Saint Thomas's Church

Easter III

Sunday, April 21, 2024

Sung Mass at 9:30 am



The Good Shepherd, c. 300-350 AD Catacombs of Domitilla, Rome

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church

383 Huron Street, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G5 416-979-2323 www.stthomas.on.ca office@stthomas.on.ca

Welcome!

On behalf of everyone who claims St. Thomas's as their spiritual home, we are happy you are with us, whether in person or via our livestream. If you are a visitor or newcomer, or even a longtime parishioner, but find it awkward or difficult to stand or kneel at the places indicated, remaining seated is perfectly acceptable. Please assume the posture most conducive to prayer throughout this service, or simply observe.

St. Thomas's has many peculiar ways that we cherish and are happy to share. If there seems to be no rhyme or reason for something, there might not be! But feel free to ask anyone after the service; it usually makes for entertaining conversation.

You are not obliged to engage any of us in conversation, though you should know that pretty much everyone here is happy to do so when we gather. You can always slip away without any judgement. We seem to have a lot of introverts here, so we understand the energy it takes to put yourself out there. Even if you're a raging extrovert, the experience of church can be disorienting. Relax and be yourself. Believe it or not, whether from near or far, God has led you here today. We want to honour what God is up to in your life, and we are here for you as you (re-) discover the joy and the challenge of the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Nathan Humphrey, Rector

Low gluten communion hosts are available upon request. When you approach for communion, indicate to the priest that you require a low gluten host.



St. Thomas's relies on the generosity of those whose offerings reflect gratitude for God's own generosity to us. To make a secure gift online, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera app, or visit *qrco.de/smokytoms*. Scroll to the bottom of the webpage to fill out the online form. We no longer pass the plate, so if you want to give the old-fashioned way, an alms basin is available in the narthex.

Celebrant & Homilist: Fr. James Shire Reader: Michael Rowland Intercessor: Bruce McEachern Organist & Choirmaster: Elizabeth Anderson Assistant Organist & Choirmaster: Manuel Piazza

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

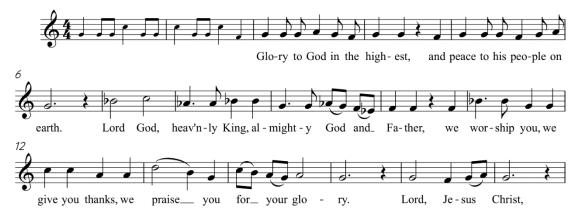
May his grace and peace be with you. **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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 People stand.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO Communion Service, William Mathias (1934-1992)





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the highpriestly 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.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23



The Choir sings the Refrain, which is repeated by the People. The Choir then sings the verses, and all repeat the Refrain where indicated.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall never be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. *Refrain*.

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake. 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. *Refrain*. 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. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. *Refrain*.

THE EPISTLE

1 John 3.16-24

A reading from the First Epistle of St. John.

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Cantor sings the Alleluias, which are repeated by the People. The Cantor then sings the verse, and all repeat the Alleluias.



Verse: I am the good shepherd, says the Lord: I know my own and my own know me. *Repeat Alleluias.*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John. **Glory to you, Lord Jesus 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.'

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The People sit.

SERMON

After the Sermon, the People remain seated for a period of silent reflection, standing when the Celebrant stands.

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

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: (*Bow.*) by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. (*Rise.*)

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. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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.

The People remain standing.

INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant Let us pray to our God, the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep and our cornerstone.

Intercessor Lord, when people inquire by what power and by what name our Church does the things we do, let our Church and its ministers and members, like Peter, be filled with the Holy Spirit and make known to all by word and deed they are done by the power and in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom God raised from the dead. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Bless Andrew our bishop, Kevin and Ryscilla our suffragan bishops, our Rector, Fr. Shire and assistant clergy, and all who minister and worship in this parish. The Anglican cycle of prayer asks us to pray for The Anglican Church of Australia, the Diocesan cycle of prayer asks us to pray for Vocations for Ministry: Ordained, Lay and the Religious Life, and we are asked by this parish to pray for Terry Tweed, Bruce Ubukata & Stephen Ralls, Barbara Vali, Diana & Gabor Verseghy, Edward Vincent, Heather Vogan, Gordon Walsh, & Paula Walshaw. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Let us give thanks for the blessings we enjoy at this Eastertide, and for those things for which each of us desires particularly to give thanks, silently or aloud _____ [We give thanks especially for _____.] May God's abiding presence be with us always, that we may be a blessing to all people. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the King, for Parliament and the Legislatures, for our municipal councils, and for all in authority here in Canada and abroad, that they may lead us to love one another, not in word or speech alone, but in truth and action. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for peace in the world and for all people, including those held hostage in the Middle East and elsewhere, those in war zones such as Gaza, Israel, the West Bank, and Ukraine, and for all who are oppressed. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the sick, including _____. Let us pray for those others for whom we are asked to pray, including _____. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who are departed and are at rest, including _____, who died recently, and for _____, whose year's mind is at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory on the last day. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Lord God, whose Son laid down his life for his sheep, and was then restored to life and raised to eternal glory, may we follow his example, forsaking those things that are contrary to our Christian profession, following all things agreeable to it, and being good shepherds for your Church and for our world. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INVITATION, CONFESSION, & ABSOLUTION

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

The People bow or kneel. Silence is kept.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All standing, the Celebrant bids the Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.

The People remain standing for the hymn during the Offertory.

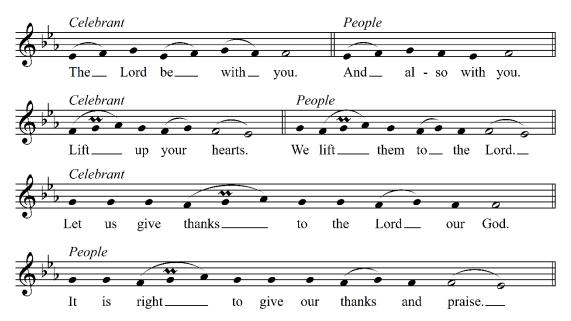
OFFERTORY HYMN 348

| mi so mi do fa re ti so do re mi re do ti la so |
|--|
| |
| 1. Christ is made the sure foun-da - tion, Christ the head and cor-ner - stone, 2. All that de - di - ca - ted ci - ty, Dear - ly loved of God on high, |
| 3. To this tem - ple, where we call thee, Come, O Lord of hosts, to - day; 4. Here vouch-safe to all thy ser - vants what they ask of thee to gain. |
| 5. Laud and ho - nour to the Fa - ther, Laud and ho - nour to the Son, |
| ti re ti so do re mi do fa mi re mi do do ti ti la |
| |
| Cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious, Bin - ding all the Church in one, In ex - ul - tant ju - bi - la - tion pours per - pe - tual mel - o - dy, |
| With thy won - ted lo - ving-kind - ness hear thy ser - vants as they pray; What they gain from thee for ev - er with the bles - sed to re - tain, |
| Laud and ho - nour to the Spi - rit, E - ver Three and e - ver One. |
| di di re re ti ti do do la la ti do do ti do |
| |
| Ho - ly Si - on's help for - ev - er, And her con - fi - dence a - lone. God the One in Three a - do - ring in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly. |
| And thy ful - lest be - ne-dic - tion shed with - in its walls al-way. And here-af - ter in thy glo - ry e - ver more with thee to reign. |
| Con - sub-stan - tial, Co - e - ter - nal, While un - end - ing a - ges run. |
| WESTMINSTER ABBEY Latin (7 th cent.) Henry Purcell (1658-1695), c. 1680 Tr J.M.Neale (1818-1866), 1851 |

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of loving care, you spread before us the table of life, and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and our shepherd. **Amen.**

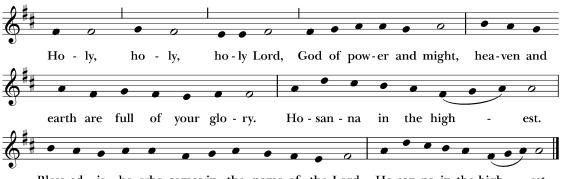
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life.

Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The People remain standing.

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling 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 Saviour 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 he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, 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, Father, according to his command:

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, 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, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are vours, almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

McNeil Robinson (1943-2015)

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Lord, we died with you on the Cross **Now we are raised to new life.**

We were buried in your tomb. Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

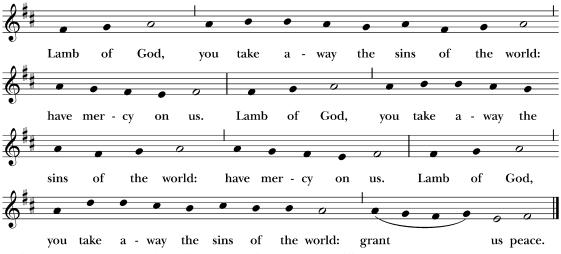
HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The Choir and People sing:

AGNUS DEI

Plainsong Mass, David Hurd



Music: From New Plainsong; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

All baptized Christians are warmly invited to receive Communion as directed by the Sidespeople. Please receive the host (bread) on the right palm of the hand (supported underneath by the left palm). To receive the cup, gently guide with your hand the base of the chalice. Please refrain from intinction (dipping the host into the cup).

Low gluten communion hosts are available upon request. When you approach for communion indicate to the priest that you require a low gluten host.

If you have not been baptized or are not receiving communion, please cross your arms over your chest in the shape of an X to receive a blessing. If you are not receiving from the cup, please pause to reverence it with a bow before returning to your pew.

If you wish to inquire about baptism for yourself or your child, we would love to speak with you!

Мотет

Psalm 23, Srul Irving Glick (1934-2002), adapted

Mizmor, L'David. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; He guideth me in straight paths for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, For Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, They comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me, In the presence of mine enemies; Thou hast anointed my head with oil; My cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord, Forever, forever.

COMMUNION DEVOTIONS

An Act of Spiritual Communion, which may be prayed silently by those not receiving:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I humbly ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love. Amen.

ANIMA CHRISTI

The following devotion may be prayed silently by communicants and non-communicants.

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesu, hear me. Within thy wounds hide me. Suffer me not to be separated from thee. From the malicious enemy defend me. In the hour of my death call me. And bid me come to thee, That with thy saints I may praise thee, For ever and ever. Amen.

The People stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of steadfast love, watch over the Church redeemed by the blood of your Son. May we who share in these holy mysteries come safely to your eternal kingdom, where there is one flock and one shepherd. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

DOXOLOGY

Glory to God,

whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting 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 \clubsuit Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Hymn 470

Love Divine, all loves excelling



The Altar flowers are given to the honour and glory of Almighty God:

Those at the High Altar in loving memory of Alice and Henry Spencer, by Phil and Wade Spencer.

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