

The Blessing and Dismissal

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, Isle of Hope The Fifth Sunday in Lent March 26, 2023

We are a welcoming community of faith and love that serves one another and seeks to draw others to God through our ministries.

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE A Penitential Order 8:00 AM

8:00 AM			
The Opening Acclamation	BCP 319		
The Confession of Sin and Absolution			
The Kyrie			
The Collect of the Day			
Celebrant Let us pray. O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly we of sinful men: Grant unto thy people that they may love the thing which the and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and me the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be for Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one forever. Amen .	ou commandest, anifold changes of und; through Jesus		
The First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14	Bulletin 3		
Psalm 130 Bulletin 4			
The Gospel: John 11:1-45	Bulletin 5		
The Homily			
The Nicene Creed	Sulletin 6 or BCP 326		
The Prayers of the People	Bulletin 7		
Prayer for the Capital Campaign			
The Peace	BCP 332		
Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Blessings			
The Presentation of the Gifts			
Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.			
People And of thine own have we given thee. Amen			
The Great Thanksgiving	BCP 333		
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 336		
The Fraction and The Prayer of Humble Access			
The Post-Communion Prayer	BCP 339		

Bulletin 12

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO A Penitential Order 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Prelude O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

OPENING HYMN

What wondrous love is this

Hymnal # 439

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p 351

Celebrant Rless

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People

His mercy endures for ever.

Celebrant If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But, if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

BCP p 352

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

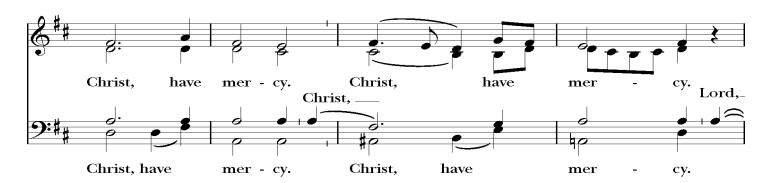
Minister and People

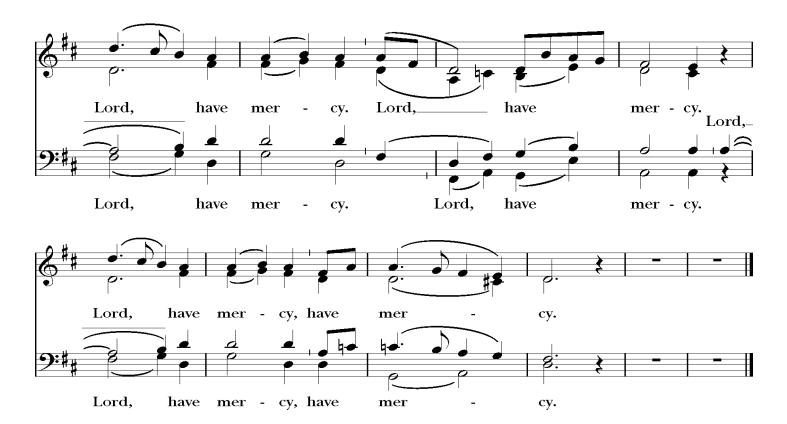
Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son 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 Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**









KYRIE (11:15 AM)

Celebrant Lord, have mercy
Celebrant Cord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

THE LESSONS The people sit

The First Lesson

A Reading from Ezekiel

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD. The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130 (in unison)

BCP p 784

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice; * let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

- 2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, * O Lord, who could stand?
- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; * therefore you shall be feared.
- 4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; * in his word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the morning, * more than watchmen for the morning.
- 6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, * for with the LORD there is mercy;
- 7 With him there is plenteous redemption, * and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

The Second Lesson

A Reading from Romans.

Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

John 11:1-45

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Melanie Lemburg

THE NICENE CREED BCP 358

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

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.

6

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor We pray for the church. May she drink deeply from living springs and travel the

deserts in trust and hope.

People God of mercy, make us new.

Intercessor We pray for the world. May we come to live as one family and grow beyond the

violence of war.

People God of mercy, make us new.

Intercessor We pray for this nation. May we be healed of division and shine like a lamp

on a hill.

People God of mercy, make us new.

Intercessor We pray for our community. May our children be safe, our leaders be wise, and

our lives be peaceful and just. We remember especially the candidates and staff of

Happening #107—especially Luke, Ben, and Joshua Varner.

People God of mercy, make us new.

Intercessor We pray for the afflicted, especially those we now name. (silence) May every

sadness find you at its heart, and may there be grace when we suffer.

People God of mercy, make us new.

Intercessor We pray for the departed, especially those we now name. (silence) May they ever

grow in faith and love, and may we always remember them by name.

People God of mercy, make us new.

Intercessor God of mercy, make us new. Change our hearts, mend our lives, and lead us to

any who need us, for the sake of Jesus who came that all might have life, and have

it abundantly. Amen.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you for calling us to be stewards of St. Thomas in this present moment. Bless our capital campaign, as you have blessed our church these last 100 years, that we may be connected in one body to the faithful who have come before us and the faithful who will come after us in this place. May we work faithfully and diligently to do the work you have called us to do together here—celebrating 100 years of hope together—honoring the past and preparing for the future. All this we ask in the name of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BLESSING FOR BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

OFFERTORY HYMN CHOIR ANTHEM One Bread, One Body

arr. Mark Hayes

DOXOLOGY (v. 3) (9:30 am)

Hymnal # 380

Praise God, from who all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS (11:15 am)

Celebrant All things come of you, O Lord.

People And of your own have we given you. Amen.

The people remain standing.

Celebrant
 People
 Celebrant
 The Lord be with you.
 And also with you.
 Lift up your hearts.

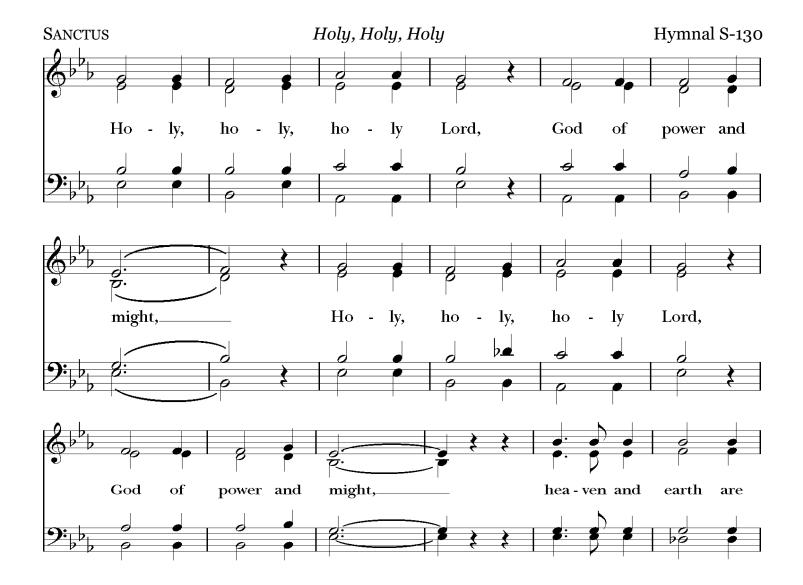
People We lift them to the Lord.

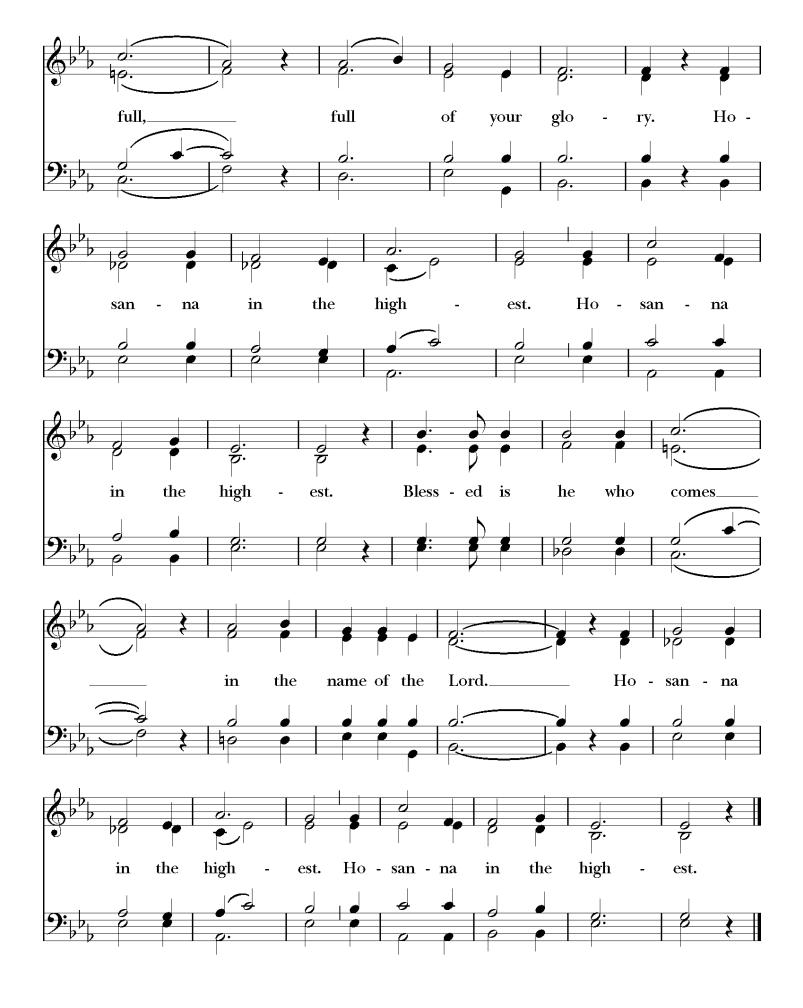
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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.





Celebrant and People (11:15)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: 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 and Father 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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

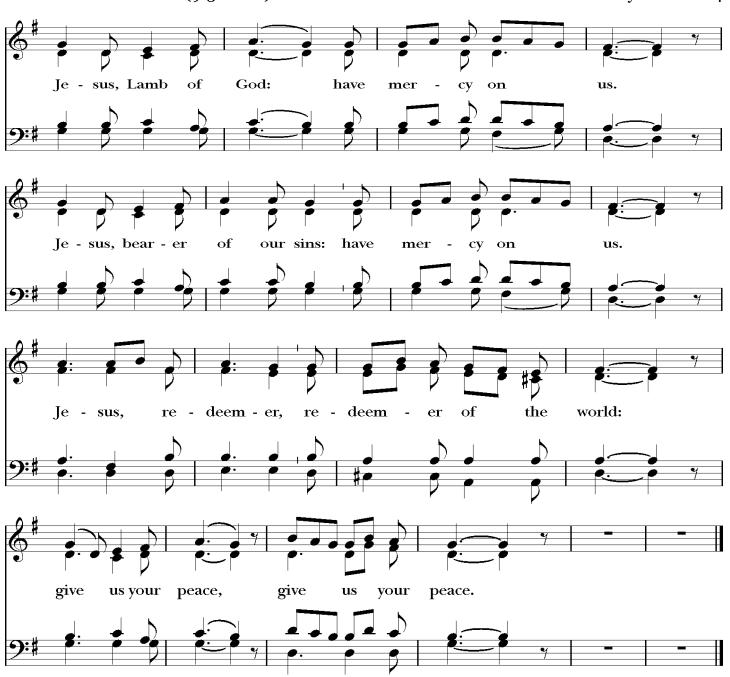
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

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 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 Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.



THE FRACTION ANTHEM (11:15 a.m.)

Celebrant O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world:

People Have Mercy on Us

Celebrant O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world:

People Have Mercy on Us

Celebrant O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world:

People Grant us Your Peace

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All Baptized Christians Are Invited To Receive Communion

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (for those worshipping virtually)

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your desire and be renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Communion Hymns

Take my life, and let it be

Hymnal #707

Commissioning of Lay Eucharistic Visitor

Celebrant In the Name of God and of this congregation we send you forth bearing holy gifts;

that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's

Body and Blood:

People We who are many are One Body, for we all share One Bread and One

Cup. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p 366

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal

kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and

forever. Amen.

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE AND BLESSING

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen**.

EXIT HYMN Lord, whose love through humble service Hymnal #610

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Recessional in Gregorian Mode arr. Henry Kihlken

Serving in our Worship Today

Ushers: (9:30) David Castleberry and Alton Aimar (11:15) Bill Franklin

Vestry on Duty: (9:30) Chris Conner (11:15) Joseph Bernard

Lectors: (8:00 am) Howard Bacon (9:30) Peggy Varnedoe (11:15) Bill Franklin

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: (8:00 am) Howard Bacon

(9:30) Peggy Varnedoe and Eleanor Foster(11:15) Charlie BarrowAcolytes: Peggy Varnedoe, Eva & Tino AguilarCantor: Carolyn CohenLay Eucharistic Visitor: Jane GilchristWorship Tech: Isabel Baxter

Altar Guild: Beth Wall, Sandra Calver, Jennifer Calver, Kelley Marshall, Sheldon White

Hospitality: Henry and Sarah Aguilar

Announcements

Sunday, March 26 10:30 Service Sunday – Blessing Bags & St. Martha's Meeting

4:00 p.m. EYC at Altitude

4:00 p.m. Cottage Meeting at the Church

Tuesday, March 28 11:45 a.m. Lenten Lunch & Book Study Chapters 7&8

1:30 p.m. H.R. Task Force Meeting

Wednesday, March 29 10:00 a.m. Capital Campaign Committee Meeting

11:30 a.m. - Healing Service in Chapel NOON Deadline to order Fish Fry.

Thursday, March 30 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, March 31 5:30-7:30 Fish Fry. See Page 15 for details.

WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS

If you are new or with us for the first time, thank you for joining us at worship. We hope you will join us again. Restrooms are available in our parish hall and Christian Education buildings. Nursery care is available in our Christian Education building for children ages o-6. Please, see an usher to assist you in locating the nursery if that is the preferred option for your family. Children are always welcome to stay in the church at St. Thomas as they are full members of the body of Christ. If you do choose to utilize our nursery, we hope you will bring your children back into church to receive communion or a blessing.

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to be fed at God's table. When it is your turn, hold your hands out open in front of you to receive

the bread. When the cup of wine comes to you, help guide it to your mouth to take a sip, dip the top of the wafer into the cup, or signify that you want to abstain from drinking by crossing your arms over your chest. We have gluten-free wafers available upon request. Please, let one of the clergy know if this is desired. The clergy are also available to bring communion to someone seated in the pew. Please, let one of the ushers know if this is desired.

Please fill out an "I'm New" Card in the pew or scan the QR Code to the right to complete a virtual connection card. If you would like to learn more about the customs of our tradition, please, contact The Rev. Melanie Lemburg.

As you travel throughout the year, remember that it is easy and safe to give through our website: https://www.stthomasioh.org/give

Capital Campaign Cottage Meetings

ONLY 1 DATE LEFT— Join your fellow parishioners for appetizers and wine. This is your chance to ask any questions about the Fund.

Note: There is no pressure to pledge at these meetings—just to provide information.

• TODAY, March 26 from 4-6 PM-St. Thomas Parish Hall

To date, 24 Pledges have been turned in totaling \$245,900.00. We ask that pledges be turned in by April 23, 2023. If you need another card, they can be found in the Narthex and in the office.

Fish Fry NEW MENU

Menu: Grouper, Cheese Grits, Coleslaw, Hushpuppies, and Banana Pudding.

If you are interested in ordering a fish fry. Please go to our website and click on the Fish Fry flyer on our main page. That will take you to Sign Up Genius to place your order. **Pre-orders are required by Wednesday, March 29**th at noon. You have the option to pay online after your order is placed. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Jo in the office.

Tables will be set up in the parish hall and pavilion for those who wish to dine in.





Time to Order Easter Flowers for the Altar (\$20.00 per plant) Deadline is Sunday, April 2.

I/we wish to order _____ plants.

· D		
	A.	
•		

In memory of:		
In thanksgiving for:	 	
Donated By:		

Please print clearly. Return this form to the church office via the offering plate, the basket available in the parish hall, or email amyjo@stthomasioh.org. You can order flowers online by visiting our website at https://www.stthomasioh.org/ and click on the Easter Flower Order button.

Easter Eggs Needed

Pre-filled plastic Easter eggs are needed for the egg hunt. No chocolate please. Donations can be left in the plastic bin in the parish hall.





Save The Date-April 20, 2023

Please join us for Family Bingo at St. Thomas on Thursday, April 20th at 6:30 p.m. This is a FREE and Family fun event. Naked Dog Food Truck will be here for those who wish to purchase the Best Hotdog in Savannah. Donations of prizes (less than \$15.00) can be given to Amy Jo in the office.

Save The Date – April 29, 2023

Please join us for the conclusion of our Capital Campaign at our Centennial Gala (Adults Only) on Saturday, April 29, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall and the Speakeasy Pavilion. Check your email for the invitation. To RSVP, click on the invite in your email or email amyjo@stthomasioh.org. Feel free to dress in your favorite 20's or cocktail attire.





Centennial Memorial Brick Sale Deadline for the first order is April 30,2023.

Bricks are \$100.00 a piece. All proceeds will benefit the St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Endowment Fund. Bricks can be ordered on our website at https://www.stthomasioh.org/team-3. If you are unable to place your order online, please visit Amy Jo in the office for a form.

Holy Week at St. Thomas

Thursday, April 6 - Maundy Thursday Worship

6:00pm* -Nursery Provided

Friday, April 7 - Good Friday Worship

12:00pm and 6:00pm* Nursery provided at 6:00pm.

Easter at St. Thomas

Saturday, April 8 - Easter Vigil 8:00pm* - Nursery provided.

Sunday, April 9 - Easter Worship 8:00 am, 9:30am* & 11:15am 10:30AM - Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt

*These services will be streamed to our Facebook and YouTube page.