

**Saint Thomas the Apostle** Wed Dec 20 transferred from Thursday, December 21, 2017

### Collect of the Day

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

Everliving God, who strengthened your apostle Thomas with firm and certain faith in your Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in your sight; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### First Reading

Habakkuk 2:1-4

A Reading from the book of the prophet Habakkuk.

I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith."

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

### Psalm

*Remain seated.*

### Psalm 126

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
**then were we like those who dream.**
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
**and our tongue with shouts of joy.**
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
**"The LORD has done great things for them."**
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
**and we are glad indeed.**
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
**like the watercourses of the Negev.**

6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
***will reap with songs of joy.***

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
***will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.***

## **Second Reading**

Hebrews 10:35—11:1

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews.

Do not abandon that confidence of yours; it brings a great reward. For you need endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. For yet "in a very little while, the one who is coming will come and will not delay; but my righteous one will live by faith. My soul takes no pleasure in anyone who shrinks back." But we are not among those who shrink back and so are lost, but among those who have faith and so are saved. Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

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

## **Holy Gospel**

John 20:24-29

*All stand.*

*Deacon*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People*            ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

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