



ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ISLE OF HOPE
THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Liebestraum – with “In the Garden”* Franz Liszt (1811-1886)
arr. Mark Hayes

THE OPENING HYMN *We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing* Hymnal #433

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

S-236

1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord
God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;
glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____
_____ for the ra - di-ance of your ho - ly Name; _____ we will
praise you and high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____
3. Glo - ry to you _____ in the splen - dor of your
tem - ple; _____ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
you. _____ 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -
ween the Cher - u - bim; _____ we will praise you and
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

Descant

5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the depths; in the high vault of hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will high - ly ex - alt you Glo - ry to you! high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

Music: John Rutter (b. 1945). Copyright © 1985 Oxford University Press, Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 233

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

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 12:1-14

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole

assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

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

PSALM 149 (read responsively by half verse)

BCP 807

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- 1 Hallelujah!
Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.
 - 2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *
let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.
 - 3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.
 - 4 For the LORD takes pleasure in his people *
and adorns the poor with victory.
 - 5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *
let them be joyful on their beds.
 - 6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *
and a two-edged sword in their hand;
 - 7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *
and punishment on the peoples;
 - 8 To bind their kings in chains *
and their nobles with links of iron;
 - 9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *
this is glory for all his faithful people.
Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-14

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery;

You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

King of glory, King of peace

Hymnal #382

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

Celebrant
People

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

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr

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 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Litanist Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways. Hear us, O God.

People **Your mercy is great.**

Litanist Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster. Hear us, O God.

People **Your mercy is great.**

Litanist Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor. Hear us, O God.

People **Your mercy is great.**

Litanist Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us. Hear us, O God.

People **Your mercy is great.**

Litanist Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections. Hear us, O God.

People **Your mercy is great.**

Litanist Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for all who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

People **Your mercy is great.**

Litanist Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

People **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR LABOR DAY

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant says

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.

THE ABSOLUTION

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.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant
People

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

ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

How Firm A Foundation

arr. Tom Trenney

DOXOLOGY

Hymnal #380 v3

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

8:00 am – Eucharistic Prayer II – BCP 340

10:00 am – Eucharistic Prayer A – BCP 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name,

SANCTUS

S-125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The people stand or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we 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 has risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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 at 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 forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 363

Celebrant 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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

HYMN AT COMMUNION

How Beautiful

arr. Lloyd Larson

Emma Reardon, soprano and Kaleb Reavis, bass

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Those unable to take communion today may pray this prayer:

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.

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

Celebrant In the name of God and of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these 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 as we all share the one bread and the one cup. Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Be careful as you go into God's creation, for it does not belong to you. Be gentle to yourself and to each other, for you are the dwelling place of God. Be alert and silent for God is a whisper. And may the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN

I love thy kingdom, Lord

Hymnal #524

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

Fanfare in F

Mary McDonald

The flowers on the altar are given by Nancy Eschette to the glory of God and in thanksgiving to Pearl Eschette, who gave birth to Nancy on this date.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: (8:00 am) Chris Conner
(10:00 am) Jennifer Calver and Scott Tanner
Lay Eucharistic Visitor: Charlie Barrow
Acolytes: Crucifer: Billy Steinhauer; *Book Bearer:* Piper Brooks
Lectors: (8:00 am) Chris Conner (10:00 am) Joanna Ellis
Ushers: Dick Young and Bob Lupacchino
Vestry on Duty: Jennifer Calver
Altar Guild: Jennifer Calver, Sandra Calver, Kelley Marshall, Beth Wall, Katherine Edwards
Hospitality: Joanna Ellis and Elizabeth Varner
Worship Tech: Blake Haynes
Nursery: Dianne Jones and Barbara Arnott
Children's Chapel: Candice Calver and Jenny Bernard
Cantors: Emma Reardon and Kaleb Reavis

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS'

Sunday, September 6	8:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
	9:00 am	Faith Formation, Library
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Church
	10:00 am	Children's Chapel, CE Building
	5:30 pm	AA, CE Building
Monday, September 7	Closed	Labor Day
Tuesday, September 8	4:00 pm	Beers and Hymns Rehearsal, Parish Hall
Wednesday, September 9	7:30 am	Unseen Guest Cook
	11:30 am	Healing Service, Chapel
	5:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, September 10	11:00 am	Women's Bible Study, Library
	4:00 pm	IOH Historical Society, Parish Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September Outreach

P.A.C.K (People of Action Caring for Kids) is a non-profit organization started to battle childhood hunger. The program has expanded to also provide clothing for children entering the foster care system. Many come into the system with little to no clothing or possessions. Children are allowed to "shop" in the clothing closet, choosing a duffle bag, 2 outfits, a stuffed animal, and blanket. We have "adopted" a cubby in the P.A.C.K. clothing closet and keep the cubby supplied with clothing for girls sized 9 mos., 12 mos., and 18 mos. This year, they are in need of winter clothing. So, let's go shopping for dresses, pants, tops, onesies, pajamas, socks, etc.! All clothes need to be new, with the tags attached and can be put on the table in the parish hall.



September Outreach

Donations of girl's winter clothes

9 mos, 12, mos, 18 mos

New, with tags



WOMEN'S Bible Study

WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Discover the faith, courage, and strength of women who shaped God's story.

THURSDAYS 11:00 AM

STARTING SEPTEMBER 10

ALL WOMEN WELCOME!
Come as you are



GROW IN FAITH. BUILD COMMUNITY. BE ENCOURAGED.
We look forward to seeing you!

ST. THOMAS' LUNCH BUNCH

September 22, 11:30 am



Members of The American Choir for World Peace that traveled to Paris this summer will speak about their trip and share photos!



Open to all community members
Free lunch will be served. Please RSVP by September 21st
2 St. Thomas Avenue Savannah, GA 31406

Bloom & Grow

FLOWER WORKSHOP



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1ST



5 PM - 7 PM



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
in the Parish Hall



Bring your own hand clippers and container (up to 9" wide and 10" tall).
We will provide the rest.

Light refreshments will be served



venmo

\$30.00
per person

LIMITED SEATING

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL

Annie Quail 912-656-3147
or Millie Green 912-398-8775

We're so glad you're here to worship with us. Restrooms are in the Parish Hall and the Christian Education (CE) Building.

Children's faith formation is offered during the 10:00 am service for infants through 5th grade. In the Nursery (ages 0–4), children sing, hear Bible stories, enjoy crafts, play, and have a snack. If you use the nursery, we invite you to bring your child back into the church to receive Communion or a blessing.

During the school year, children are invited to participate in Children's Chapel during the first part of the service. They will process out behind the cross to the CE Building and return to the church at the Peace. Parents and caregivers are always welcome to accompany their child to either the nursery or Children's Chapel. If you have any questions, an usher will be happy to help.

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians—of any age or denomination—are welcome to receive Holy Communion. At St. Thomas', we share the common cup. You may either consume the bread and sip from the chalice or hold your bread and dip (intinct) when the chalice comes to you. If you prefer not to receive the wine, simply cross your arms over your chest. If you would like a blessing instead of Communion, you are invited to come forward and cross your arms to receive a blessing.

If you'd like to learn more about our worship or traditions, please feel free to speak with The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr.

We'd love to stay connected—please fill out a visitor card from the pew rack and return it to a member of the clergy or an usher so we can greet you more personally in the days ahead.

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Staff

The Rt. Rev. Frank Sullivan Logue, Bishop of Georgia

The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr, Priest in Charge of
Parish Life, Worship, and Pastoral Care

Tripp Hardee, Minister of Music

Greg Washabaugh, Sexton

Mallory Abshire, Parish Administrator and Bookkeeper

The Vestry

Charlie Barrow, Senior Warden

Lizann Roberts and Stewart Marshall, Co-Junior Wardens

Mitch Green, Treasurer

Jane Gilchrist, Clerk

Charlie Barrow	Jennifer Calver	Marie Centgraff
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Tracy Edgar	Betty Henderson	Robert Hughes
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Bob Lupacchino	Stewart Marshall	Amy Minis
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Lizann Roberts	Claudia Welch	Benjamin Watson
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If you would like to give electronically towards our offering today or if you are traveling during the year, there are two easy and safe options: through our website at www.stthomasioh.org/give or through Venmo.