the Two Pandemics"

The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta, followed by Compline.

Tuesday, November 17th from 7-8 pm "*The Intersection of Faith and Civic Life*"

Featuring: The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright

The Very Rev. Randolph M. Hollerith, Dean of Washington National Cathedral

The Rev. Winnie Varghese, Priest at Trinity Wall Street and Author of *Church Meets World*.



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

Altar Guild: Nancy Day, Pat Bernfeld

Bells of St. Thomas': Ronn Johnson, Joshua McNiven, Mary Ellen Shevlin, Nancy Siver, Grace Smith, Olivia Smith, Rick Smith, Mike Zombory

Flower Guild: Pam Holley, Caron Burgess

Lector: Darius Underwood

Prayers of the People: Darius Underwood

Ushers: Tom Shevlin, Bill Thomas

The Rev. Ann Dieterle, *Assistant Rector*

The Rev. Martha Goodwill, *Deacon*

The Rev. Sonia Sullivan Clifton,
Canterbury Chaplain

Rick Smith, *Director of Music*

Joe Master, *Organist and Director of Finance*

Courtney Crosby, *Youth Ministries*

Pam Holley, *Parish Administrator*

Jon Ward, *Sexton*

Vestry Members

Class of 2018-2020

George Burkhart, Jack Day, Anne Elstun

Class of 2019-2021

Dick Nelson, *Sr. Warden*,

Valery Hendry, Dee McMahon, *Jr. Warden*

Class of 2020-2022

David Dreisbach, Jay Hill, *Treasurer*,

Russ Martin

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Facebook: comeseestthomas

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES

Spoken Holy Eucharist, Rite II - 9:00 AM

MORNING PRAYER

Monday - Friday, Rite II - Chapel, 9:00 AM

OUR MISSION

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