



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

3601 Alabama Ave SE Washington, DC 20020 Rev. Todd Thomas, Rector

Sunday, May 18, 2025 – Fifth Sunday of Easter,

and celebrating our Seniors!

***Our mission: Following Jesus by living in love,
walking by faith and serving our community.***

Welcome to all, especially our guests! Please let us know if this is your first time visiting. This morning **Crystal, Jeremiah, Jairon and Mary** will serve as acolytes, **Shirley** is LEV Assisting and **Wendy** is the LEM. A special welcome to our guest organist **Adam**.

Organ Prelude: Selected by Organist

Opening Hymn: *(Please stand)* **"I Love to Tell The Story"** OLFB #419

Verse 1 I love to tell the story, of unseen things above, of Jesus and His glory,
Of Jesus and His love. I love to tell the story, Because I know 'tis true;
It satisfies my longings, as nothing else would do.

Refrain: I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory—
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love.

Verse 2 I love to tell the story— More wonderful it seems than all the golden fancies
Of all our golden dreams; I love to tell the story- It did so much for me,
And that is just the reason I tell it now to thee.

Verse 3 I love to tell the story— 'Tis pleasant to repeat, what seems each time I tell it,
More wonderfully sweet; I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

Verse 4 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best, seem hungering and thirsting
To hear it, like the rest. And when in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

CELEBRANT: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

PEOPLE: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

CELEBRANT: 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.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

Song of Praise: **"What a Mighty God We Serve"** OLFB #405

Refrain: What a mighty God we serve. What a mighty God we serve.
Angels bow before Him. Heaven and earth adore Him.
What a mighty God we serve. *[Repeat]*

Prayer of the Day

CELEBRANT: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

CELEBRANT: Let us pray.

Almighty God, to know you is truly to have everlasting life: Help us to also so perfectly know your Son
Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may faithfully follow in his steps walking
with Him and with you for all eternity; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

Our Scripture Readings for the Day *(Please be seated)*

A Reading Acts, Acts 11:1-18

Zeno

Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven.

At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

READER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Thanks be to God.

A Reading of Psalm 148

Pamela

1 Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

2 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

4 Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens!

5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

6 He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

8 fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

9 Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

10 Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

12 Young men and women alike, old and young together!

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;

his glory is above earth and heaven.

**14 He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!**

READER: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

PEOPLE: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

A Reading from Revelation, Revelation 21:1-6

Wendy

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them and be their God; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

READER: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: (*Please stand*) "They'll Know We Are Christians" Fr. Peter Scholtes

Verse 1 We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord. We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored...

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love!
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love!

Verse 2 We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand. We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand, and together we'll spread the news That God is in our land...

The Gospel Reading: John 13:31-35

Rev. Todd Thomas

CELEBRANT: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

PEOPLE: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

READER: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Verse 3 We will work with each other, we will work side by side. We will work with each other,
We will work side by side. And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride...

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love

Sermon (*Please be seated when invited*)

Rev Todd Thomas

The Nicene Creed (*Please stand*)

ALL: 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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.
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,
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who 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.**

Prayers of the People *(a prayerful posture)*

Pamela & Zeno

LEADER: Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Almighty God, help all people to seek truth, love, and peace in the world. Lord, in your mercy:

PEOPLE: ***Hear our prayer.***

LEADER: Help us to value one another, to honor one another, and to serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy:

PEOPLE: ***Hear our prayer.***

LEADER: Help us preserve and honor the earth, using natural resources wisely for our good and the good of all who will come after us. Lord, in your mercy:

PEOPLE: ***Hear our prayer.***

LEADER: Help us be a blessing to our families, friends and all our neighbors, especially those in the Fairfax Village neighborhood, the Ashton Heights Apartments and the Capitol Crossing Apartments. Lord, in your mercy:

PEOPLE: ***Hear our prayer.***

LEADER: We lift to you those on our church prayer list, who need you at this time, especially Marsyl, Lillie, Fred B., Terry, Karen, Carmen, Shanice, Constance, Father Errol, Carroll, Gloria C. Willie, Callie, Tanya, Otis, Preston, Christine E., Calvin, Wilbert, Lisa, Delainey, Bob, Doris J., Sylvia, Ernest, Kimberly, Jean, Danny, Deborah, Ruby, Ted, Dorothy, James, Christine S., Herman S., Linda, Elfreda, Paul, Noah T., Delores, Susie, David, Rosa, Alice, Charles, Cynthia, William, and Elaine. Lord, in your mercy:

PEOPLE: ***Hear our prayer.***

LEADER: We commend to your mercy all who have died, [especially], that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy:

PEOPLE: ***Hear our prayer.***

CELEBRANT closes the prayers to the peoples' **Amen.**

The Confession *(Please stand)*

CELEBRANT: Please stand with me as we confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PEOPLE: **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 neighbors 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.**

CELEBRANT speaks the absolution with the People's **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace, Announcements & Celebrations

CELEBRANT: The peace of Christ be always with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

(Please be seated after passing the peace as we begin the announcements of the day.)

Offering Our Gifts Back to God

Offertory Hymn: **"I Want to be Ready"** OLFB #624 (vs. 1-3)

Refrain: I wanna be ready, I wanna be ready, I wanna be ready
to walk in Jerusalem just like John.

Verse 1 John said the city was just four-square, to walk in Jerusalem just like John.
and he declared he'd meet me there. to walk in Jerusalem just like John. Oh...

Verse 2 I've never been to heaven but I've been told to walk in Jerusalem just like John.
That the streets up there are paved with gold. To walk in Jerusalem just like John. Oh...

Verse 3 If you get there before I do, to walk in Jerusalem just like John.
Tell all my friends I'm comin' too, to walk in Jerusalem just like John. Oh...

Offertory Response: *(Please stand)* **"You Can't Beat God's Giving"** OLFB #669

You can't beat God giving, no matter how you try. And just as sure as you are living
and the Lord is in heaven on high, the more you give, the more He gives to you.

Just keep on giving because it's really true. That You can't beat God giving no matter how you try.

CELEBRANT: All things come from you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **And of your own have we given you.**

Gathering in Gratitude at God's Table of Grace

CELEBRANT: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also 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 God thanks and praise.**

CELEBRANT: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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, as we sing:

CELEBRANT and PEOPLE: **Sanctus "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"** Hymnal 1982 S130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might / Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory / Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord / Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

CELEBRANT: *(Please be seated or kneel)* Holy and gracious God: 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 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: *(to the tune of "We Shall Overcome" OLFB #631)*

PEOPLE: **Jesus Christ has died. Jesus Christ has risen. Jesus Christ will come again**
Deep in my heart I do believe, Jesus Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, 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 God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray, as we sing:

CELEBRANT and PEOPLE: **"The Lord's Prayer"** OLFB #664

Our Father, which 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 debts
as we forgive our debtors [♪♪♪]

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread

CELEBRANT: Alleluia! Christ has given us the bread and cup of eternal life!

PEOPLE: **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

CELEBRANT: These are the gifts of God for the people of God; all are called and all are
welcomed at God's Table of Grace. Receive as you are able, for God loves you.

Coming to the Altar: All are welcome as the ushers invite you row by row to come stand or kneel at the altar.

Ask for a gluten-free wafer if needed and cross your hands if you desire a blessing instead of or with communion.

**This is a 3rd Sunday, so we invite the Daughters of the King for their corporate communion as we begin serving.*

Communion Hymns **"There's Something About That Name "** OLFB #41

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! There's just something about that name! Master, Savior, Jesus!

Like the fragrance after the rain; Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Let all heaven and earth proclaim:

Kings and kingdoms will all pass away, but there's something about that name! [Repeat]

"In the Name of Jesus"

OLFB #42

In the name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus, we have the victory. In the name of Jesus,

in the name of Jesus, Satan, you have to flee. Oh, what can ever stand before us

when we call on that great name? Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus, we have the victory. [Repeat]

CELEBRANT: Let us all pray together with those online the prayer of spiritual communion.

PEOPLE: **My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of**
the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Though I
may not now be able to receive you in bread and wine from the altar, I invite
you to live within my heart. I know you are with me; never let us be
separated. Amen.

CELEBRANT: And now let us pray. *(Please stand)*

CELEBRANT and PEOPLE:

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.

Sending Prayer *(Used to send forth Lay Eucharistic Visitors with consecrated gifts when present.)*

CELEBRANT: We send you forth with these holy gifts to bless those who could not be with us
today, but who nonetheless share our joy and hope in Christ.

PEOPLE: **Go also with our prayers to be a blessing to those we love.**

CELEBRANT: We are one Body as we share one Bread and one Cup.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: *(Please stand)* **"We're Marching To Zion"** OLFB #620

Verse 1 Come, we that love the Lord, And let our joys be known,
Join in a song with sweet accord, Join in a song with sweet accord,
And thus surround the throne, And thus surround the throne.

Refrain: We're marching to Zion, Beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion, The beautiful city of God.

Verse 2 Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;
But children of the heav'nly King, but children of the heav'nly King,
May speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.

Verse 3 The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets
Before we reach the heav'nly fields, before we reach the heav'nly fields,
Or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets

Verse 4 Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry;
We're marching through Immanuel's ground, we're marching through
Immanuel's ground, to fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high.

The Dismissal

CELEBRANT: Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ!

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Organ Postlude: Selected by Organist



WE ASK YOUR PRAYERS for our members who will celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week.

WE ALSO ASK YOUR PRAYERS for our parishioners, relatives and friends.

Thank you to all who have helped prepare, lead, and participated in our worship!

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