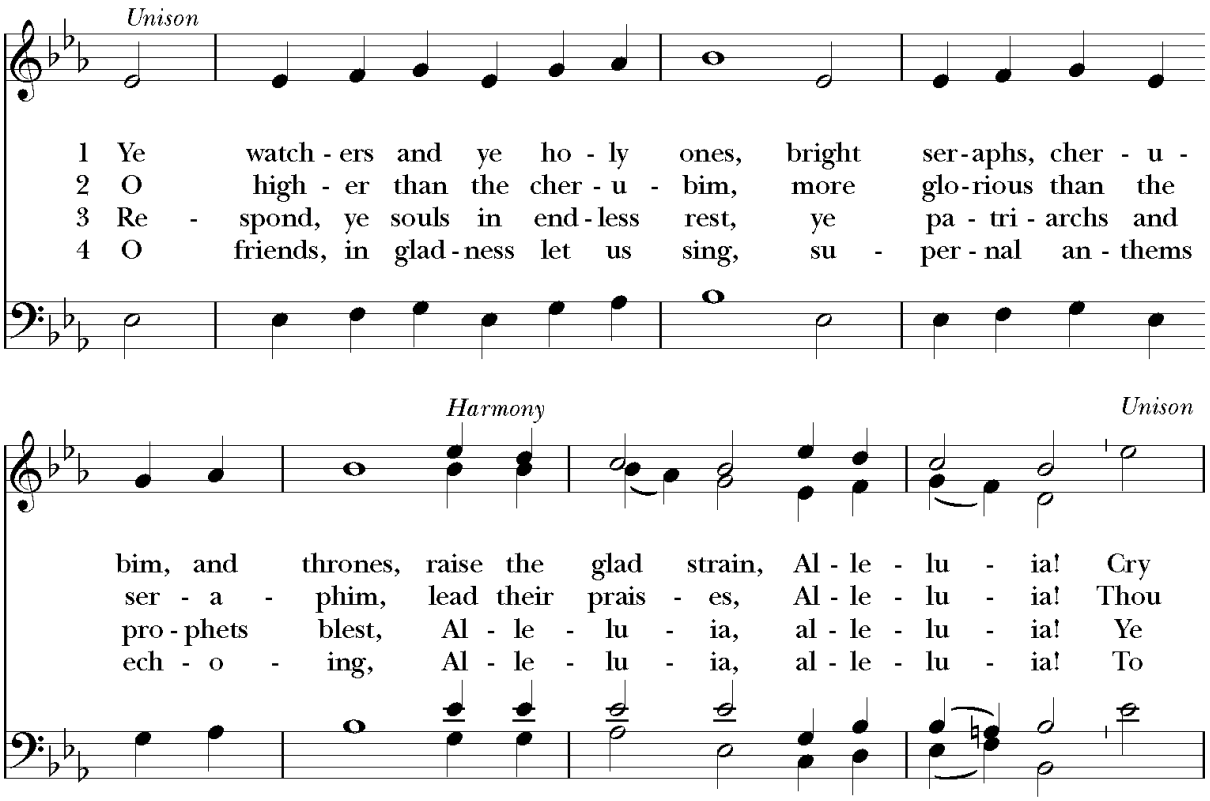
ST. THOMAS' PARISH
EPISCOPAL CHURCH DUPONT CIRCLE

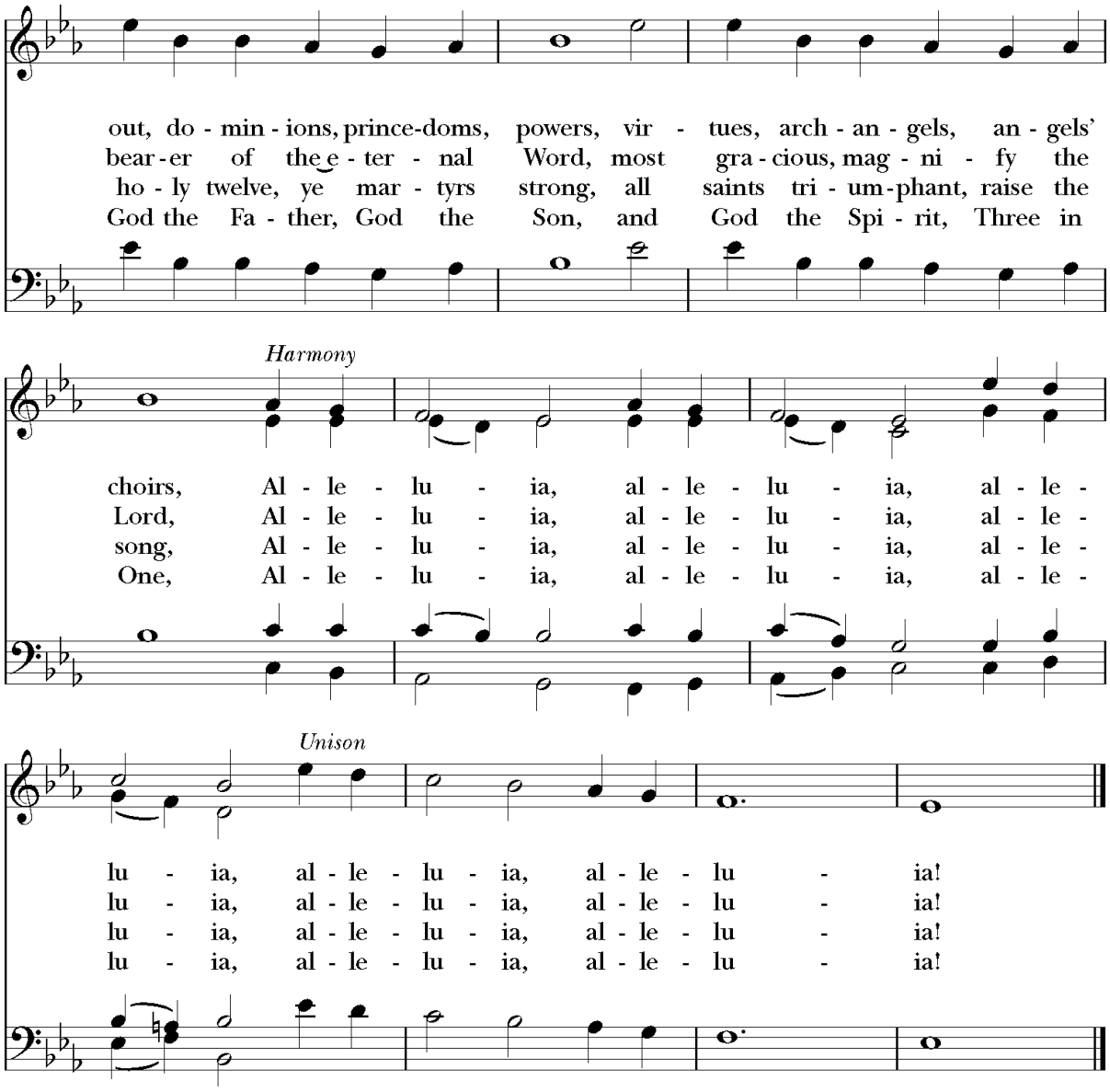


Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 5, 2021

Prelude **Chaconne** *Henry Purcell (1659-1695)*

Opening Hymn 618 "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones "





Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

Glory to God S278



The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.
Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

First Reading Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favour is better than silver or gold.
The rich and the poor have this in common:
the LORD is the maker of them all.
Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,
and the rod of anger will fail.
Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.
Do not rob the poor because they are poor,
or crush the afflicted at the gate;
for the LORD pleads their cause
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

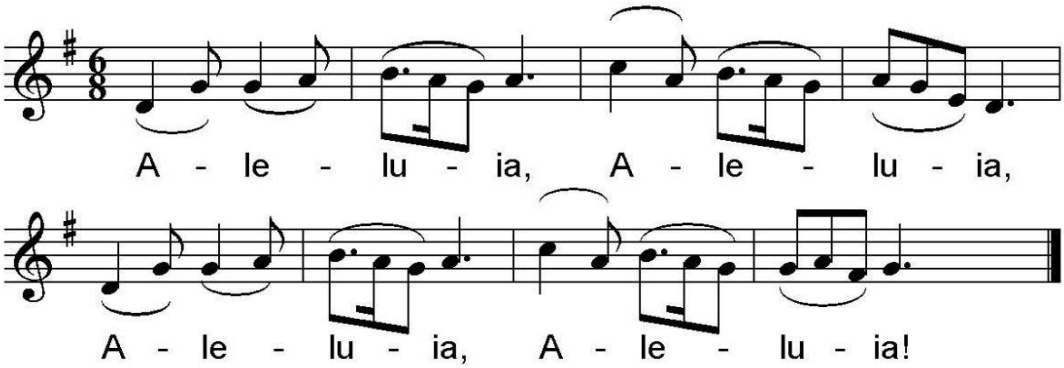
Lector: The Word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God**

Psalm 125 *Saint Helena Psalter*

(read by all)

1 They who trust in God are like Mount Zion, *
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.
2 The hills stand about Jerusalem; *
so does God stand round about the people,
from this time forth for evermore.
3 The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the just, *
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.
4 Show your goodness, O God, to those who are good *
and to those who are true of heart.
5 As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
God will lead them away with the evildoers; *
but peace be upon Israel.

Alleluia *(sung before the Gospel)*



The Holy Gospel Mark 7: 24-37

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

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

The Sermon Deacon Linda Mahler

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

Nicene Creed

WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

The Prayers of the People, Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

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

Lord, in your mercy
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

Lord, in your mercy
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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We pray for those on our parish prayer list. 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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

I invite your prayers of petition or thanksgiving, in silence, aloud, or in the comment section online.
Silence.

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, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant:
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**



The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of Christ be always with you.
All: **And also with you.**
✠*The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace.*

Welcome and Announcements

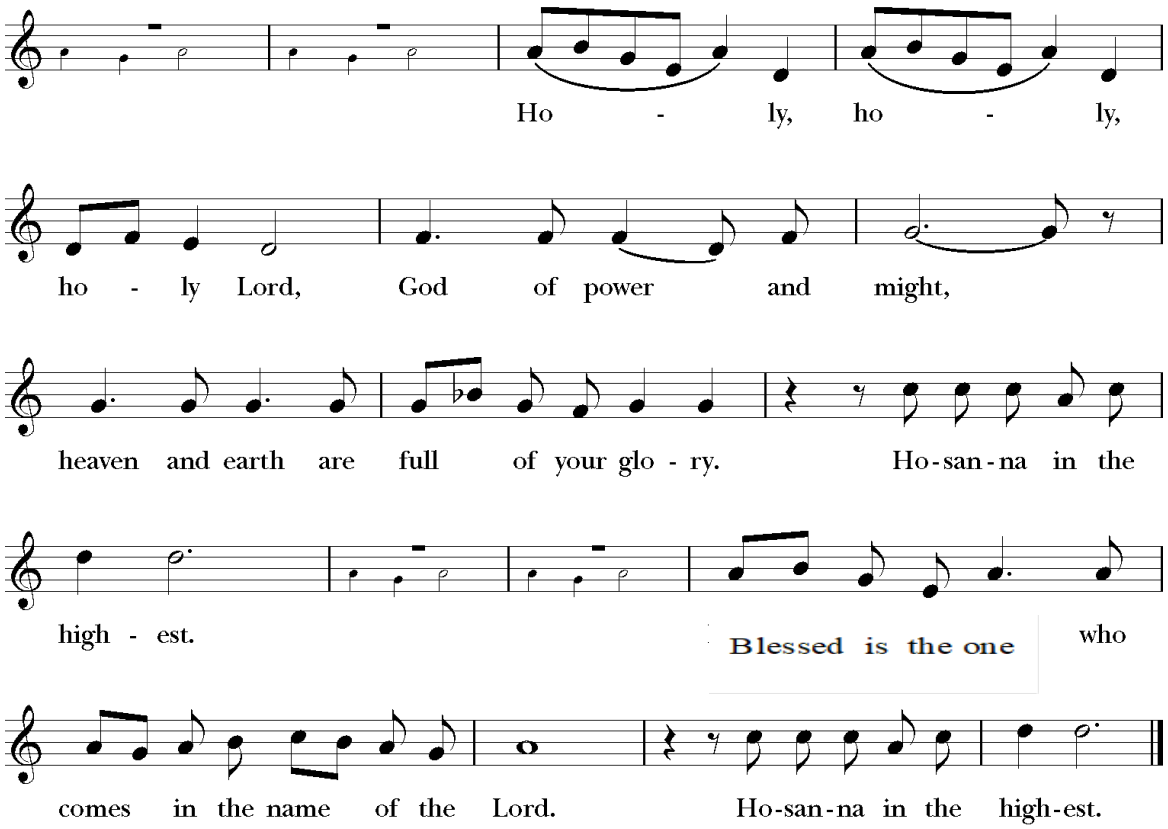
Offertory **Offertoire sur les Grands Jeux** François Couperin (1668-1733)

The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, father Almighty, 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, Holy, Holy S128



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the ever Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas our patron and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN**.

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia
Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion **Spirit of the Living God, Fall fresh on me**



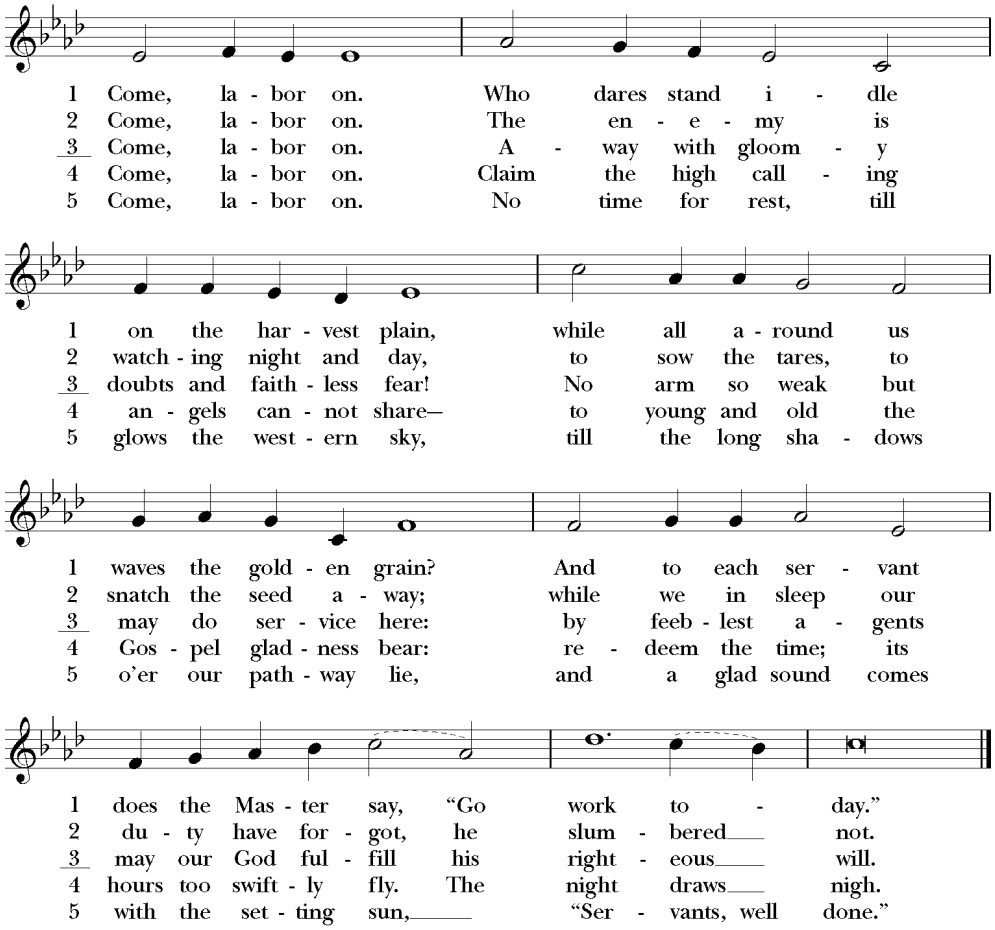
Post communion Prayer *(all together)*

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have much time
to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us.
So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.
And the blessing of God, who made us,
who loves us, and who travels with us
be with you now and forever. **Amen**

Closing Hymn 541 "Come, Labor On"



Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world,
Rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Postlude **Dialogue Sur La Trampetteo** *François Couperin (1668-1733)*

Our hymns today are reprinted under One License # A-734785.

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ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE

Announcements for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ September 5, 2021

A NOTE FROM OUR RECTOR



Dear Friends,

Welcome to our worship! It is a joy to have you amongst us today for study, worship, and fellowship. This month we move into the program year with opportunities to deepen our faith through worship, outreach and justice ministries, studies, hosting the larger community in our building, and building relationship with one another. My hope is that you feel a warm welcome to participate in the life of the parish!

You can read about opportunities to participate and connect in our community throughout our announcements each week. You are also invited to our next Welcome Coffee Hour on October 17, from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm. This will be a time to meet one another, learn about the parish history and current ministries, tour the church building, and ask questions. If you would like to meet up before the October Welcome Sunday event, please do let me know!

I look forward to our worship and fellowship on Sunday.

God bless you,
Lisa+

Here is our Parish Schedule for this coming week.

Sunday, September 5: **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:30 am	Bible Study on Today's Gospel – Parish Hall
10:30 am	Worship in-person and streamed to Facebook
11:15 am	Coffee Hour

Wednesday, September 8:

6:30-7:00 pm	Evening Worship in-person stream to Zoom (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)

Sunday, September 12: **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:30 am	Bible Study on Today's Gospel – Parish Hall
9:30 am	Nursery- 4th Floor
10:30 am	Worship in-person and streamed to Facebook
11:15 am	Coffee Hour

The Parish Office will be closed on Labor Day Monday, September 6

Zoom Code for parish meetings and worship:

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)

Giving QR Code

SCAN ME

When you scan the above QR Code with your phone's camera, it will take you directly to St. Thomas' website's Giving Page.

Worship with St. Thomas'

Sunday 10:30 am Hybrid Worship

In-Person:

-Registration no longer needed. Please sign in when arriving.

-Masks required for worship.

-Congregational Singing

-Holy Communion (bread only) is distributed.

-Outdoor Coffee Hour follows.

Online:

Worship is streamed from our in-person worship to our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/StThomasDC

An account is not required to access this worship on Facebook.

And posted to our website stthomasdc.org following the service.



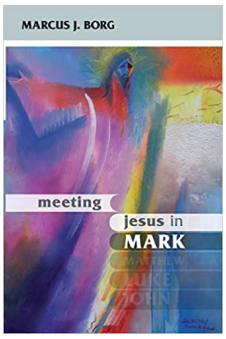
Join the St. Thomas' Choir

We are pleased to invite singers to consider joining our choir. We plan to rehearse in the nave on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am beginning September 12th to provide music for the 10.30 am Sunday services. The St. Thomas' Choir is an intergenerational choir of all ages and skill levels. All are welcome to learn and share a wide variety of sacred music as we grow in our spiritual journey. If interested in learning more about the choir, please speak to me following a Sunday service or email me at mlodico@stthomasdc.org

— Michael Lodico, Director of Music

Study with St. Thomas'

Sunday Morning Bible Study



This Sunday we continue our weekly Bible study at 9:30 am of Sunday's Gospel.
We will be using Marcus Borg's commentary on the Gospel of Mark for the initial series.
Jason Forman will lead the first sessions. Please join us in the Parish Hall before church
to learn more about the Gospel lesson every Sunday.



James Baldwin Reading Group

As our Sacred Ground series ended last April, several participants expressed an interest in reading the works of James Baldwin. As a result of that discussion, we are launching a James Baldwin Reading Group that will meet once a month over the next several months. The group will have a monthly discussion on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 pm virtually on Zoom. The Group will explore writings by and about James Baldwin. We may also choose to watch and discuss films on Baldwin. We will begin on Wednesday, September 29, at 7:00 pm.

Zoom Session on September 29:

"Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for Our Own"

This is a recent book by Eddie Glaude, Jr. who is Professor and Chair of African American Studies at Princeton University and a regular commentator on MSNBC. This work examines Baldwin's life and writings and reflects on how they pertain to our experience of America today. (217 pages)

During the session on September 29, we will also take time to decide on other works we will discuss in coming months. Here are some of the possibilities:

- "Notes of a Native Son" – Baldwin essays
- "Vintage Baldwin" – excerpts from Baldwin's essays, a short story, a novel, a play
- "The Fire Next Time" – Baldwin book consisting of two letters
- "I Am Not Your Negro" – a documentary film
- "If Beale Street Could Talk" – a full length feature film

The books outlined above are available at Amazon, in bookstores, and in public libraries.
If you are interested in joining this group, please register here.

Take Action with St. Thomas'

Responding to Grief and Joy (and everything in between!) in our Community:
You may wish to respond to the grief or joy in our community by sending a greeting card or making a phone call. If you do not have the individual's contact information, please check Realm or send your greeting card to that person % our church. We will make sure to share with them.

Welcome Lena Miriam Rizkalla to St. Thomas' Parish!





Parents Bettina Hager and Ibrahim Rizkalla are doing well. To respond to this joy and support Bettina and Ibrahim, St. Thomas' will be using mealtrain.com to coordinate meals three days a week. This website will allow you to sign up to bring a meal on a specific day and see their food preferences and other details. Here is a link to sign up: https://mealtrain.com/yezd91



Matt Briggs, a former member of St. Thomas', has died after a long battle with cancer. He was such a kind and gentle soul, always in pursuit of a deeper faith in God. Matt and Victoria moved to Seattle in 2018 so she could pursue her PhD in psychology at the University of Washington. Matthew's funeral is on Sunday September 19, 2021 at 2:00pm at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Seattle, WA. Cards can be sent to: Victoria Szydlowski, 2317 10th Ave E, Apt 304, Seattle WA 98102. Matt's funeral will be on Sunday, September 19th at 2 pm at St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle. The livestream for his funeral will be found at: https://saintmarks.org/worship/live-stream/

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 in Columbia Heights. St. Thomas' Member Al, serves as a social worker in the community and share that the most needed donations currently are: **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 alllanosdc@gmail.com



Ways to help incoming Afghan refugees

Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area is the organization responsible for settling refugees coming into our region. They have identified several ways that people can help meet the most immediate needs of the Afghan refugees coming in right now.

- Offer temporary housing to Afghan refugees until they get permanent housing.
- Serve as a driver to transport refugees to temporary or permanent housing.
- Be a "muscle mover" to help set up new apartments for arriving refugees.
- Be an on-call driver to transport people or supplies to their destination.
- Donate all-purpose gift cards (Visa or Mastercard).
- Purchase and deliver two weeks worth of groceries for a family.
- Prepare and deliver a culturally appropriate meal.

Here is the link if you wish to sign up to volunteer. (There is a backlog of requests, so you may not hear anything for a few weeks.):

Link to Volunteer with LSSNCA

St. Thomas' is creating a Google Doc so that people can indicate the different ways they would like to help. That way we can best coordinate our resources and be effective allies for the Afghan refugees. More information about that will be coming soon. Be in touch with Deacon Linda with questions: lmahler@stthomasdc.org.

Coffee Hour

Thank you to our host of Coffee Hour in the last month! It has been great to regather outside and reconnect over some tasty offerings. There are a few changes to hosting Coffee Hour now that we have a sexton on Sundays.



1. Esteban will set out the tables and the drinks. Hosts do not need to bring drinks or milk for coffee.
2. We ask host to bring: 4 dozen of one baked good item and 1 sliced seasonal fruit or vegetable (2 pounds of this item). When a vegetable is offered, a dairy-free dip would be nice. When hosts arrive on Sunday, they will place these food items in the small kitchen on the first floor. Esteban will set them out on the table, unless the host would like to help.
3. We ask the host to bring any food leftovers home with them.

Thank you to Jocko Fajardo for the food suggestions. This helps us prevent food waste, while still having enough food for hospitality each week. Please sign up to host on the welcome table in the Commons (first floor) or by emailing Ka Lam at administrator@stthomasdc.org.

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 September Birthdays

Barbara Hays (September 3)
Braxton Dyer (September 11)
Florence Asha Lodico (September 13)
Bob Sheavly (September 13)
Doug Dreier (September 22)
Cindy Adkins (September 24)
Linda Mahler (September 26)
Mary de Boer (September 27)
John Stanton (September 29)

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

Parish Prayer List

Peggyann Cohen	Betsy Hollingsworth	Rich Manhardt
Billy Duncan	Carol Hurlburt	Jane Saari
Pam Greer	James Insinga	Harvey
Susan Hannan	Kristin Jones	Joan Shapiro
Jan Harrison	Mike Knapp	Mary Jane Smith
Mark Herzog	Dave Kucharski	Chester Thompson

For the repose of the soul of:
Matthew Briggs, Tiffany Becker, Joan Dickinson

You may submit a name for the list by sending an e-mail 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

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

Staff

The Rev. Lisa Saunders Ahuja	Rector	lahuja@stthomasdc.org cell: 202-361-2018
The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson	Bishop in Residence	@BishopGRobinson
Deacon Linda Mahler	Deacon	lmahler@stthomasdc.org
Michael Lodico	Director of Music	mlodico@stthomasdc.org
Ka Lam	Administrator	administrator@stthomasdc.org
Jake Mitchell	Organ Scholar	
Tyrone Moore	Sexton	
Esteban Mares	Sunday Sexton	
Diana Diaz	Nursery Attendant	
Kristine Kwamena-Poh	Nursery Attendant	

St. Thomas' Parish

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

Episcopal Diocese of Washington