Saint Thomas's Church The Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity

Sunday, September 17, 2023 Sung Mass at 9:30 am



Winged Figure, Abbott Handerson Thayer, 1889 The Art Institute of Chicago

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, though we hope you will avail yourself of **coffee hour in the parish hall** following this service, if possible. 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. Nathan Humphrey

Reader: Georgiana Beal
Intercessor: Ronwen Guest
Director of Music: Elizabeth Anderson

Assistant Director of Music: Manuel Piazza

MUSIC OF THE MASS

Communion Service, William Mathias (1934-1992)

VOLUNTARY

Ubi Caritas, Gerald Near (b. 1942)

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

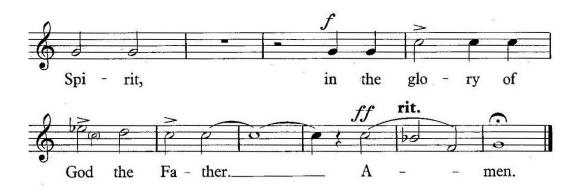
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Choir and People sing:

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO







THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you call your Church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you. Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

FIRST LESSON Genesis 50.15-21

The First Lesson is written in book of Genesis.

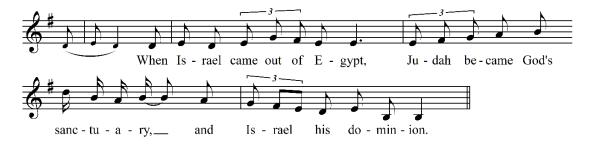
Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?

Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 114



Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech, Judah became God's sanctuary and Israel his dominion. *R*/.

The sea beheld it and fled; Jordan turned and went back. The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like young sheep. R/.

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back? You mountains, that you skipped like rams? you little hills like young sheep? **R**/.

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob. Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water and flint-stone into a flowing spring. R/.

THE EPISTLE Romans 14.1-12

A reading from Saint Paul's Epistle to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord. since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 18.21-35

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?'

Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

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

Our God, who forgave Joseph and his brothers, who forgave Paul who had been Saul, who forgives us: Help us to forgive ourselves and those who offend us,
Lord, hear us and have mercy.
For the Church, in the Anglican Communion in the Diocese of Toronto, our Bishops, and all who call themselves the children of God that, as it has been proclaimed, every body and every mind shall give praise to God, without judging the praise of others.
Lord, hear us and have mercy.
In thanksgiving, let us hold up before the Lord that, weak or strong in faith or gifts, all abstain from passing judgement but give thanks for one another.
Lord, hear us and have mercy.
For the sick, that they come to see that whether we live or die we are the Lord's, whether we are healed or become whole in death, we are the Lord's. The time of our birth and death are his, and he is Judge.
Lord, hear us and have mercy.
For those others for whom our prayers are asked that they and we ourselves learn that whether we do or abstain from doing it is the honour freely offered to the Lord and the thanks to God that bases the choice as virtue.
Lord, hear us and have mercy.
For the dead, recent and at a year's mind that they find joy in a loving accountability to our God and a happy reunion with those who went before. Lord, hear us and have mercy.

All loving God, aid us in knowing ourselves forgiven as we plead so that we too may forgive others for the injuries they cause or compound in people, places, and creation, and to accept that part of the reception of forgiveness is restitution. We ask through Jesus your Son, who is the great Renewer of the world with your Spirit, for ever one God. **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 158 – The Lamb's high banquet called to share

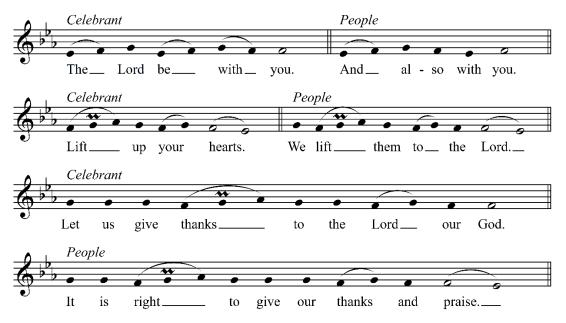
- All 1 The Lamb's high banquet called to share, Arrayed in garments white and fair, The Red Sea past, we fain would sing To Jesus our triumphant King.
- Lower 2 Upon the Altar of the Cross

 Voices His Body hath redeemed our loss;
 And, tasting of his precious Blood,
 Our life is hid with him in God.
- Upper 3 Protected in the Paschal night,Voices From the destroying angel's might,In triumph went the ransomed freeFrom Pharaoh's cruel tyranny.
- All 4 Now Christ our Passover is slain,
 The Lamb of God without a stain;
 His Flesh, the true unleavened Bread,
 Is freely offered in our stead.
- Lower
 Voices
 Beneath thee hell defeated lies;
 Thy captive people are set free,
 And endless life restored in thee.
- Upper 6 We hymn thee rising from the grave,Voices From death returning, strong to save;Thine own right hand the tyrant chains,And Paradise for man regains.
- All 7 All praise be thine, O risen Lord, From death to endless life restored; All praise to God the Father be And Holy Ghost eternally.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Holy God, accept all we offer you this day. May we who are reconciled at this table bring wholeness to our broken world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

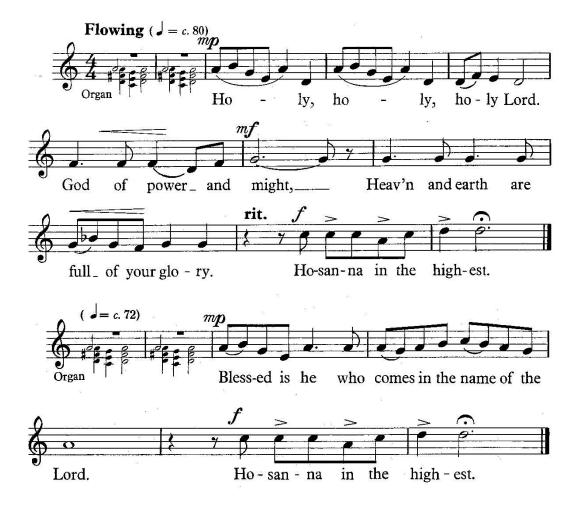


Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on this first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

In our unending joy we echo on earth the song of the angels in heaven as we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

The Choir and People sing:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



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."

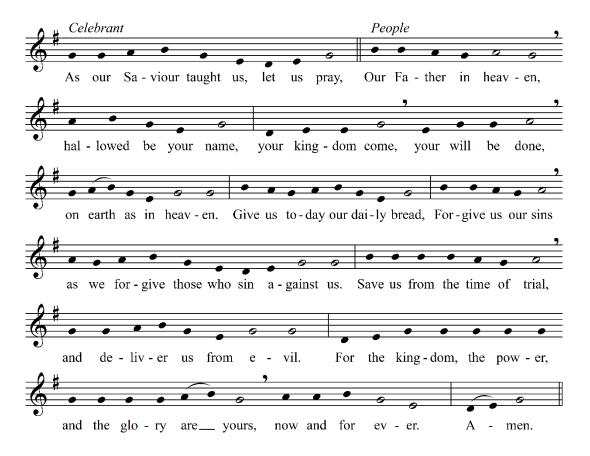
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

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 yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

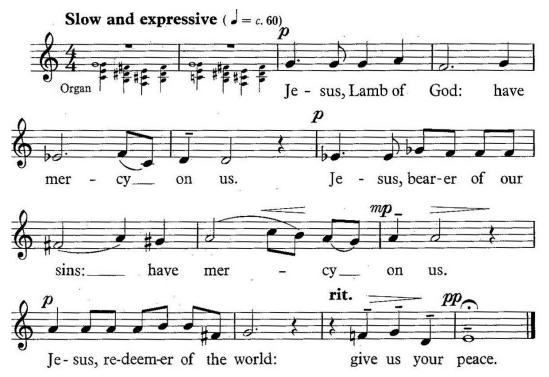
HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Choir and People sing:

AGNUS DEI



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), as diocesan policy does not allow us to do so.

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!

MOTET 'Almighty and everlasting God,' Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities, stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us: through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Collect for the Third Sunday after the Epiphany)

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 peace, in this eucharist we have been reconciled to you and to our neighbours. May we who have been nourished by holy things always have the courage to forgive. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the 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 peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the 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.

Thanks be to God.

CONCLUDING HYMN 407 – Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

- 1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us O'er the world's tempestuous sea; Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us, For we have no help but thee; Yet possessing every blessing, If our God our Father be.
- 2 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us; All our weakness thou dost know; Thou didst tread this earth before us, Thou didst feel its keenest woe; Lone and dreary, faint and weary, Through the desert thou didst go.
- 3 Spirit of our God, descending, Fill our hearts with heavenly joy; Love with every passion blending, Pleasure that can never cloy; Thus provided, pardoned, guided, Nothing can our peace destroy.

Mannheim Friedrich Filitz, 1847 James Edmeston, 1821

VOLUNTARY

Galliard to the third pavane, William Byrd (1543-1623)

Coffee Hour follows this service in the Parish Hall.

There will be an Acolyte Induction this afternoon of several 9:30 acolytes at the Evensong service, with a reception following. Please join us!

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

Those at the High Altar given in memory of James Campbell Forsyth, Lilias Helen Simpson Forsyth, John Ralph Power, and Mary Evans Fiddes;

and

Those at the Lady Altar by David and Mary Lou Harrison, in loving memory of James and Vera Bonham, Elwood and Golding Foster, Ralph and Ruby Harrison, John Saunders, and the Reverend Canon Warren and Dorothy Turner

Copyright Information:

Communion Service Music by: Mathias, William

Copyright Year: 1976 Publisher Oxford University Press Almighty and Everlasting Lord Music by: Gibbons Orlando Copyright Year: 1969 Publisher: Oxford University Press

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DAILY OFFICE SCHEDULE

Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer services generally last 15-25 minutes and are a great way to begin and/or end the day!

MORNING PRAYER

8:30 AM, MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:30 AM, SATURDAY 7:30 AM, SUNDAY

EVENING PRAYER

5:00 pm, Monday-Friday 5:00 pm Sunday (Choral Evensong)

Choral Evensong on Sundays is followed by Eucharistic devotions.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

Low Mass 8:00 am Sung Mass 9:30 am High Mass 11:00 am

WEEKDAY LOW MASS

12:15 pm, Monday, Wednesday, Friday 5:30 pm Tuesday, Thursday 10:00 am Saturday

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