



# ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH DUPONT CIRCLE



February 17, 2021

## Turn

### Opening Hymn LEVAS 101 "Softly and Tenderly"



1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing,
2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing,
3. Time is now fleet - ing, the mo - ments are pass - ing,
4. Oh! For the won - der - ful love He has prom - ised,



1. Call - ing for you and for me; — See, on the por - tals He's
2. Plead - ing for you and for me? — Why should we lin - ger and
3. Pass - ing for you and for me; — Shad - ows are gath - er - ing,
4. Prom - ised for you and for me; — Though we have sinned, He has



1. wait - ing and watch - ing, Watch - ing for you and for me.\_\_\_\_  
 2. heed not His mer - cies, Mer - cies for you and for me?\_\_\_\_  
 3. death beds are com - ing, Com - ing for you and for me.\_\_\_\_  
 4. mer - cy and par - don, Par - don for you and for me.\_\_\_\_

Come home, Come home, come home, come home,

Ye who are wea-ry, come home!\_\_\_\_ Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, Call - ing, O sin - ner, come home!\_\_\_\_

### Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God of our salvation.

People: Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

### The Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### First Reading

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
    sound the alarm on my holy mountain!  
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,  
    for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near-  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
    a day of clouds and thick darkness!  
Like blackness spread upon the mountains  
    a great and powerful army comes;  
their like has never been from of old,  
    nor will be again after them  
    in ages to come.



Yet even now, says the LORD,  
    return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
    rend your hearts and not your clothing.  
Return to the LORD, your God,  
    for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
    and relents from punishing.  
Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,  
    and leave a blessing behind him,  
a grain offering and a drink offering  
    for the LORD, your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
    sanctify a fast;  
call a solemn assembly;  
    gather the people.  
Sanctify the congregation;  
    assemble the aged;  
gather the children,  
    even infants at the breast.  
Let the bridegroom leave his room,  
    and the bride her canopy.



"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

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*

## The Invitation to a Holy Lent



Celebrant:

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful, were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. In this manner, the whole Congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need that all Christians continually have to renew our repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and alms-giving; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And to make a right beginning, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

*(Silence is then kept for a time, all kneeling.)*

Celebrant:

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

*(The ashes are imposed with the following words)*

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

## Psalm 51

## Plainsong Chant by the choir

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return to you.
- 15 Deliver me from death, O God, \*  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
- 16 Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; \*  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

## Litany of Penitence

Celebrant and People together:

**Most holy and merciful Father:**

**We confess to you, and to one another,  
and to the whole communion of saints**

in heaven and on earth,  
that we have sinned by our own fault  
in thought, word, and deed;  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

Celebrant continues:

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.  
**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us.  
We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.  
**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,  
**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,  
**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,  
**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,  
**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,  
**We confess to you, Lord.**

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,  
**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,  
**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,  
**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;  
**Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,  
**That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,  
**Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

*(The Celebrant continues:)*

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

Celebrant: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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



## 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.

PADRE NUESTRO, que estás en el cielo.  
Santificado sea tu nombre.  
Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad  
en la tierra como en el cielo.  
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.  
Perdona nuestras ofensas,  
como también nosotros perdonamos  
a los que nos ofenden.  
No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos  
del mal.  
Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria  
Por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

## Reception of Holy Communion

### Spiritual Communion Prayer, adapted from the Prayer Book for Armed Services

*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 leader invites the following prayer to be said by all:*

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you now in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

### Prayer after Communion *(prayed by all)*

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

Closing Hymn 145

“Now Quit Your Care”

1 Now quit your care and anxious fear and worry; for  
 2 To bow the head in sack-cloth and in ashes, or  
 3 For is not this the fast that I have cho-sen? (The  
 4 For right-eous-ness and peace will show their fac-es to  
 5 Then shall your light break forth as doth the morn-ing; your

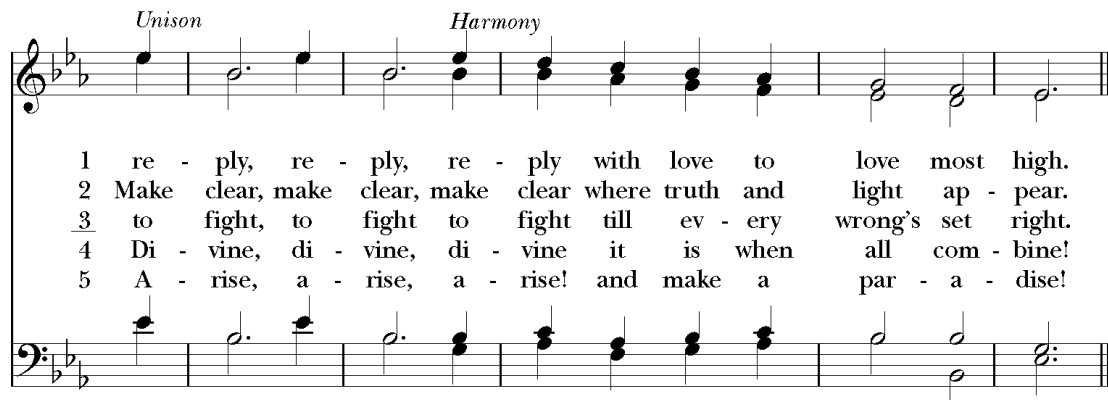
1 schemes are vain and fret-ting brings no gain. Lent calls to  
 2 rend the soul, such grief is not Lent's goal; but to be  
 3 pro-phet spoke) To shat-ter ev-ery yoke, of wick-ed-  
 4 those who feed the hun-gry in their need, and wrongs re-  
 5 health shall spring, the friends you make shall bring God's glo-ry

1 prayer, to trust and ded-i-ca-tion; God brings new beau-ty  
 2 led to where God's glo-ry flash-es, his beau-ty to come  
 3 ness the griev-ous bands to loos-en, op-pres-sion put to  
 4 dress, who build the old waste plac-es, and in the dark-ness  
 5 bright, your way through life a-dorn-ing; and love shall be the

*Unison*                      *Harmony*

1 nigh; re-ply, re-ply, re-ply with love to love most high;  
 2 near. Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light ap-pear;  
 3 flight, to fight, to fight to fight till ev-ery wrong's set right.  
 4 shine. Di-vine, di-vine, di-vine it is when all com-bine!  
 5 prize. A-rise, a-rise, a-rise! and make a par-a-dise!

*Unison*                      *Harmony*



1 re - ply, re - ply, re - ply with love to love most high.  
 2 Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light ap - pear.  
 3 to fight, to fight to fight till ev - ery wrong's set right.  
 4 Di - vine, di - vine, di - vine it is when all com - bine!  
 5 A - rise, a - rise, a - rise! and make a par - a - dise!

### Blessing

Celebrant: Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people. And the blessing of the Triune God, Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, and Abiding Spirit rest upon you this day and remain with you forever.

People: Amen

### Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

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**Reverend Lisa's Contact Information:**

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**Celebrating Our February Birthdays**

Dave Kucharski (February 9)  
Bettina Hager (February 11)  
Jean Holman (February 13)  
Mamta Ravindran (February 27)

*If your birthday or anniversary is not listed here, please let us know at  
[administrator@stthomasdc.org](mailto:administrator@stthomasdc.org).*

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**Parish Prayer List**

Matthew Briggs  
Peggyann Cohen  
Jerry Donahoe  
Zakaria el fatihi

Jan Harrison  
Mark Herzog  
Kristin Jones  
Mike Knapp

Dave Kucharski  
Linda Long-Jarosik  
Bishop Gene Robinson  
Chester Thompson

*For the repose of the soul of:*

Mary Lou Commiso

DaSha Montgomery

*You may submit a name for the list by sending an e-mail to: [administrator@stthomasdc.org](mailto:administrator@stthomasdc.org)*

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# ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE

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*"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."*

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## Vestry

Gregory Zitterkob, Senior Warden  
Karen Garlick, Junior Warden  
Jennie Allison, Treasurer  
Brian Crane, Jason Crighton, Reggie Greer, Noel Miller,  
Jane Saari, Brett Snyder, John Trumbo

## Staff

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