



ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH DUPONT CIRCLE

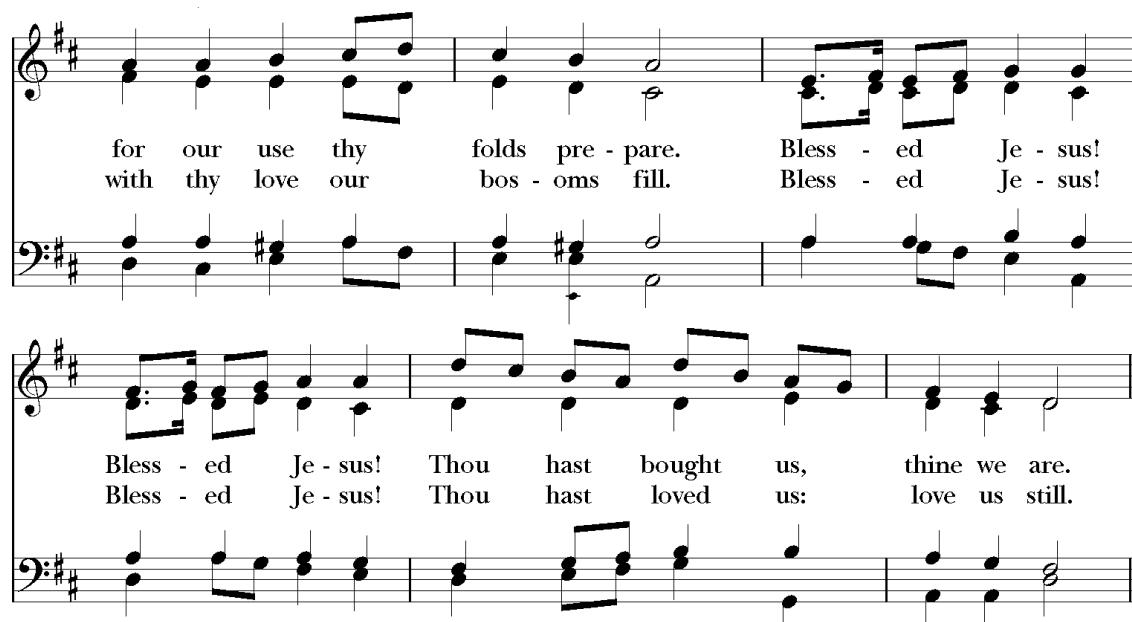


Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 25, 2021

Opening Hymn 708 “Savior, Like a Shepherd

1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,



for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Glory to God S236



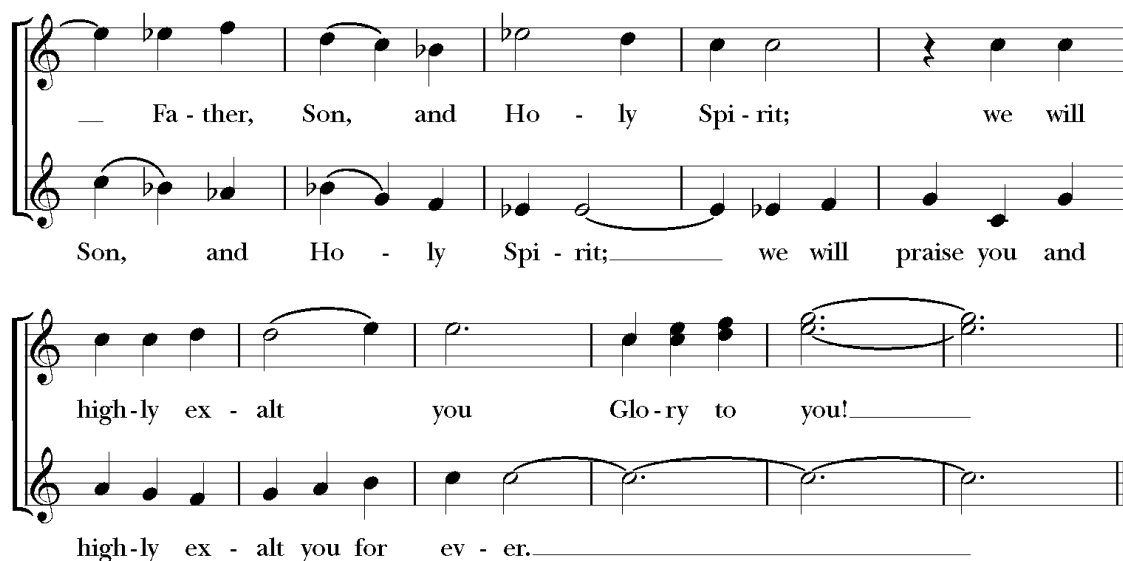
1. Glo - ry to you, Lord
God of our fa - thers; you are wor - thy of praise;
glo - ry to you. 2. Glo - ry to you
for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; we will
praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

3. Glo - ry to you _____ in the splen - dor of your
 tem - ple; _____ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
 you. _____ 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -
 ween the Cher - u - bim; _____ we will praise you and
 high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

Descant
 5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be -
 5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be - hold - ing the

hold - ing the depths; _____ in the high vault of
 depths; _____ in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to

hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you, _____
 you. _____ 6. Glo - ry to you, _____ Fa - ther,



The Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 4: 5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

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

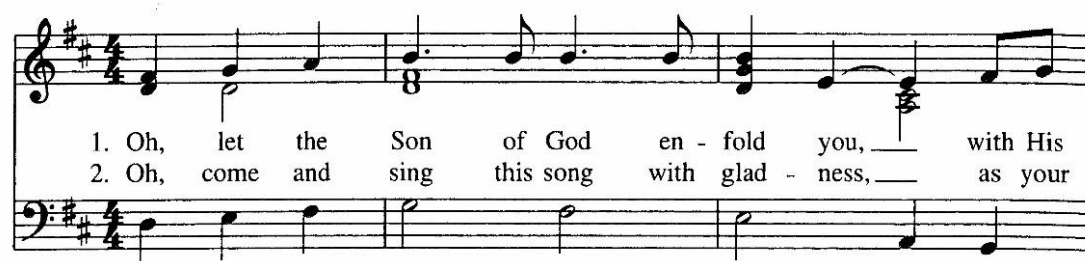
Psalm 23

Saint Helena Psalter

- 1 O God, you are my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 You make me lie down in green pastures *
and lead me beside still waters.
- 3 You revive my soul *
and guide me along right pathways for the sake of your Name.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of God for ever.

Sequence LEVAS 118

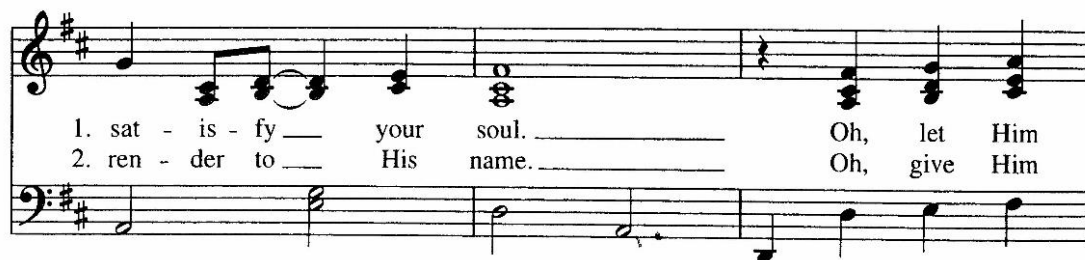
“Spirit Song”



1. Oh, let the Son of God en - fold you, with His
2. Oh, come and sing this song with glad - ness, as your



1. Spir - it and His love, Let Him fill your heart and
2. hearts are filled with joy, Lift your hands in sweet sur -



1. sat - is - fy your soul. Oh, let Him
2. ren - der to His name. Oh, give Him

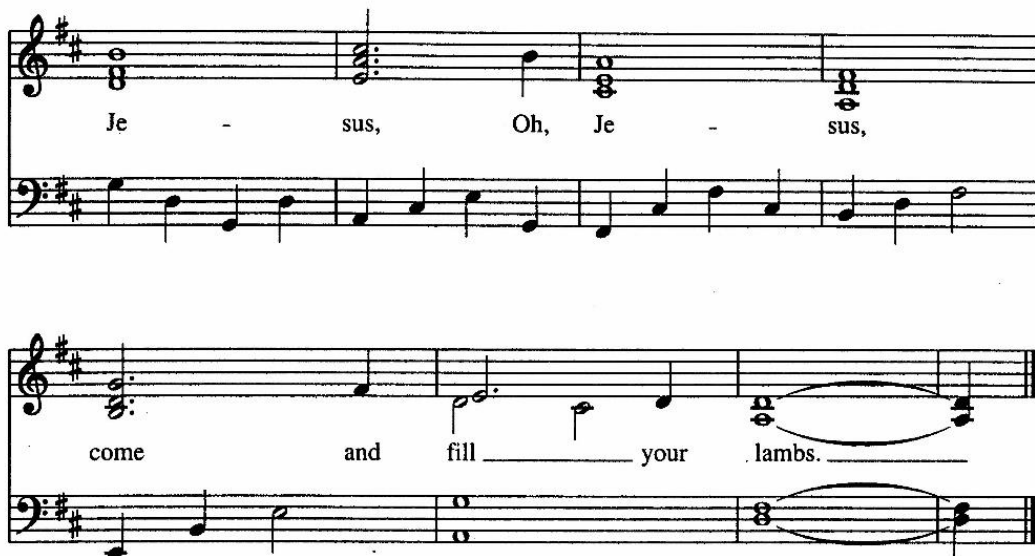
1. have the things that hold you, and His Spir - it like a
2. all your tears and sad - ness, give Him all your years of

1. dove, Will de - scend up - on your life, and make you
2. pain, And you'll en - ter in - to life in Je - sus'

1. whole. Je - sus. Oh,
2. name.

Je - sus, come and

fill your lambs.



The Holy Gospel

John 10: 11-18

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
 People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

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



Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for this new day and new opportunity to gather with joy to celebrate the Resurrection of your Son, Jesus. In the Easter season, help us all to watch for the presence of Christ in our midst. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Risen Lord,
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Risen Lord,
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Risen Lord,
Hear our prayer.

Today we give thanks for all in our communities: our church community, family, friends, and colleagues. We remember those we miss today, and those whom we have been unable to visit for many months due to COVID-19. Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Risen Lord,
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We remember today those on our parish prayer list.

Silence

Risen Lord,
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Risen Lord,
Hear our prayer.

Celebrant:

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, now and for ever. **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.*

Offertory

“At the River”

arr. Aaron Copland (1900-1990)

Shall we gather by the river,
Where bright angel's feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.

Yes, we'll gather by the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river
That flows by the throne of God.

Yes, we'll gather by the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river
That flows by the throne of God.

— Robert Lowry



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.



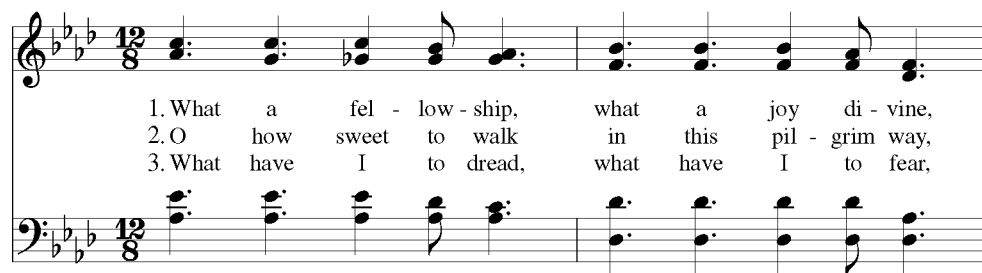
Spiritual Communion Prayer, adapted from the Prayer Book for Armed Services

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.

Closing Hymn LEVAS 196

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”



1. What a fel - low - ship, what a joy di - vine,
 2. O how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way,
 3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,



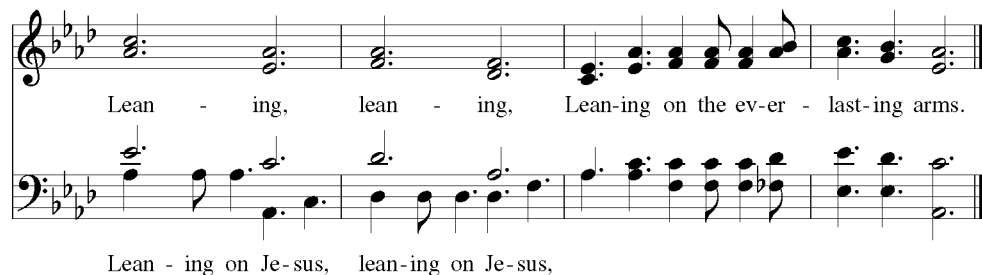
1. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; What a bless - ed - ness,
 2. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; O how bright the path
 3. Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; I have bless - ed peace



1. what a peace is mine, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 2. grows from day to day, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 3. with my Lord so near, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;
 Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,



Lean - ing, lean - ing, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

Final Blessing

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us God's children through the resurrection of Christ our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of the Triune God, Eternal Majesty, Incarnate and Risen Word, and Abiding Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.
Amen.

Dismissal

Celebrant: Alleluia Alleluia, go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

ALLELUIA!

Our hymns today are reprinted under One License # A-734785.
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ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE

Announcements for the Third Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

A NOTE FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear St. Thomas' Parish,

Many of us have spent the last three months together in Sacred Ground, the Episcopal Church's Anti-Racism curriculum. Our final session, the session of asking ourselves what comes next or how do we as individuals and community respond, fell the day after the guilty verdict was announced in the case against Derek Chauvin.



On Tuesday, when the verdict was announced, we prayed with the larger Episcopal community. We prayed specifically for George Floyd and his family. We named and prayed for other People of Color killed by the police this week. We prayed for Derek Chauvin. We offered lament and repentance of the sin of racism, and our complicity in the institutional racism of our time. We offered hope. The Presiding Bishop offered a powerful reflection on Tuesday night, which I shared in our Wednesday prayers.

And on Wednesday, we had our final session of Sacred Ground. There was a common theme in our reflections, a reminder that Anti-Racism study is never finished. There is always room to learn more, especially from People of Color. There was also a hope that we bring what we have learned and how we have changed by our study into our individual and collective lives. I'm very committed to having these conversations together. Please join me in praying that the Holy Spirit guide us in our conversations as a community, because our plans to Regather in our building for public worship and ministry come after more than a year of living through the pandemics of COVID-19 and Racism.

Please know that if you missed out on Sacred Ground, there will be another round. We are committed to offering this again (and again!) as this curriculum gives us a common language and a deeper understanding.

God bless you,
Lisa+

Here is our Zoom online schedule for this coming week.

Sunday, April 25:

9:30 am

10:30 am

11:15 am

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Regathering for Public Worship – approved plan & discussion

Worship (on Zoom or go to our Facebook page)

Coffee Hour

Monday, April 26:

6:30-7:00 pm

Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)

Tuesday, April 27:

6:30-7:00 pm

Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)

Wednesday, April 28:

6:30-7:00 pm

Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)

Thursday, April 29:

5:45-6:30 pm

6:30-7:00 pm

Spanish Conversation with Al

Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)

Sunday, May 2:

9:30 am

10:30 am

11:15 am

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Regathering for Public Worship – approved plan & discussion

Worship (on Zoom or go to our Facebook page)

Coffee Hour

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)

Jennie Allison and Bob Salera are getting Married on May 1, 2021!!

A note from Jennie and Bob:

We are thrilled to finally share with you all that we are able to safely get married with our parents present. Due to COVID limitations, we are disappointed it means the party must be smaller for the time being, however, knowing that it means everyone is safe is most important.

We'd love for you to virtually attend our wedding ceremony, May 1st at 3:30 pm ET streamed from the wedding website on Zola (link and password below). My St. Thomas' family means so much and is such a big part of my DC life that I couldn't be more grateful for. Looking forward to being able to hug you all sometime in the near future.

*Much love,
Jennie and Bob*

Website with details: www.zola.com/wedding/jennieandbob

Password: May2021

When it is possible, Jennie promises we can all join them for a festive coffee hour after church to celebrate!



Worship with St. Thomas'

Baptism: Holy Baptism is the sacrament by which God adopts us as his children and makes us members of Christ's Body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of God.

Please be in touch with Rev. Lisa if you would like more information about baptism at St. Thomas' Parish.

Confirmation: Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop.

Please be in touch with Rev. Lisa if you would like to be Confirmed in the Episcopal Church, or if you've been Confirmed in another tradition and would like to be Received.

lahuja@stthomasdc.org

Study with St. Thomas'

Regathering as a Parish: Sunday April 18 – May 9 at 9:30 am

Join Rev. Lisa and members of the parish to talk about our approved plan for Regathering for Public Worship and starting to use our building more for ministry.

April 25: Fellowship - Building relationships

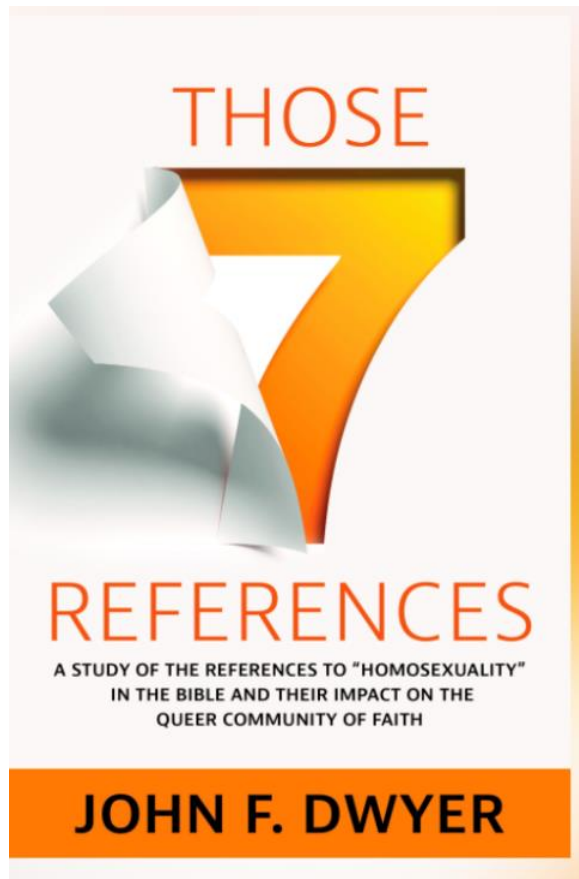
May 2: Meetings and Ministry operations

May 9: Study: Lifelong formation

We look forward to sharing the plan and having discussion questions to help us envision what is possible when regathering together. Some ministry groups will also have focus group conversations as they plan for the summer and fall.

Rev. John Dwyer's book, "Those Seven References"

Our Good Friday preacher was the Rev. John Dwyer, the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Church Divinity School of the Pacific. He served at St. Thomas' a number of years ago as Seminarian and then Assistant Rector. The book Rev. Dwyer published 12 years ago, "Those Seven References" was just updated and released.



A thoughtful analysis of the faulty rationale behind Christian anti-gay bias.

There have been enormous strides toward equality for the queer community in recent years. There have also been regressive local legislative actions seeking to limit those national steps toward equality. Many of those who have led these regressive efforts are individuals steeped in purposeful ignorance, bias, tribalism, and a radicalization of faithful beliefs, misleading their congregations and influencing legislators.

Personhood, the intense value of our individuality, cannot be made less by these few passages of scripture: God's love for our uniqueness is not compromised by oft misinterpreted verses. Having knowledge and words to counter baseless accusations

can disarm those who would use these passages as weapons of exclusion and judgment and can empower the queer community to live confidently in God's love.

Take Action with St. Thomas'



Diapers Needed – Sizes 4 and 6 and Toiletries

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have listened to the needs of our local community and tried to respond faithfully. We've donated lots of diapers, wipes, formula, and more to young, low-income families from Central America served by The United Planning Organization (UPO) in Columbia Heights. St. Thomas' Member Al, serves as a social worker at (UPO), and shares that **there is a current need for diapers in sizes 4-6 and toiletries: toothpaste, shaving cream, deodorant, toilet paper, and feminine products.** Al lives near St. Thomas' Parish on Beekman Place, NW. Call or email him for address or drop off 202-604-3084 or allanosdc@gmail.com

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 April Birthdays

Catherine Manhardt (April 4)
Dennis Hobb (April 7)
Janice Harrison (April 10)
Michael Ravi Desai Lodico (April 11)
Jane Saari (April 12)
Eric Scharf (April 22)
Peter Jue (April 23)

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

Parish Prayer List

Matthew Briggs
Peggyann Cohen
Alan Hamilton
Jan Harrison
Mark Herzog

Kristin Jones
Mike Knapp
Dave Kucharski
John Magenau
Bill McDonald

Tyrone Moore, Jr.
Victor Robinson
Annie Scrimenti
Chester Thompson

For the repose of the soul of:

Elton Eloin

Kathy Hitchcock

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



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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

Gregory Zitterkob, Senior Warden
Karen Garlick, Junior Warden
Clay Dursthoff, Treasurer
Jenn Mahle, Secretary
Brian Crane, Jason Crighton, Reggie Greer, Noel Miller,
Jane Saari, Brett Snyder, John Trumbo

Staff

The Rev. Lisa Saunders Ahuja	Rector	lahuja@stthomasdc.org cell: 202-361-2018 @BishopGRobinson
The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson	Bishop in Residence	mlodico@stthomasdc.org
Michael Lodico	Director of Music	administrator@stthomasdc.org
Ka Lam	Administrator	
Kimberly Davis	Nursery Care Worker	
Clifford Bowens	Nursery Care Worker	
Tyrone Moore	Sexton	

St. Thomas' Parish

1517 18th Street NW Washington, DC 20036 (202) 808-3326
www.stthomasdc.org ✉ info@stthomasdc.org

