

**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
FEBRUARY 5, 2023**

***THE HOLY EUCHARIST***

*Many parishioners arrive to church early to prepare for worship through silent prayer and reflection. This is also a time when worshipers review the week's scripture readings and notices. Please be considerate of those near you during this meditative period of our worship together.*

*Please take this lesson insert home with you  
to study the lessons during the week  
and to keep abreast of upcoming events*

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***THE COLLECT OF THE DAY***

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

***THE LESSONS***

*The First Lesson: Isaiah 58:1-9a*

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

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

*Psalm 112:1-9*

1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who / fear the / LORD \*  
and have great de/light in / his com/mandments!

- 2 Their descendants will be / mighty in the / land; \*  
the generation of the / upright / will be / blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches will / be in their / house, \*  
and their / righteousness will / last for / ever.
- 4 Light shines in the / darkness for the / upright; \*  
the righteous are / merciful and / full of com/passion.
- 5 It is good for them to be / generous in / lending\*  
and to / manage their af/fairs with / justice.
- 6 For they will / never be / shaken; \*  
the righteous will be  
kept in / ever/lasting re/membrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any / evil / rumors; \*  
their heart is right; they / put their / trust in the / Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and / will not / shrink, \*  
until they see their de/sire up/on their / enemies.
- †9 They have given / freely to the / poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will / hold up their / head with / honor.

*The Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12*

A Reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:13-20*

*All stand, as they are able.*

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled underfoot. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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

### **TODAY'S MUSIC**

Opening Hymn No. 372  
Gospel Hymn No. 601  
Anthem: *Lead Me, Lord*  
Offertory Presentation  
Communion Hymn No. 318  
Closing Hymn WLP779

*Leoni*  
*St. Michael*  
Samuel Sebastian Wesley  
Jeffrey Smith  
*Nyack*  
*Dunedin*

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### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Reminders TODAY:**

- Celebration of Jan/Feb birthdays or anniversaries.
- Organ Recital, 4:30 pm; Choral Evensong 5 pm

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

- Wed. at noon: Annual blessing of candles and Holy Eucharist for the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord, followed by anointing and prayer for healing.
- Thursday at noon: Soup and bread lunch with conversation exploring our grief.

**Transition:** If you know a priest who might be interested in serving St Thomas as Interim Rector, please contact Transition Team chairperson: Franz Schirk ([franz.schirk@gmail.com](mailto:franz.schirk@gmail.com)).

**Large print copies** of the recent RenewalWorks presentation are available in the parish office.

**Daily Office Booklets** are available in the office if you are interested in following along with the services of Morning and Evening Prayer on Facebook.

**If you have a supply of communion cups** gathering dust at home, please return them to the church.

**Resumption of the Coffee Hour Schedule:** Coffee Hour will resume after months of COVID. We will follow the usual pattern: January & August — ushers; March & June — vestry members; April & October — St. Mary's Circle; and February, May, July, September, November and December — volunteers. A selection of treats is sufficient. It's not a brunch. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the parish hall.

**St. Mary's Cookie Sale**—Sunday, February 12. Cookies \$6.00 per pound. Bring your sweet tooth and money.

**St. Mary's is collecting Family Fare sales receipts.** There will be a box in the parish hall for your convenience or give to Noreen Sidman. This is a money raising project. \$150,000 worth of receipts are needed to earn \$1,000. There is no deadline. Thanks for your help.

**The Parish Growth and Development Commission** is looking into providing gluten-free communion wafers and non-alcoholic wine for folks who have sensitivities. Call Brenda Hillman at 269-275-4031 if you are interested. This information will be kept private. This is a survey to see if there is a need.

**Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb 22.** Masses at noon in the chapel and 7 pm in the church, with imposition of ashes.

**Family & Children's Eucharist,** Feb 19 at 5 pm. We'll explore a story of Jesus and what happened while Jesus was praying on top of a mountain. We look forward to involving children in leading this service.

**Next Sunday's Lessons:** Deuteronomy 30:15-20, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Matthew 5:21-37, Psalm 119:1-8

**For a listing of the coming week's activities see the tan sheet in the hallway or check out our website at: [www.StThomasBC.org](http://www.StThomasBC.org)**

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***SERVING THIS WEEK:***

10:00 a.m.

Presider: The Rev. Rick Stravers  
Preacher: The Rev. Rick Stravers  
Deacon: The Rev. Trish Harris  
Sub-Deacon: Karmel Addis  
Lector: Liz Neumeyer  
Intercessor: Liz Neumeyer  
Crucifer: Hans Prechtel  
Chalice: The Rev. Trish Harris & Elizabeth Schirk  
Altar Chapter: Bob Harberts & Heather Wiley  
Ushers: Roy Hillman  
Greeter:  
Vestry Liaison: Karmel Addis  
A/V Tech: Franz Schirk

5:00 pm

Presider: The Rev. Trish Harris  
Lector: Keith Phillips  
A/V Tech: Franz Schirk