

Blessing for Thomas James Brown at the beginning of his Sabbatical

Let us turn our hearts to the presence of the Divine Journeyer who accompanied Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Joseph, and many other biblical ancestors. They held in their hearts a deep faith that God would not abandon them, and that they would be sheltered in the peace of divine guidance. We join our hearts with Thomas in blessing him as he prepares to journey into Sabbath time.

May you be blessed with constant hope, with confidence in all that awaits you, and a strong trust that all shall be well.

Go with joy. Go with peace. Go with our love to support you.

May you be blessed with bounteous love, with many surprises of renewed friendship, and with an ever-deepening love of the Holy One.

Go with joy. Go with peace. Go with our love to support you.

May you be blessed with a graced surrender to let go of what keeps you from growing, to learn from the obstacles that arise, and to live each day with a spirit of openness and adventure.

Go with joy. Go with peace. Go with our love to support you.

May you be blessed with a sense of adventure, to walk in places you dare not, to wait with patience for what you need, and to look forward to the new growth awaiting you.

Go with joy. Go with peace. Go with our love to support you.

God of our journeys and resting places, we celebrate the goodness of Thomas and ask your blessing as he takes time away from us and his priestly duties to rest, study, pray, and play in your beautiful creation. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

~ adapted from Prayer Seeds, by Joyce Rupp



Our Parish Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers: *Sue Arendt*, Friend of Nick Candee and Linda Brown; *Deborah Hatch Coopler*, Connie Voges' niece; *Harrison Deringer*, Margaret Young's grandson; *David Myers*, Michael Schrader's friend; *Thomas Parr*, Gillian Hermance's father; *Chris Pitt*, Louis Pitt's nephew; and parishioner *Melinda Cabanilla*, *Niall* and *Zorie Kotapish*.

Altar Flowers

Today's Altar flowers are given in memory of William A. Woods, Sr and Harry and Josephine Pendergrass. The flowers were arranged by Priscilla Burns.

Ministers in Today's Worship

Preacher, *Thomas Brown*; Presider, *Miriam Gelfer*; Verger, *Jason Kinchen*; Lay Eucharistic Ministers, *Gayle Pershouse*, *Liz Kinchen*, and *Marion Dry*; Acolytes, *Christopher Rappole*, *William Rappole*, and *Emma Wickline*; Lectors, *Reid Boswell* and *Corey Hollenbeck*; Ushers, *Marie Johnson*, *Frank Vaughan*, *Melinda Long*, and *Priscilla Burns*; Greeters, *Nancy Keating*, *Ellen Wilson*, and *Bill Walsh*; Altar Guild, *Judy Coltman*, *Josephine Devlin*, and *Afaf Georgis*; Flower Deliverers, *Susan Malloy* and *Christine Mooradian*; Fellowship Hosts, *Solomon* and *Suzanne Owayda*.



THE PARISH OF THE
EPIPHANY

A welcoming Episcopal community

The Hymns, Collect, Readings, and Announcements

23 July 2017 at ten o'clock in the morning
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Voluntary *Andantino*

Marianne Brown, violin

Padre Martini-Kreisler

The Hymn in Procession

Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise

The Hymnal, 423

St. Denio

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Genesis 28:10-19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

We say in unison this

Psalm 139:1-11

LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from
afar.

You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

If I take the wings of the morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
and the light around me turn to night,"

Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; *
darkness and light to you are both alike.

The Second Lesson

Romans 8:12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for

adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn before the Gospel

For the fruit of all creation

The Hymnal, 424

East Acklam

The Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rector

Offertory Anthem *Sing, Be Glad For the Lord is Our God*

G. F. Handel

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

The Hymnal, 325

Let Us Break Bread

Hymn in Procession

All My Hope on God is Founded

The Hymnal, 665

Michael

Voluntary *Ashokan Farewell*

Marianne Brown, violin

Jay Ungar