



ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH DUPONT CIRCLE



Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 17, 2020

Opening Hymn 182

“Christ is Alive”

(all verses sung)

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
 2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
 4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,
 5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
 3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
 4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
 5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
 2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.
 3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.
 4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
 5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Acts 17: 22-31

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we too are his offspring.'

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

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

Psalm 66: 7-18

(read in unison)

7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.

9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

- 10 You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings
and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

The Holy Gospel

John 14: 15-21

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

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

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Lisa Ahuja

✠ *Please observe a moment of silence following the sermon*

O Lord hear my pray'r, O Lord hear my pray'r.

When I call, an - swer me. O Lord hear my pray'r. O

Lord hear my pray'r, Come and lis - ten to me. O

Prayers of the People

Let us empty our hearts and minds and make room to recognize the Risen Lord in our lives, praying, **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Risen Lord, in times of unrest and uncertainty, help us to not look backward in fear at what seems lost, but rather forward with conviction, trusting that with you there is redemption and strength. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

The book of Hebrews teaches us to "run with perseverance the race marked out for us." We pray for our Priest in Charge, our Vestry and lay leaders, and our bishops. We pray that they may be filled with Divine stamina as they minister to your people.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, the Apostle Peter said, "If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ." We pray for the leaders of this city, this nation, and this world, and particularly for all healthcare workers, first responders, and other personnel essential to our daily lives.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, the Psalms offer that "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge." We pray for those who are underemployed, unemployed, homeless, or hungry. Reveal to those of us who are able how we can uphold our brothers and sisters in need.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, Isaiah says, "Then your light will break forth like dawn, and your healing will quickly appear." We pray for the sick that they may be made well, and for the dying that they may find peace.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, when we are separated physically, remind us that none of us is truly alone. Bless us in our brokenness, mend our hearts when they ache, and let us rejoice in the resurrection of our Savior.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list.

(The people are invited to offer prayers and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud, ending with)

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died. Give rest, Risen Christ,
to your servants with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.
Comfort those who grieve with your love and peace. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

✠*The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace.*

Offertory Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

(all verses sung)



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from
the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion. The presider invites the following prayer to be said by all:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.



(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

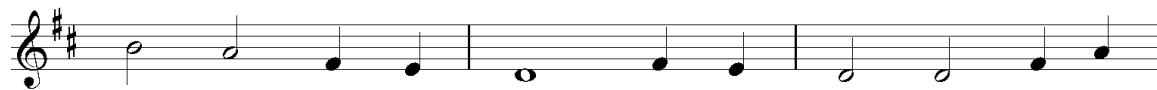
People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Closing Hymn 686

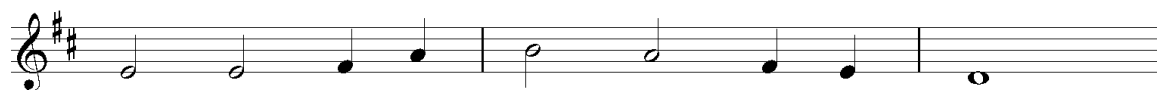
“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” *(all verses sung)*



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



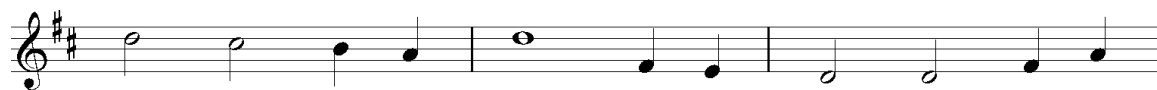
heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

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ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE

Announcements for Sunday May 17, 2020

***I will thank you because I am marvelously made;
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.***

-Psalm 139 v 13

Dear Friends,

I've been reflecting on Psalm 139 this last week. The imagery of God at work in our very creation knitting us together in the womb, and the reminder that we are marvelously made moves me to a sense of awe and appreciation. This line has been sticking with me as I reflect on the news this week, "Your works are wonderful, and I know it well."



When I keep those words from Psalm 139 close while reading the news, it takes my breath away. We read daily of the number dead to COVID-19, and when we remember these words of this psalm I believe we are invited to pause and remember these are not just numbers, but they are individual lives, beautiful creation, marvelously made, lost to this virus. When we read the news of yet more black people like Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor who are murdered while going about their daily, we grieve and demand justice because their lives, marvelously made, are ended violently in a moment of fear, ignorance, or hate. We hear stories each day of undocumented immigrants – God's marvelous creation – living in fear of deportation while trying to navigate hunger, COVID-19, and raising young children.

While I am writing about the stories most on my heart, I know you could add the words from the psalmist to your community life and to the news stories that move you. To read the news with Psalm 139 I feel moved to stay connected to the beloved children and natural creation of God. I feel moved to pray, to write letters of encouragement and protest, to give charitably, to speak out courageously.

Friends, you'll notice a lot of our announcements these days, are opportunities to stay connected and participate in the building up of the Kingdom of God. We focus on staying connected in our worship, study, outreach, and time together because staying connected keeps us well and nurtures us as God's marvelous creation, wonderfully made.

God bless you,
Lisa+

St. Thomas' Parish Survey

Please remember to complete the short survey to help our Vestry complete necessary steps for a petition to reopen the building when it is safe to do so. Here is the link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y6P83PV>

The survey closes on May 28, 2020. Your input is valuable.

Here is our Zoom online schedule for this coming week.

Sunday, May 17:

9:30 am	"Acts in Easter" study
10:30 am	Worship (on Zoom, or go to our Facebook page)
11:15 am	Coffee Hour on Zoom

Monday, May 18:

7:30-8:00 am	Morning Devotions and Chat – new
6:30-7:00 pm	Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)
7:00-7:30 pm	"The Way of Love" Small Group

Tuesday, May 19:

6:30-7:00 pm	Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)
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Wednesday, May 20:

10:00-11:00 am	Open Office Hours – new
6:30-7:00 pm	Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)

Thursday, May 21:

7:30-8:00 am	Morning Devotions and Chat – new
5:45-6:30 pm	Spanish Conversation Time with AI – new
6:30-7:00 pm	Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)

Friday, May 22:

6:30-7:00 pm	Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)
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Sunday, May 24:

9:30 am	"Acts in Easter" study
10:30 am	Worship (on Zoom, or go to our Facebook page)
11:15 am	Coffee Hour on Zoom

Zoom Code for all of our Worship, Social (Coffee Hour, etc.), Study, and Open Office Hours.

Meeting ID: 947 6442 4718

Password: 151718th

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94764424718?pwd=WFhJM0M5N2VxT2dVbVpaelljaVQ2UT09>

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Wednesdays: Taizé and Vigil at our Evening Worship

Starting Wednesday, May 20 at 6:30 our Evening Worship will include Taizé chant, a psalm reading, and litany of prayers for healing and those who have died. We are pleased to welcome Preston Smith, the choirmaster at Church of the Ascension Roman Catholic Church on the Upper West Side in New York City, to lead us on May 20.

Thursday Spanish Conversation Class 5:45-6:30 pm

Join us for conversations in Spanish prior to our Evening Worship each Thursday. All levels of Spanish speakers welcome and encouraged to attend. Hosted by Al Llanos. We will start by praying el Padre Nuestro (the Lord's Prayer) together.

Movie Night at St. Thomas' Goes Virtual

On June 6, join us for movie night on Zoom, starting at 7:30pm. Bob and Lynn Moluf will host the recent Netflix release "**A Secret Love**," which would have been screened at SXSW this year. It is a documentary about two Chicago women who kept their love affair hidden from their families and colleagues for six decades. They only emerged from the shadows after they needed to move to assisted care and, of course, would only agree to it, if they could remain together. It carries a Rotten Tomatoes rating of 100%.



Bring some popcorn, a beverage, and a box of tissues to your home theater. The movie has a run time of 1 hour, 22 minutes. Afterwards we can discuss the movie online.

See you on the sofa!

Sign Up for the Summer Foyer Socials Program!

As physical distancing remains important, we need to stay connected with each other -- to help lift our spirits and maintain (grow!) the fabric of our faith community during these times. The Foyer Socials program aims for that goal by bringing small groups of parishioners together using Zoom technology.

Please join us virtually! The Foyer groups will be assigned after the completion of the sign-up

period on May 20th. Each group is limited to about six or seven parishioners – which allows for great conversations and community building in these virtual times. Each small group will get together approximately every three weeks at a date/time chosen by consensus of their group during the months of June, July, and August for about 30-60 minutes. Topics of conversation are similar to Foyer Dinners; there's no agenda, just time to chat!

To sign up, please email your name, cell phone number, and email address to Jerry Donahoe at maineescape@aol.com. If you have a spouse or partner who would like to participate, please provide that information as well.

In thanksgiving for the birth of
Virginia Marguerite Brzozowski (Gigi)
born on Wednesday, May 3, 2020:

*Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed Kate and Kevin with the joy and care of Virginia Marguerite Brzozowski: Give them calm strength and patient wisdom as they bring Gigi up, that they may teach her to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.***





Wow! What an outpouring of love in the form of diapers, wipes, and powdered milk! Thank you for your contributions, which are helping young children who live in Columbia Heights. Member AI reports that we've collected enough powdered milk for a while, and our current top needs are:

Baby food and Similac Blue

AI lives near St. Thomas' Parish on Beekman Place, NW. Call him for address or drop off. His contact information is: 202-604-3084 or alllanosdc@gmail.com

Resources for Climate Change Action!

It was nice to see many of you in attendance at our *Finding Hope in Revelation* series on Wednesday nights. A special thank you to Jason Forman for his leadership in this area. A few resources to share from the last two sessions:

Episcopal Public Policy Network:

Office of Government Affairs links

Sign up for the EPPN: <https://episcopalchurch.org/OGR/action-alerts> (on the right hand side)

Creation Care Series (8-part education, prayer and advocacy series): <https://episcopalchurch.org/OGR/creation-care>

Broader Church links

Creation Care work: <https://episcopalchurch.org/creation-care>

Citizens' Climate Lobby

CCL Info Session

Hosted live weekly on Wednesdays at 8 pm ET: cclusa.org/intro



Blood Drive for Children's Medical Center *The Need for Blood Donations Never Takes a Vacation*

June 3 and June 4, 2020

10 am – 4 pm

Due to New Corona Virus Social Distancing Guideline, the Center can only accept **20 units** of Whole Blood and **4 Units** of Platelets each day

You can give:

- Healthy and feeling well
- Able to consume a full meal before donation
- Weigh more than 110 lbs.

Possibly ineligible:

- Shots or vaccinations in the past 8 weeks
- A major illness in the past 6 months
- Traveled outside the US or Canada in the past 3 years

Temporarily ineligible:

- Antibiotic or medication for an infection, dental work, cold or illness within 3 days of donation
- Illegal drugs or tattoo in the past 12 months

Donations will be given at

Children's National Medical Center
Edward J. Miller Jr. Blood Donor Center
111 Michigan Avenue, NE, Suite M2700
Free Validated Parking

All Donations stay with Children's!

Children's needs over 100 units of whole blood each week
Each donation of whole blood provides transfusions for 4-5 children
Children's treats over 1400 children with sickle cell
Sickle cell patients need blood transfusions every 4-6 weeks

**If you want to give platelets you will be contacted by
Children's as there are additional requirements.
Platelets are desperately needed.**

Donations are taken every half hour beginning at 10 am. We ask that you
be flexible in scheduling.

To schedule an appointment contact:

Rev. Gayle Fisher-Stewart
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
301-996-4102 (voice or text)
Gfisher143@verizon.net

We will be taking appointments until May 23, 2020

Give Blood, Give Life



Reverend Lisa's Contact Information:

The Rev. Lisa Saunders Ahuja
St. Thomas' Parish
1517 18th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
1-202-361-2018 (cell)
lahuja@stthomasdc.org

Celebrating Our May Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

David Swanson (May 3)
Ashley Ashworth (May 5)
Jeremy Ayers (May 19)
Kevin Montgomery (May 30)

Anniversaries

David Insinga and Bob McDonald (May 7)

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed here, please let us know at
administrator@stthomasdc.org.

Parish Prayer List

Paula Amadeo	Dodson Family	Dave Kucharski	Hunter Ray
Annemarie Bohler	Michael Fitzpatrick	Asheesh Kumar	Mary Ellen Reed
Matthew Briggs	Cindy Gangler	Chuck Lopez	Gene Robinson
John Paul Clark	Andrew Greer	Catherine Manhardt	Baby Sabag
Brianna Clifford	Chris Hartenau	Bill McDonald	Trisha Shaffer
Peggy Ann Cohen	Len Hawley	David C. Montgomery	Justin Small
Dan Costello	Leighton Honea	Donna Norman	Gunjan Veda
Brian Crane	Kristin Jones	Steve Parsons	Teresa Zagami

For the repose of the souls of:

Andy Bonilla	William Puckett	John Stone	Maria Valdes
Ed Harri	Nancy Littlefield Stine	Wilfredo Torres	David Yoder

You may submit a name for the list by sending an e-mail to: administrator@stthomasdc.org

Please note: the names above will be removed as of June 1, unless the office is informed that the name should continue to be listed, which we are happy to do. Henceforth, names will be listed for three weeks unless otherwise requested. Please send all requests to: administrator@stthomasdc.org.



ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE

"As St. Thomas' Parish we are followers of Jesus, striving to see Christ in each person, and to be Christ in our community, our city, and our world."

Vestry

Jessie Eddy, Senior Warden
Stephen Schembs, Junior Warden
Jennie Allison, Treasurer
Jean Holman, Clerk
Jennie Allison, Brian Crane, Jason Crighton, Reggie Greer,
Bettina Hager, Jane Saari, Gregory Zitterkob

Staff

The Rev. Lisa Saunders Ahuja	Priest-in Charge	lahuja@stthomasdc.org cell: 202-361-2018
The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson	Bishop in Residence	@BishopGRobinson
Nolan DiFrancesco	Administrator	administrator@stthomasdc.org
Kimberly Davis	Nursery Care Worker	
Clifford Bowens	Nursery Care Worker	

St. Thomas' Parish

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