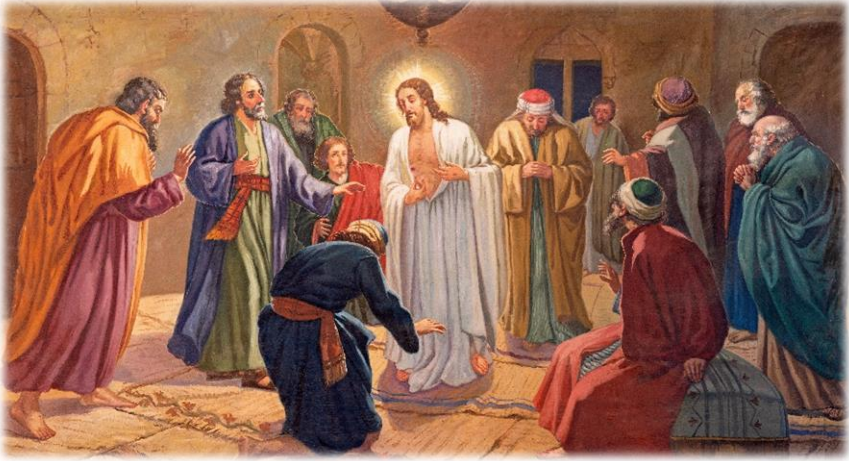


# St Thomas Anglican

*Loving God. Loving each other. Loving our neighbours.*

## Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 14 – 10 a.m.



## Holy Eucharist

***Celebrant:*** Rev. Lorie Martin

***Musicians:*** Christine Millar and Music Team

We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional, ancestral and unceded lands of the Stó:lō peoples. May the living Christ lead us all on pathways of reconciliation, reparation, and healing.



# St. Thomas

## ANGLICAN CHURCH

1873 - 2023

**Welcome to St. Thomas! We're so glad you are here!**

St. Thomas is an inclusive, caring Christian faith community. However you understand yourself, and however you describe yourself is fine with us! Your background, race, gender, orientation, and spiritual journey are welcomed and celebrated here.

We endeavour to listen and pray with God's grace and actively live out what we pray. We aim to be a diverse Christian family within the community, empowering individuals, and families to grow in their relationships with God and one another.

It is our desire to be guided by the Holy Spirit and the teachings of Jesus Christ as we share God's love with all.

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## **Children are welcome at St Thomas!**

### **St. Thomas is intentional with spiritual formation for all ages.**

Children 4 years and older will be invited during the service to ***Children's Circle*** – learning with a Montessori approach to wonder, engage with stories, activities, and crafts. Adults can take them to the upper room or they can go with the leaders who will meet them at the back.

Children are also welcome to take activity pages and a clipboard to their seats. Families with toddlers can use the play space in the church or the little room upstairs next to the washroom.

Please let Laura or Lorie know of any helpful ways church could work for your family.

# The Gathering of the Community

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

May his grace and peace be with you.

**May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Loving God,

**to whom all hearts are open,**

**all desires known,**

**and from whom 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.**

**Opening Song:** Yours Be the Glory, Risen, Conquering Son

CP 210

**Collect**

O Generous God,

**your Son made himself known to his disciples**

**in the breaking of bread.**

**Open the eyes of our faith,**

**that we may see him in his redeeming work in our lives,**

**who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, now and for ever.**

*Children's Circle: four years old + are invited to the story and activity time in the upper room.*

**Song of praise: O Praise The Name**

I cast my mind to Calvary

Where Jesus bled and died for me

I see His wounds His hands His feet

My Saviour on that cursed tree

His body bound and drenched in tears

They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb

The entrance sealed by heavy stone

Messiah still and all alone

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God  
O praise His Name forevermore  
For endless days we will sing Your praise  
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God*

Then on the third at break of dawn  
The Son of heaven rose again  
O trampled death where is your sting  
The angels roar for Christ the King

*Chorus*

He shall return in robes of white  
The blazing sun shall pierce the night  
And I will rise among the saints  
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

*Chorus x2*

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## The Proclamation of the Word

**First reading:** Acts 3:12-19

Andrea McRae

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us today: **Thanks be to God.**

April 14, 2024

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Easter 3

Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you;  
**you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.**

Often you weep over our sins and our pride,  
**tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.**

You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds,  
**in sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us.**

Jesus, by your dying, we are born to new life;  
**by your anguish and labour we come forth in joy.**

Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness;  
**through your gentleness, we find comfort in fear.**

Your warmth gives life to the dead,  
**your touch makes sinners righteous.**

Lord Jesus, in your mercy, heal us;  
**in your love and tenderness, remake us.**

In your compassion, bring grace and forgiveness,  
**for the beauty of heaven, may your love prepare us.**

**Second reading:** I John 3:1-7

Andrea McRae

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF JOHN.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sins is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.

Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us today: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual:** Alleluia! The Strife is O'er

CP 212, v 1 & 2

**Gospel reading:** Luke 24:36b-48

Nancy den Boesterd

God be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you."

They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."

Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

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

**Gradual:** Alleluia! The Strife is O'er

CP 212, v 4 & 5

**Sermon:** Rev. Lorie Martin

*Reflection*

*Please stand as you are able for the Nicene Creed.*

**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,  
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**

Jan Guretzki

Jesus, Lord of life: **In Your mercy, hear us**

God of all mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. *Amen.***

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through  
the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power  
of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

### **The Peace**

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be  
with you.' **Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia!**

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

**Offertory: Living Hope**

How great the chasm that lay between us  
How high the mountain I could not climb  
In desperation I turned to heaven  
And spoke Your name into the night  
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul  
The work is finished, the end is written  
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame  
The cross has spoken; I am forgiven  
The King of kings calls me His own  
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever  
Jesus Christ, my living hope

*Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!  
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ, my living hope  
(repeat)*

Then came the morning that sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me  
(repeat)

Jesus, yours is the victory!

*Chorus x2*

Jesus Christ, my living hope  
Oh God, you are my living hope

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Source Eternal,  
**we bring our offerings to you.**  
**We thank you for this bread and wine, gifts of your creation,**  
**and for these resources generously shared.**  
**We thank you for Jesus: God with us. Amen.**

## The Celebration of the Eucharist

May God be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**  
Let us give thanks to God our Creator.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good,  
our honour and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Holy One, all-loving and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ the King of glory. ....

....Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy  
and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

**♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest / Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you, Loving Creator, because when we turned away,  
you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross  
and shows us the way to live. Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread  
and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread.  
He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying:  
'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.' ✠

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it  
with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for  
many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this to remember me.' ✠

Generous God, with this bread and this cup we celebrate Christ's love, his death, his risen life. ...

... And now with Thomas and all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever.

**Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

♪ **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

**Now we are raised to new life.**

We were buried in your tomb.

**Now we share in your resurrection.**

Live in us, that we may live in you.

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

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

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

The gifts of God for the children of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**All are welcome at Communion.**

*All are welcome. Two hands for bread. One hand for wafer. Gluten free available. Sip the wine or touch the chalice. We cannot dip the bread in the wine. Please come up the centre aisle to the end of the altar rail and exit down the side aisles if you are able.*

**Behold The Lamb**

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us

And we remember

The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross

So we share in this Bread of Life, And we drink of His sacrifice

As a sign of our bonds of peace, Around the table of the King

The body of our Saviour Jesus Christ, torn for you

Eat and remember

The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one

So we share in this Bread of Life, And we drink of His sacrifice

As a sign of our bonds of love, Around the table of the King

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, Shed for you

Drink and remember

He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God

So we share in this Bread of Life, And we drink of His sacrifice

As a sign of our bonds of grace, Around the table of the King

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise, to respond

And to remember

Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth

As we share in His suffering, We proclaim: Christ will come again

And we'll join in the feast of heaven, Around the table of the King

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### **What He's Done**

See on the hill of Calvary

My Savior bled for me

My Jesus set me free

Look at the wounds that give me life

Grace flowing from His side

No greater sacrifice

*What He's done, What He's done*

*All the glory and the honor to the Son*

*My sins are forgiven; My future is Heaven*

*I praise God for what He's done*

Sing for the freedom He has won

Even death is dead and done

His life has overcome

Speak, say the Name above all names

Over every broken place

He is risen from the grave

*Chorus*

Now on a throne of majesty  
The Father's will complete  
He reigns in victory  
Sing hallelujah to the King  
He is worthy to receive  
All the worship we can bring

*Chorus x2*

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Loving Creator,  
**we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands  
the bread of life. Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you  
and for each other; through Jesus Christ the risen Lord we have shared  
this bread and wine, we share new life in Christ.**

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**

**Closing song:** Jesus Shall Reign

CP 383

Send us out in the power of your Spirit,  
to stand with you in the world and share your love.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Join us for **Coffee Time** in the hall after church  
**+ activities available for kids!**

# Community

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## Community Care



*Please pray for ...*

- Brian Buckley as he recovers from surgery;
  - Karin and Newland Gibson;
  - Irene and Ted Tisdale.
- 



You are also invited to add your **prayer requests** to the page by the baptismal font as you enter the sanctuary. They will be prayed for in the service that week (unless otherwise marked). *Your request(s) will be taken to the intercessor a few minutes before the service begins.*

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## Men's Breakfast

Men's breakfast is a chance to enjoy fellowship of those who share some common interests and meet each other at least most Sundays



at St. Thomas. Please join us! Our next one will be held at **Jimmy J's restaurant, Saturday, April 27, at 8 AM.** Phone me if you are interested in attending. Thanks/Wayne Adams – 1-604-845-7234.

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# Spiritual Formation

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See the new Centre for Spiritual Renewal brochure or online for gatherings and opportunities to grow in grace.

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## Healing Eucharist on Fridays

*All are welcome*

Healing Eucharist is on pause until April 19.

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*Coffee & Conversation evening with LGBTQIA2S+ friends*

**Tuesday, April 16, 7–9 pm.**  
at St. Thomas Chilliwack  
(in the sanctuary)

**Guest: Reverend David Taylor**

The purpose of these evenings is to meet others, share stories with various guests, engage with thoughtful questions and meaningful experiences whereby we grow, learn, and support each other.

A no-fee event.

Sign up in the Narthex, or register at <https://www.stthomashilliwack.com/events>.

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## Exploring Truth and Reconciliation

Sunday, April 21 from 12-2 in the hall after coffee



With Kerry Baisley, Missioner for Indigenous Justice for the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster since 2020.

How do you define the word “Reconciliation?” We will explore how the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was formed and the 94 Calls to Action contained in the report. Working with Craft and Regan’s book, *Pathways of Reconciliation*, we will explore a variety of pathways or processes that support the work of Reconciliation.



Register at <https://www.stthomaschilliwack.com/events>

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### **\*\*TODAY’S SERVICE \*\***

**April 14, 10 a.m.**

**Third Sunday of Easter – Holy Eucharist**

**First reading:** Acts 3:12-19, Andrea McRae.

**Psalm:** Psalm 4, Rev. Lorie

**Second reading:** 1 John 3:1-7, Andrea McRae

**Gospel reading:** Luke 24: 36b-48, Nancy den Boesterd

**Prayers of the People:** Jan Guretzki

**Lay administrator:** Andrea McRae

**Eucharist Assistant:** Lesley MacMillan and Joanna Bravo

**Greeters/Sides people:** Doug Renwick and Deb Alford

**\*\*NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE \*\***

**April 21, 10 a.m.**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday  
Holy Eucharist**

**First reading:** Acts 4:5-12, Barb Westcott

**Psalm:** Psalm 23, Rev. Lorie

**Second reading:** I John 3:16-24, Barb Westcott

**Gospel reading:** John 10: 11-18, Lesley MacMillan

**Prayers of the People:** Nancy den Boesterd

**Lay administrator:** Barb Westcott

**Eucharist Assistant:** Nancy den Boesterd

**Greeters/Sides people:** Dennis Horvath and Liberty Murombedzi



**St. Thomas**  
ANGLICAN CHURCH

1873 - 2023

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Diocese of New Westminster



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