



Window: King David

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
The Order of Worship for
The 12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 11, 2024 † 10:30 AM

Welcome to this festive day of worship. Children and teachers are invited to place their backpacks on the fireplace prior to the start of the service to be picked up at the end of the service.

Children are welcome in worship. Care for young children is available in the nursery if needed. Older children are invited to children's chapel before the reading of the gospel. Should you need to step out at any time, a livestream of the service will be shown in the library, located directly behind the fireplace.

Piano Prelude Let us Break Bread Together

Joel Raney

Welcome

Please stand as you are comfortable at the ringing of the bell

Hymn 335 I Am the Bread of Life

I Am the Bread of Life



1 I am the bread of life;— they who
 2 (The) Bread that I will give— is my
 3 (Un-) less you eat— of the
 4 I am the rc - sur - rec - tion,
 5 (Yes,) Lord, we be - lieve— that—



1 come to me shall not— hun - ger; they who be -
 2 Flesh for the life of the world,— and they who
 3 Flesh of the Son of— Man— and—
 4 I— am the— life.— They who be -
 5 you— are the— Christ,— the—



1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 2 eat— of this bread, they shall— live for
 3 drink— of his Blood, you shall not have life with -
 4 lieve— in me, e - ven— if they
 5 Son— of God who— has



1 me— un - less the— Fa - ther draw them.
 2 ev - er.— they shall— live for ev - er.
 3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
 4 die,— they shall— live for ev - er.
 5 come— in - to— the— world.—



And I will raise them up, and I will raise them



And I will raise them up, and I will raise them



up, and I will raise them up on the

up, and I will raise them up on the

last day. _____ 5 Yes, day.

last day. _____ 2 The
3 Un- day.
4 —
5 Yes,
(?)

The descant may be sung after stanzas 4 and 5.
 Words: Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927), adapt. of John 6. Copyright © 1971, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Music: *I Am the Bread of Life*,
 Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928). Copyright © 1971, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.
People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity *unison*

BCP 355

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 *Glory to God* *sing three times*

John Bell

Glo - ry to God; Praise to the Son;
Glo - ry to God; Praise to the
Love to the Spi - rit; Three and yet One.
Son: Love to the Three and yet One.

Words: Traditional.
Music: John L. Bell (b. 1949) © 1995 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland) (admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 South Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com].) All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Collect of the Day

BCP 232

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Education

BCP 261

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom: Enlighten by your Holy Spirit those who teach and those who learn, that, rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship you and serve you from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Please be seated for the reading of the scriptures.

A reading from the Second Book of Samuel

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

The king, David, ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, “Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom.” And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom. So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword. Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. And ten young men, Joab’s armor-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.

Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, “Good tidings for my lord the king! For the Lord has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you.” The king said to the Cushite, “Is it well with the young man Absalom?” The Cushite answered, “May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man.” The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, “O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130 *read responsively by half-verse, breaking at the asterisk*

BCP 784

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- 2 If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?
- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
- 4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
- 6 O Israel, wait for the Lord, *
for with the Lord there is mercy;
- 7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

A Reading from the Letter to the Church at Ephesus

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children follow the cross on the first verse of the hymn and gather at the fireplace for the blessing of backpacks. They will leave the backpacks there until the end of the service. The hymn continues after the blessing.

1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark

1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your

1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

Words: James Quinn (b. 1919), based on a prayer att. to St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226). Copyright © James Quinn, SJ, printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division on Cassell Ltd. Music: Dickinson College, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923-1979). Copyright © 1962, Theodore Presser Co. used by permission of the publisher.

Blessing of Backpacks

God of Wisdom, we give you thanks for schools and classrooms and for teachers, students, and staff who fill them each day. Thank you for this new school year, for the gift of learning, for the gift of making mistakes and trying again. Bless your children, with curiosity, understanding and respect. Bless teachers and school staff with patience and wisdom. May these backpacks and bags be a sign that we have everything we need to learn and grow this year. Help us all be kind to one another. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, who as a child showed his longing to learn, and as an adult taught by story and example. **Amen.**

The Gospel

John 6:35, 41-51

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Alaina Harrison

The Nicene Creed *unison*

BCP 358

**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.

Prayers of the People:

Gracious God, we pray this day for the renewing of our minds. Help us make our churches and schools places where we learn your truth, show your love, and share kindness with one another.

God of truth: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our nation, asking you to help us see the great good in our great nation; and where love and mercy are needed, help us be ready to give and ready to serve.

God of truth: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our leaders and elected officials, particularly school board members. We give thanks for all who bring us together for shared goals and common good.

God of truth: **Hear our prayer.**

Make us aware of the needs of the world, especially places of strife and war; direct our hearts to fervent prayer and support for your people everywhere.

God of truth: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are sick, suffering, lonely, and in need, especially for St. Thomas parishioners Keith, Ezzell and Holloway families, The McKnight and Wade families, Deborah and Steve, Stewart, Korie, Lily and Emma, Becca, Marie, John, Neal, Ellen, Steve, Cindy, Bernie, and Raymond; our homebound members Ramón and Maria, Carol, Bill, Jan, and William; friends of the parish Andrew, Smith, Ron, the friends & family of Grant Martin, Emma Duke, Larry, and Mary, and for others we name at this time.

God of truth: **Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for teachers, mentors, school staff, and coaches, and all who lay the foundations on which young lives are built. We give thanks also for the birthdays of Charlene, Paul, Katherine, Anabelle, Ginny, Perrin, Beth, and Clementine; and for those celebrating anniversaries.

God of truth: **Hear our prayer.**

We remember with thanksgiving all who have gone before us, especially Mike, Marianne, Mitchi, Sam, Bill, Dixie, Bob, Judy, Murray, Judy and Rick; may they go from strength to strength in the service of your reign.

God of truth: **Hear our prayer.**

As a new school year begins, help us think those things that are right, desire the things that are just, and strive for those things that are in accordance with your gracious will. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

BCP 360

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.

The Peace

During the Peace, all students, teachers, school staff, and school volunteers are invited to gather in the center aisle. The rest of the congregation will gather in the outside aisles to surround them with our prayers.

Blessing of Students

Eternal God, loving parent of us all, bless these students as they begin the school-year. Support them in their successes and in their failures, in their joys and in their sorrows. As they grow in knowledge, may they grow in grace and wisdom, following the example of Jesus Christ, who was himself a student and teacher. **Amen.**

Blessing of Teachers and School Staff

Almighty God, fountain of all wisdom, you have blessed your servants with the joy and care of students: give them calm strength and patient wisdom. Fill their hearts with love for you, for their students, and for the truth they teach. Remind them daily that whatever they do for others, they do for you, and help them see the reward of their labors, through Christ our teacher and Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing of School Volunteers

Loving God, you call us to serve you by serving others. Thank you for all who respond to your call by volunteering in schools and ministries of education. Multiply their efforts like the mustard seed, that the love and care planted through their gifts of time may multiply into flourishing opportunity for all your children, in the power of your Spirit. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offering

St. Thomas welcomes your gifts.

You may mail a check to 2100 Hilton Avenue, Columbus, GA 31906, donate online at our website (<https://www.stthomascolumnbus.org/give/>), or use your mobile device by texting **STTCOLUMBUS** to **73256**

Offertory

St Thomas Choir God is Love and Where True Love is

Ubi Caritas (Murray)

God is Love and where true Love is, God himself is there.
Here in Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling.
Christ, our Love, is with us, gladness be his greeting.
Let us fear and love him, holy God eternal.
Loving him, let each love Christ in one another.
When we Christians gather, members of one body,
Let there be in us no discord, but one spirit.
Banished now be anger, strife and every quarrel.
Christ, our God, be always present here among us.
Grant us Love's fulfillment, joy with all the blessed,
When we see your face, O Savior, in its glory.
Shine on us, O purest Light of all creation.
Be our bliss while endless ages sing your praises.

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer A Please stand as you are comfortable.*

BCP 369

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth, for by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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 858

Arr. Marcia Pruner

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in both hands, providing harmonic support for the vocal melody.

Music: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner, harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

Remain as you are, or kneel

Holy and gracious God: 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 maker of all. Jesus 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ. 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 Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

**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.**

Fraction

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

All Christians are joyfully invited to share in communion. You do not have to be a member of St. Thomas or an Episcopalian in order to receive. Come forward down the center aisle when invited by the ushers. Go to the farthest end of the altar rail and stand or kneel. Hold out one hand to receive the bread and then dip the bread in the cup or drink from the cup. If you prefer not to share a common cup, hold out two hands to receive the bread and wine together. If you prefer not to receive either the bread or the cup, cross your arms across your chest. If you need a gluten-free wafer, let the server know. If you prefer to receive communion at your pew, let the usher know.

Music during Communion

Please sit or kneel after receiving communion and during the postcommunion prayer.

Piano "Draw Near to Me"

J.S. Bach

Hymn 301 Bread of the World

Rendez à Dieu

Bread of the world, in mer - cy bro - ken, Wine of the
 soul, in mer - cy shed, by whom the words of life were
 spo - ken, and in whose death our sins are dead:
 look on the heart by sor - row bro - ken, look on the
 tears by sin - ners shed; and be thy feast to us the

to - ken that by thy grace our souls are fed.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826). Music: *Rendez à Dieu*, melody att. Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. Claude Goudimel (1514-1572), alt.

Hymn 761 All who hunger gather gladly *Holy Manna, from Wonder, Love & Praise*

1. All who hun - ger gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na
 2. All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers, seek - er, be a
 3. All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is

is our bread. Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring.
 wel - come guest. Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing.
 liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing.

Here in truth we will be fed. You that yearn for
 Here, in joy we keep the feast. We that once were
 Here, in peace, we have been fed. Blest are those who

days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
 lost and scat - tered in com - mun - ion's love have stood.
 from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.

Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.

Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see that God is good.

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993). Music: *Holy Manna*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; alt. harm., *Columbian Harmony*, 1825.

Hymn 667 Sometimes a light surprises

Light, melody from *The Christian Lyre*



1 Some - times a light sur - pris - es the Chris - tian while he sings;
2 In ho - ly con - tem - pla - tion we sweet - ly then pur - sue
3 It can bring with it noth - ing but he will bear us through:
4 Though vine nor fig tree nei - ther their wont - ed fruit should bear,



it is the Lord who ris - es with heal - ing in his wings:
the theme of God's sal - va - tion, and find it ev - er new;
who gives the lil - ies cloth - ing will clothe his peo - ple, too:
though all the fields should with - er, nor flocks nor herds be there;



when com - forts are de - clin - ing, he grants the soul a - gain
set free from pre - sent sor - row, we cheer - ful - ly can say,
be - neath the spread - ing hea - vens no crea - ture but is fed;
yet, God the same a - bid - ing, his praise shall tune my voice;



a sea - son of clear shin - ing, to cheer it af - ter rain.
let the un - known to - mor - row bring with it what it may.
and he who feeds the rav - ens will give his chil - dren bread.
for, while in him con - fid - ing, I can - not but re - joice.

Words: William Cowper (1731-1800). Music: *Light*, melody from *The Christian Lyre*, 1830; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).

Postcommunion Prayer *unison*

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, sharing kindness wherever you go, in the name of the Holy Trinity. Amen.

Hymn 412 Earth and all stars

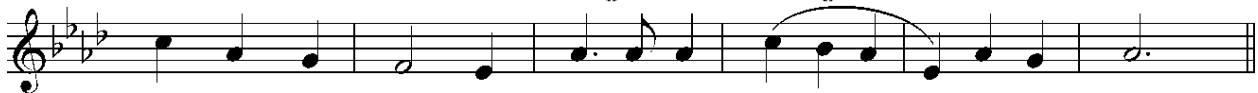
Earth and All Stars



1 Earth and all stars, loud rush - ing plan - ets, sing to the
 2 Hail, wind, and rain, loud blow - ing snow - storms, sing to the
 3 Trum - pet and pipes, loud clash - ing cym - bals, sing to the
 4 En - gines and steel, loud pound - ing ham - mers, sing to the
 5 Class - rooms and labs, loud boil - ing test - tubes, sing to the
 6 Know - ledge and truth, loud sound - ing wis - dom, sing to the



1 Lord _____ a new song! O vic - to - ry,
 2 Lord _____ a new song! Flow - ers and trees,
 3 Lord _____ a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre,
 4 Lord _____ a new song! Lime - stone and beams,
 5 Lord _____ a new song! Ath - lete and band,
 6 Lord _____ a new song! Daugh - ter and son,



1 loud shout - ing ar - my, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 2 loud rus - tling dry leaves, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 3 loud hum - ming cel - los, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 4 loud build - ing work - ers, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 5 loud cheer - ing peo - ple, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 6 loud pray - ing mem - bers, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!

Refrain



He hath done mar - vel - ous things.



I, too, will praise him with a new song!

Words: Herbert F. Brokering (b. 1926). Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Music: *Earth and All Stars*, David N. Johnson (1922-1987). Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Piano Postlude Sonata in C Major, Longo 104

Domenico Scarlatti

In our prayers

St. Thomas parishioners: Keith Leigh, Ezzell and Holloway families, The McKnight and Wade families, Deborah & Steve Tucker, Stewart MacDougall, Korie MacDougall, Lily and Emma Walker, Becca Nicolson, Marie Massey, John Studstill, Neal Fenter, Ellen Free, Steve Scott, Cindy Godwin, Bernie Sutter, Raymond Campbell

Homebound members: Ramón & Maria Capo, Carol Kennon, Bill Pauli, Jan Pittman, William South

Friends of the parish: Andrew Pillar (*Marcia English*), Smith Freeman (*Sandy McCann*), Ron Grant (*Jennifer Fetcher*), the friends & family of Grant Martin (*Susan Anderson*), Emma Duke Bleke (*Ann Burr*), Larry Williams (*Susan Leigh*), Mary (*Roxane Gwyn*)

Those with continuing concerns: Gene Wells, Frank & Pam Feagle, Carlene Pawlowicz, Ralph Wimberly, Henry Morrill, Jessica McComb, April Jacobs, Jana Speer, Debbie & Max Anderson, Art France, Angela Tulloh (*Louise Tulloh*)

Soldiers & families at Ft. Moore and St. Thomas members & friends who are deployed: Krk Malit

Those celebrating birthdays: Charlene Moore 8/11, Paul McKnight 8/13, Kathy France 8/14, Ginny Barr 8/15, Perrin Nicolson 8/16, Beth Barr 8/17, Clementine Wadkins 8/17

Those celebrating anniversaries:

Those who have died: Mike Nichols 8/31/23, Marianne Baxter 9/9/23, Mitchi Wade 11/3/23, Sam Harmon 11/25/23, Bill Thomas 11/25/23, Dixie Harmon 12/23/23, Bob Wadkins 1/11/24, Judy Harding 1/22/24, Murray Craig 4/4/24, Judy Gunter 4/6/24, Rick McKnight 7/30/2024

Announcements

For more information about the ministries of St. Thomas, pick up our latest *Seasons* newsletter or visit our website at www.StThomasColumbus.org.

Sundays

Coffee Time: 8:45-10:15. Homemade and packaged snacks are available in the parish hall.

Formation for all ages: 9:30-10:15am

Children PreK- 4th grade meet in the Outreach Center: Fruits of the Spirit - Throughout the season after Pentecost, children will take a look at the “The Fruits of the Spirit” in a summer Sunday school series led by Ms. Shayla and volunteers.

Tweens & Teens: 5th grade - 12th grade meet in the Youth Room -Vocation & Values Summer Series. This summer, all Teens and Tweens are invited to join in a special summer series that will showcase many different job opportunities and vocational paths. During the Sunday School hour each week, we will hear from different St. Thomas parishioners about their career, the path they took to get there, and how they apply their Christian values to their chosen vocation. August 11: Larry Dooley

Adult this week: St. Thomas Day School Open House - During the formation hour on August 11, tour the St. Thomas Day School. Many of us have never been in the school - or haven't been in the school in years! Join us for this opportunity to see and learn what's happening at the Day School this school year.

August 18: Brewer Elementary Partnership - Margo Easterbrook and Meg Olive-Allison and others will share about our partnership with Brewer, new plans for the school this year, and current ways to get involved.

August 25: St. Thomas's good friend Holle Tubbs, our Diocesan Youth Missioner and former Director of Youth Ministries at St. Thomas, joins us for Youth Sunday. She will speak at adult formation at 9:30 and preach at both services.

Worship:

Children's Chapel: Children follow the petite cross to the Chapel before the Gospel reading and return for Holy Eucharist at the Peace.

Children's lectionary bulletins can be found in the busy bags located under the wooden table at the rear of All Saints' Hall.

Contemplative Service: Join us every 4th Sunday at 5 pm, in the Chapel, for quiet and candlelight, healing prayers and anointing, Holy Eucharist with homemade bread, a meditation and the chanting of Taizé pieces. Bring a friend; all are welcome to come and listen for God's voice. The next Contemplative/Healing service is scheduled for August 25.

Wednesdays

Wednesdays Eucharist: 5:30 in the Chapel. This brief Eucharist focuses on a saint being celebrated that day or week, using an updated version of the Eucharistic prayer with more expansive language for God and people. This service will continue through summer. Thanks to our altar guild for making this possible.

Wonderful Wednesdays at St. Thomas: Beginning August 14

Schedule: 5:30 to 6 - Eucharist in the Chapel

5:30 to 6:15 - Dinner served on the buffet. New menus! Details below. Youth room open for youth to eat together there.

6:00 - Playground open for children who have finished dinner. Go to the Children's Center in case of rain. An adult must bring children to the playground or center.

6:30 to 7:30 - Formation time for everyone. Children in the Children's Center. Youth in the Youth Room or outside. Adults in the library, plus other spaces when Journey Groups begin.

6:45 to 8:30 - Choir rehearsal in the Chapel or All Saints Hall

New Wednesday Night Menus

Thanks to Seth Burgamy for coming up with a way to make Wednesday dinners more welcoming. From now until December, Wednesday Dinner will be served buffet style - on the buffet! Donations are welcome but not required. To help offset costs, you may donate cash or with a credit card on site or pay ahead of time on the website, but payment is not required. Reservations are helpful to help us plan, but feel free to show up whenever you are available. All menus will have gluten free and vegan options.

1st Wednesdays - Pasta Bar; 2nd Wednesdays - Taco Bar; 3rd Wednesdays - Baked Potato Bar; 4th Wednesdays - Salad Bar; 5th Wednesdays - Hot dog or chili bar, depending on the season

News for this week

Rolling Out the Welcome Mat: St. Thomas 2024 Ministry Offerings - Each August, we invite parishioners to sign up for different ways to learn and serve together through our annual Ministry Offering. This online form lists many ways to serve and participate, and they all have to do with welcome! *How might you help St. Thomas extend our welcome in the coming year?* Look for a link to complete the form in your email or scan the QR code. Prayerfully consider how you will share in worship, learning, service, and connection through St. Thomas. Please complete this survey by August 25. On that Sunday, we will celebrate our commitment together. If you would like to use a printed form, contact the church office.

Youth Back to School Bowling @ Stars and Strikes: *August 11, 5-7pm.* All middle school and high school youth are invited for a fun night out at Stars and Strikes to celebrate the start of the new school year! Contact Taylor for info.

Lunch Bunch: *August 13, 11:30 Parker's Pantry.* All women are invited to gather for lunch on the second Tuesday of each month at Parker's Pantry at 11:30. After each person orders in the line, we will gather in the private dining room. At noon, there will be a brief prayer and devotion.

Wednesday Nights Resume this week! Adult formation - For our first Wednesday night of the season, we will talk about our Ministry Offerings and how to participate. Children and youth will also spend time gathering again and considering how they will offer their gifts in service this year.

Upcoming & Ongoing

The Episcopal Campus Ministry on Columbus State University's Main Campus resumes on August 20th. ECM is an intentional community designed to meet the spiritual needs of college students as they balance school, work, family, and much more. All college students in the Columbus area are invited to join us on Tuesday nights throughout the school year for Eucharist and Dinner starting at 5:30 pm. Contact Taylor Mack for more information.

Foyers Sign-ups: Foyers dinner groups start meeting in the fall and are social groups designed to encourage fellowship and connection with other St. Thomas folks. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, August 18th. Once the groups are formed, you will be notified by dinner group leaders in September to determine the date, time and location of your first gathering. Register with the QR code or on our website at StThomasColumbus.org/news Any questions, please contact Barbara Brandenburgh.

Youth Sunday: *August 25* - Youth Sunday is a special tradition at St. Thomas. We will celebrate youth ministry and recognize the leadership abilities of our young parishioners. Youth can sign up to serve as LEMs, Lectors, Ushers, Music performers, and more! This year, we will also enjoy a special visit from Holle Tubbs, our Diocesan Youth Missioner, for adult formation.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: *August 25* - Mark your calendars. Training for all LEM's, new and old, on Sunday, August 25 immediately following the 10:30 morning service. Call Roxane with questions and to commit to the time. Thank you!

Peace of Mind Planning Workshop: Sunday, September 8 from noon till 3:30 pm. Honest discussions and presentations about life, dying, and death. See details in this past week's Wednesday Word, and be in touch with Roxane soon if you'd like to attend.

Altar Guild Sunday: *September 15* - Join us to recognize the St. Thomas Altar Guild on Sunday, September 15. Following the 10:30 service altar guild members will have lunch and a time for long-time and new altar guild members to get to know one another. We hope to do a bit of planning for the upcoming move into our new sacristy and begin to visualize how we will do our work in the renovated space. This is a great time to join the group if you've been considering. Contact Sue O'Dell for more information.

Picture Project - Now that the file boxes have been organized, it is time to move on to our next cleaning project - organizing boxes and boxes of pictures from St. Thomas history. We want to put the pictures in safer storage and label them if we can. If you would like to help with this project, contact the church office.

Altar Flowers: The giving of Altar Flowers on Sunday is a wonderful way to celebrate a special occasion or remember our loved ones. In addition to enhancing the beauty of worship, the name(s) of those being honored or remembered and the name(s) of the donor will be listed in the Sunday bulletin. A contribution of \$75 is requested for altar flowers prepared by the Flower Guild, or you may order flowers from a professional florist if you prefer. Sign up online or contact the church office for the schedule. More info at stthomas columbus.org/altar-flowers/

Evening Prayer: *Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 - 5:45 or so on Zoom.* We gather on Tuesdays and Thursdays online at 5:30 for a brief time of prayer in the evening. The link is available on our LinkTree.

Prayer Group: The St. Thomas Prayer Group meets weekly to offer all kinds of prayers, including Prayers of the People shared on Sunday mornings. We also pray for those who have asked for prayers but wish them to be private. This list is confidential to the Prayer Group. Contact the church office to request prayers or to find out about being a part of the Prayer Group. The group meets in person in the Chapel at St. Thomas the first Monday of each month and online on other Mondays.

QR Code for signups! Use the QR code to find a list of current signups at St. Thomas including Wednesday night dinners! New to QR codes? Open the camera on your smartphone (or a QR reader), point at the black and white code box, when prompted push the link that shows up on your screen.



St. Thomas Staff

Administrative Assistant: Lupe Ortiz-Sanchez; *Director of Adult Formation:* Daniel Mitchell; *Director of Children and Family Ministries:* Shayla Holloway; *Director of Parish Administration:* Patty Slembariski; *Director of Parish & Community Engagement:* Meg Olive-Allison; *Director of Youth & Young Adults:* Taylor Mack; *Interim Choir Director:* Debbie Anderson; *Interim Organist:* Adley Scott; *Kitchen Manager & Sexton:* Seth Burgamy; *Livestream Technician:* Nick Williams; *Maintenance & Cleaning:* Frances Woolfolk; *Nursery:* Riley Mullen, Evie Smith, Dorothy Uwanawich, Jenneken Varnum; *Sexton Assistant:* Morgan Camp

St. Thomas Clergy

Associate Rector for Mission: Darius Sudayi; *Associate Rector for Pastoral Care:* Roxane Gwyn; *Rector:* Grace Burton-Edwards