

*Welcome to*

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*16 E. Van Buren St.  
Battle Creek  
(269)965-2244  
[www.StThomasBC.org](http://www.StThomasBC.org)*

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

*January 24, 2021*

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

Opening Voluntary: *Nun Bitten Wir* Dieterich Buxtehude

*The service begins with the musical prelude. Then the Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
**And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant prays 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.**

*Then the following hymn is sung*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*THE COLLECT OF THE DAY*

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*First Lesson: Jonah 3:1-5,10*

A Reading from the Book of Jonah.

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 62:6-14*

- 6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; \*  
truly, my hope is in him.
- 7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, \*  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
- 8 In God is my safety and my honor; \*  
God is my strong rock and my refuge.
- 9 Put your trust in him always, O people, \*  
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.
- 10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, \*  
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.
- 11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, \*  
all of them together.
- 12 Put no trust in extortion;  
in robbery take no empty pride; \*  
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.
- 13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, \*  
that power belongs to God.
- 14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, \*  
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

*Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31*

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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

*Hymn: LEVAS 136*

I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
No turning back, no turning back!

Though no one join me, still I will follow,  
Though no one join me, still I will follow,  
Though no one join me, still I will follow,  
No turning back, no turning back!

The world behind me, the cross before me,  
The world behind me, the cross before me,  
The world behind me, the cross before me,  
No turning back, no turning back!

*Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:14-20*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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." As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

*178TH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING*

*THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE*

*After each petition the people respond*

God of love and mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

*The Celebrant introduces the Offertory. The bread and wine for communion are set upon the altar. The gifts of the people are presented at the altar.*

*Anthem: God is My Strong Salvation* Richard Shephard

*Offerings may be made by texting "StThomasBC" to 73256. You can also click or paste this link into your internet browser's search field: <https://onrealm.org/stthomasbc/give/now>, or go to our website [www.StThomasBC.org](http://www.StThomasBC.org) and click the green "Contribute Now" button at the bottom of the page. Thank you for your generosity.*

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Here the Proper Preface is said. Then all join in the Sanctus*

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant praises God for the salvation of the world through the holy sacrifice of Jesus; and remembering the events of the Last Supper, prays that the gifts of bread and wine may become the Body and Blood of Christ.*

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*At the end of the prayer the people respond*

**Amen.**

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

**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*

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.**

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The Celebrant says the invitation to communion. The prayer for those unable to receive communion is said. The Reserve Sacrament is available in the chapel at St. Thomas for those who wish to receive communion after having participated in online worship.*

*After communion the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Hymn 537: Christ for the World We Sing!*

Christ for the world we sing!  
The world to Christ we bring with loving zeal;  
the poor and them that mourn,  
the faint and over-borne,  
sin-sick and sorrow-worn,  
whom Christ doth heal.

Christ for the world we sing!  
The world to Christ we bring with fervent prayer;  
the wayward and the lost,  
by restless passions tossed,  
redeemed at countless cost  
from dark despair.

Christ for the world we sing!  
The world to Christ we bring with one accord;  
with us the work to share,

with us reproach to dare,  
with us the cross to bear,  
for Christ our Lord.

Christ for the world we sing!  
The world to Christ we bring with joyful song;  
the newborn souls, whose days,  
reclaimed from error's ways,  
inspired with hope and praise,  
to Christ belong.

*The Celebrant prays for God's blessing on the people and then dismisses them with these words*

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

Closing Voluntary: *Noël Suisse* Louis-Claude Daquin

*Please, join us for coffee hour following the service via Zoom at 10:30am. Everyone is welcome. Join Zoom meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86975656889?pwd=NUM0a0RsMUNjL0F6NkJITFdMTU9Udz09>*

#### *ANNOUNCEMENTS*

**Coffee Hour time has changed** to Sundays at 10:30am. See above for Zoom link.

#### ***Reminders THIS WEEK:***

- Wednesday** Reading the Spiritual Classics, 6:30pm Join the Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85046658311?pwd=QWRqdGo1MjYzaEd4cVl4M2JiV0I2UT09>
- Friday** Bible Study 11am on Zoom. Join the Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81058196249?pwd=RW01TWNPZG5nTkQyTXBOV3QwMXRQUT09>
- Saturday** Breakfast Program

**Parish office reopening:** Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Additional health precautions will be in place including a visitor log and temperature checks for all staff, volunteers, and visitors.

**RenewalWorks Spiritual Life Inventory:** Please, watch your email inbox in the coming weeks for more information about how to participate in this important initiative in the life of our church.

**Breakfast volunteers** are needed for Saturday, February 13. Please, contact Noreen Sidnam at [tnsidnam@comcast.net](mailto:tnsidnam@comcast.net) or (269) 275-0312.

**Next Sunday's Lessons:** Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28; Psalm 111.

#### *Serving this Week:*

|            |                                 |                   |                        |
|------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Presider:  | Fr. Brian Coleman               | Lector:           | Ginny Baldwin          |
| Subdeacon: | Doug Chapel                     | Altar Chapter:    | Bob Harberts           |
| Organist:  | Dr. Stephen White               | A/V Technician:   | Kathy Dingwall         |
| Cantors:   | Alexis Stark & Charles Grantier | Music Permission: | OneLicense.net #A70320 |