

**The Triple Alleluia** (p. 190 - Top)

**The Holy Gospel**

*John 20:24-29*

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

**The Apostles’ Creed** (p. 192)

**The Hymn of the Day:** 517 “By All Your Saints in Warfare” (1, 6, 3)

**The Homily**

*Offerings are not gathered this morning. While the pastor prepares the Table for the Holy Supper, you may spend time prayerfully preparing to receive the Blessed Sacrament (you may wish to read through Luther’s “Christian Questions . . .” on pp. 329-330).*

**The Prayer of the Church**

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

**The Service of the Sacrament**

*(Communicants are to be in full confessional fellowship with the LCMS)*

**The Preface - Agnus Dei** (pp. 194-199)

**The Distribution**

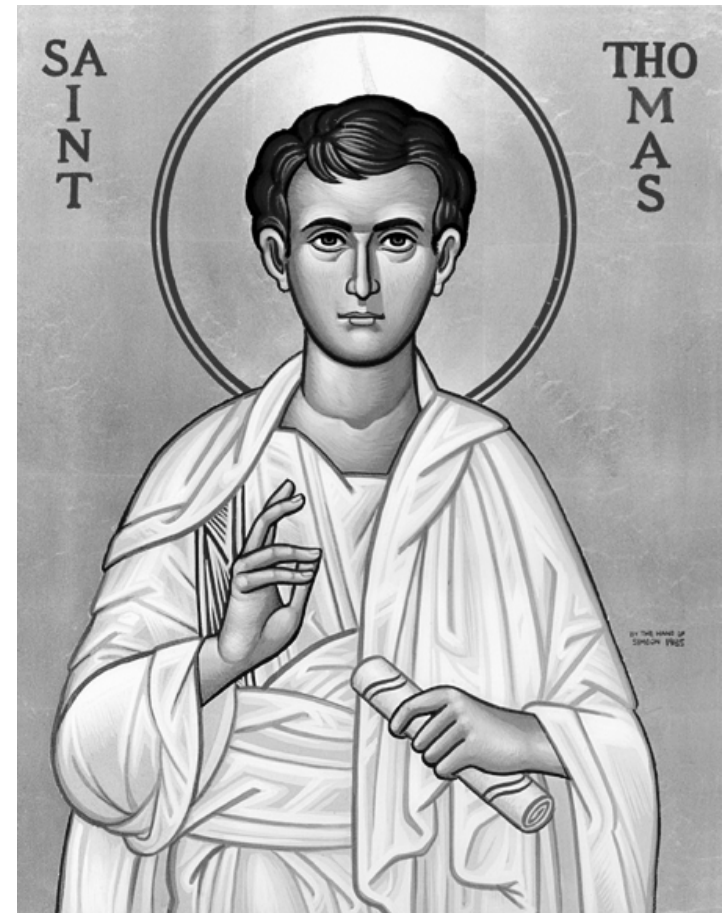
**The Nunc Dimittis - Benediction** (pp. 199-202)

**The Postlude**

*Soli Deo Gloria!*

# St. Thomas, Apostle

22 December Anno † Domini 2008 ~ 12:00 p.m.  
(Observed)



## Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

325 E. Warwick Dr. ~ Alma, Michigan ~ 48801

463-5754 ~ [www.peacealma.org](http://www.peacealma.org)

**Rev. Thomas C. Messer, Pastor**

Home: 463-3093 ~ Cell: (989) 388-2037 ~ [pastor@peacealma.org](mailto:pastor@peacealma.org)

# St. Thomas, Apostle

22 December Anno † Domini 2008 (Observed)



## DIVINE SERVICE 3, PAGE 184

### The Service of Preparation

*(Upon entering the nave, silence should be observed to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)*

#### Preparatory Prayers

*Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.*

### The Prelude and Ringing of the Bells

### Confession and Absolution (pp. 184-185)

### The Service of the Word

#### The Introit

*Ps. 89:1, 5, 15-16; antiphon: Ps. 31:14*



I trust in you, | O Lord;\*

I say, "You | are my God."

**I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, for- | ever;\***

**with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all gener- | ations.**

Let the heavens praise your wonders, | O Lord, \*

your faithfulness in the assembly of the | holy ones!

**Blessèd are the people who know the | festal shout, \***

**who walk, O Lord, in the light | of your face,**

who exult in your name | all the day\*

and in your righteousness are ex- | alted.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning, \***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

I trust in you, | O Lord;\*

I say, "You | are my God."

### The Kyrie (p. 186)

### The Gloria in Excelsis (pp. 187-189)

### The Salutation and Collect of the Day (p. 189)

Almighty and ever-living God, You strengthened Your apostle Thomas with firm and certain faith in the resurrection of Your Son. Grant us such faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that we may never be found wanting in Your sight; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### The Old Testament Reading

*Judges 6:36-40*

<sup>36</sup>Then Gideon said to God, "If you will save Israel by my hand, as you have said, <sup>37</sup>behold, I am laying a fleece of wool on the threshing floor. If there is dew on the fleece alone, and it is dry on all the ground, then I shall know that you will save Israel by my hand, as you have said." <sup>38</sup>And it was so. When he rose early next morning and squeezed the fleece, he wrung enough dew from the fleece to fill a bowl with water. <sup>39</sup>Then Gideon said to God, "Let not your anger burn against me; let me speak just once more. Please let me test just once more with the fleece. Please let it be dry on the fleece only, and on all the ground let there be dew." <sup>40</sup>And God did so that night; and it was dry on the fleece only, and on all the ground there was dew.

### The Gradual

*Rom. 10:15b, 18b; Is. 52:7b, alt.*

How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news,\*

who publish peace and bring good news of salvation.

**Their voice has gone out to all the earth,\***

**and their words to the ends of the world.**

### The Epistle

*Ephesians 4:7, 11-16*

<sup>7</sup>But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. . . . <sup>11</sup>And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup>so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. <sup>15</sup>Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.