



# ST. THOMAS

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*It is the custom in the Episcopal Church to present ourselves to our Lord in silence before the service begins. Please silence your cell phones.*

## **The First Sunday of Lent**

### **February 18, 2024 10:30 AM**

## **The Holy Eucharist: Rite II**

### **Prelude**

When Jesus Wept

William Billings, arr. Donna Clark

*Please stand*

### **The Great Litany**

Hymn S-67

*The Liturgy for this morning begins with one of the oldest English prayers in the Prayer Book. Please open a blue Hymnal 1982 in the front Service Music section and join in the recitation of the Great Litany with the choir and clergy.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says*

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## The First Reading

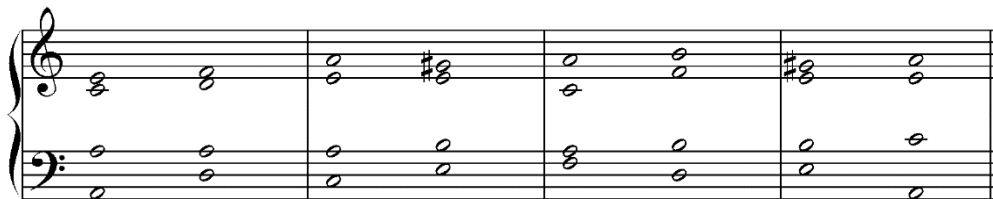
Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 25:1-9



1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in `you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph `over me.

- 2 Let none who look to you be put to `shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their `schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O `LORD, \*  
and teach me your `paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and `teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day `long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and `love, \*  
for they are from ever`lasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my trans`gressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O `LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the `LORD; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his `way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing `right \*  
and teaches his way to the `lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and `faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his `testimonies.

## The Second Reading

1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

### **Sequence Hymn**

Christ, when for us you were baptized

Hymn 121

### **The Gospel**

**Mark 1:9-15**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **The Children's Moment**

*Children may come forward to the step in front of the altar as we sing  
"Jesus loves me, this I know."*

### **The Sermon**

**The Rev. Jeanne Randall**

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.**

*Because the Great Litany is offered on the First Sunday of Lent and covers all manner of prayers and supplications to God, the Prayers of the People and the Confession of Sin are not included in the Liturgy today.*

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE**

### **Offertory Anthem**

Remember not, Lord, our offences

Henry Purcell

*Please stand*

*Celebrant* All things come of thee O Lord

*People* **and of thine own have we given thee.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A**

BCP 361

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so 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 him 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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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**

Hymn S-124

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people kneel or stand. Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father of all. He 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 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**The Lord's Prayer**

BCP 364

**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.

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

**Fraction Anthem**

**Agnus Dei**

**Hymn S-161**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, Grant us peace.**

## **THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion in The Episcopal Church. If you do not wish to receive, you are welcome to receive a blessing. Come to the altar, cross your arms over your chest, and the clergy will provide a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

### **Communion Hymn**

O saving Victim, opening wide

Hymn 311

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

BCP 366

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Solemn Prayer over the People**

*Celebrant* Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Hymn in Procession**

Forty Days and Forty Nights

Hymn 150

## **The Dismissal**

## **Postlude**

## Worship Team for February 18, 2024

<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Donovan Cain
<b>Preacher and Deacon</b>	The Rev. Jeanne Randall
<b>Director of Music</b>	Katherine Heim
<b>Organist</b>	Samuel Wright
<b>Bell Choir Director</b>	Donna Clark
<b>Soloist</b>	Dana Clark
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Jane Allgood, Barbara Meyer
<b>Lectors</b>	Elysa Jones, Patty Moy
<b>Ushers</b>	Larry Hill, Preston McGill
<b>Greeters</b>	John and Rebekah Callahan
<b>Vestry on Duty</b>	Ted Evans, Mark Mohler
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Ward, Kay Strobel, Tut Clements
<b>Breakfast</b>	A-Team
<b>Refreshments</b>	Robin Kastanakis

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### **The Staff of St. Thomas**

The Rev. Donovan Cain, Rector

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The Rev. Jeannie Randall, Deacon

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The Rev. David Drachlis, Deacon Associate

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Katherine Heim, Director of Music

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Samuel Wright, Organist

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Laura Beth Bestor, Children's Ministry Coordinator

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Carey McIntyre, Communications Coordinator

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Irene Smith, Administrative Assistant & Bookkeeper

*stthomas@stthomashuntsville.org; finance@stthomashuntsville.org*

### **2024 Vestry Members**

George Harriman, Senior Warden, Ted Evans and David Hattaway, Junior Wardens

John Hanson, Donna Palumbo

Grace Casey, Kathie Clayton, Richard Williams

Tracy Ganem, Mark Mohler, Brett Tomlin, Peter Wilson

Wyn Patterson, Vestry Clerk      Bob Thurber, Parish Treasurer

### **St. Thomas Episcopal Church Contact Information**

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## OUR PRAYERS FOR FEBRUARY 18, 2024

**We pray for those on our Parish Prayer list:** Nina Alspaugh, John Anderson, Graham Arnold, Cindy & Tom Atkins, Sally Barnett, Eric Cantrell, Sharon Griffin, Jane Harper, Christopher Harris, Larry Hill, Diane Hutson, Ann Knowles, Pam Lloyd, Janet McAlister, Thad Mauldin, Julia & Jack Mayo, Larry Meyer, Linda Mixon, Matthew Neustadter, Norma Oberlies, Stan Prevost, Karly Mauldin Renna, Gloria Roth & family, Dan Seaman, Connie Sharp, Mickey Sharp, Quinn Hattaway Short, Al Stokes, Tim Talley, Ursula Vann, Annie Wells, Lee West, and Jane Williams.

**We pray for our Companion Diocese of Honduras,** for Bishop Allen, for Bob Harwell, our Missioner to Honduras, and for our Colonia Episcopal Students: Yosli, Joseline, Oscar, Andrea, Escarleth, Jeimy, Anthony, Wilson, Josselin, Eric, Ana, Seylin, Kenzie, Genesis, Grodvan, Derek, and Sarai.

**We pray for those celebrating birthdays today or the week ahead, especially** Kerry Baker, Diane Hutson, Joslyn Fairchild, Lloyd Cook, Luke Carrier, Geoffrey Slagle, Olivia Moore, Elizabeth Duling, Claudia Evans, Kathy DeLancey, and Rebekah Callahan.

**We pray for the ill or distressed:** Dean, Brian, Robert Lee, Brook (D. Baker's father, brother, friends); Kathy, James, Sylvia (S. Barnett's relative & friends); Angie (P. Bedenbaugh's friend); Pam (B. Beebe's sister); Matt (A. Cain's father); Larry (D. Cain's uncle); Paige (B. Cantrell's friend); Glen Yates (S. Carrier's friend); Glenda, Thomas (K. Carter's mother & brother); Maria (A. Clark's relative); Mary, Mark (D. Clark's niece, friend); Martha (K. Clayton's aunt); Randy (T. Clements' brother-in-law); Laura, Ralph (Conover's friends); Brad (C. Covell's brother); Rob (Covell's friend); Fred (B. Dodson's relative); Lois-Anne, Al (C. Doyle's friends); Cindy (D. Eppling's daughter); Tanya (J. Eskew's sister-in-law); Cecelia (K. Evan's sister & S. Kittle's daughter); Roger (T. Evans friend); Jan (M. Evans' friend); Marcella (L. Fowler's mother); Rhonda, Helen (The Geis' friends); Martha (O. Gibson's relative); B. Kendrick (B. Greenaway's friend); Will, Tim, Jane, Kathy (G. Griffith's grandson, friends) Libby (M. Harris' friend); Patrick, Destiny (D. Hattaway's friends); Stark, Spencer, Krystin, Rolly (K. Heim's friends);

Buddy, Kelsey (P. Heim's friends); Danny (The Johnsons' nephew); Ann (E. Jones' friend); Lois, Holland (J. Jurhs' friend & daughter); Judy (C. Knickelbein's aunt); Paul (L. Kreider's father); Jimmy (M. & T. Lackey's friend); Jerry, Dennis (T. Lee's father, brother); Frances (P. Lloyd, N. Oberlies friend); Sandra, Amy (K. MacLeod's relatives); Dan (D. McCauley's brother); Jesse (C. McGill's son); Rusty (M. Marr's friend); Jorge (Mauldin's friend); Bonnie, Jeff (G. Mauldin's friends); Cassie, Beth (friends of J. Mayo); Gail (B. J. Merchant's friend); Joseph (Meyers' friend); Bambi, Pat (S. Mohler's parents); Daisy (W. Moore's mother); Bennie, Allison (Moy's friend and daughter); Paul (P. Nielsen's son); Will (W. Patterson's friend); Hadley, Doug (T. Perry's friends); John (L. Potter's friend); Terry (D. Palumbo's mother), Paul (B. Pawluk's brother); David (B. Rackley's son); Roseanne (R. Redfield's mother); Theresa (R. Ross' friend); Eric (C. Roy's nephew); Janet (L. Ryder's friend); Nancy, Lorri (C. Seaman's sister, sister-in-law); Jaden, Kaiyah (I. Smith's son and daughter); Linda (friend of B. Smith); Alan, Mack, Kimberly, Maddie (S. Smith's son; family; friends); Melanie (friend of F. Steel); Pam (friend of B. Stilson); Eric, Zach (J. Stokes' friend); Kay (C. Sutton's mother); Dorothy (G. Taylor's friend); Sharon, Valerie (N. Teasdale's friends); Gina (L. Thurber's friend); and Rachel, Will, Lily, Eli (R. Verschoore's friends).

**We pray for those who serve in and with the United States Armed Forces, especially:** Benjamin (L. Cooper's son, L. Anders' grandson); Logan Dodson (Dodson's grandson); Kathryn & Juan Muñera (M. Erker's daughter, son-in-law); Zach Young (N. Fisher's son-in-law); Nick Moultrie, Parker Byrd, Chris Garcia (J. Fletcher's friends); Christopher Harris (M. Harris' son); Grover Lee Wilson, Teddy Lovejoy, Zane Goodnite (S. Kittle's relatives); Drexel Martin (C. Knickelbein's cousin); Patrick Macala (R. Macala & K. Clayton's son); Jackson Mayo (Mayo's grandson); Julia Flores (D. McCauley's cousin); Ben Meyer (B. & L. Meyer's grandson); Jaden Smith (Irene Smith's son); Daniel (L. Thames' son); and Caden Zabel (J. Zabel's grandson).

# The Week at a Glance

<b>Sunday, February 18</b>	
7:30 AM – 1:30 PM	Blood Drive
8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Nave
9:00 AM	Breakfast with A Team
9:30 AM	Adult Christian Formation with Father Donavan, Parish Hall
9:30 AM	Youth Christian Formation, Youth Room
9:30 AM	Children's Christian Formation, Hiers Hall Classrooms
10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist, Nave
5:00 PM	"Come As You Are" Holy Eucharist, Nave
<b>Tuesday February 20</b>	
1:00 PM	Caregivers Group, Crossroads Room
6:00 PM	February Vestry meeting, Conference Room 1
<b>Wednesday, February 21</b>	
9:30 AM	Bible Study, Conference Room 1
11:00 AM	Bible Study, Conference Room 1
4:30 PM	Treble Choir, Choir Room Hudson Hall
5:30 PM	Taizé Prayer, Nave
6:00 PM	Soup and Supper, Parish Hall
6:20 PM	Lenten Series: <i>Satan – The Evolution of Evil in the Bible and in the Church</i>
6:20 PM	Children's Lenten Program: Journeys, Parlor
7:00 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room Hudson Hall
<b>Thursday, February 22</b>	
4:00 PM	Centering Prayer, Crossroads
6:00 PM	Everybody's Pub Theology, PaPpo's
<b>Friday, February 23</b>	
12:05 PM	Stations of the Cross, Nave

**Have a big heart! Blood Drive is today until 1:30 PM.** All donors receive a \$25 gift card.

**Adult Christian Formation returns today with Father Donavan's Class for Lent,** What does it mean to be the "Church" today? Join him in the Parish Hall at 9:30 AM.

**Sign up today and "take on" preparing one of our Wednesday Lenten Soup and Salad Suppers.** Look for more information and sign up sheets in Information Hall and in the Epistle.

**Wednesdays in Lent begin this week!** Find out more about our Taizé Prayer, Soup and Salad Supper, Adult Lenten Series, *Satan-The Evolution of Evil in the Bible and in the Church*, and the Children's Lenten Program in the latest Epistle. It all begins in the Nave at 5:30 PM.

**Everybody's Pub Theology is Thursday, February 22nd from 6:00 to 7:30 PM at PaPpo's Pizzeria.** Join us for hearty discussions with a side of great food and fellowship!

**Stations of the Cross with Father Donavan is Friday, February 23th at 12:05 PM.** Meet in the Nave.

## ONGOING

**Daughters of the King is sponsoring a used Shoe Drive.** Go through your closet and donate shoes you don't wear anymore especially tennis shoes and boots (but no high heels) for Huntsville's homeless. Drop your donations in the bin in Information Hall.

**Gently used Laptop and Kindle Collections** for our friends in the Diocese of Honduras through March 1st.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Adult Newcomers class is Sunday, February 25th at 9:30 AM in the Crossroads room. Look for more information in the Epistle.

## SAVE THE DATE

- Save the Date! Parish Retreat will be March 8th through the 10th at Camp McDowell. Register here! Deadline is March 4th.

