



**ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ISLE OF HOPE**  
**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**MAY 17, 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** *Sing Halleljuah!* arr. Mark Hayes

**THE OPENING HYMN** *Christ is made the sure foundation* Hymnal #518

**THE OPENING ACCLAMATION** Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**THE GLORIA**

S-278

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-  
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,  
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;  
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-  
ceive our prayer. 6. For

you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the  
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of  
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 226

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

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

A Reading from The Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the

Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

PSALM 68:1-10, 33-36 (*read responsively by half verse*)

BCP 676

- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; \*  
**let those who hate him flee before him.**
- 2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; \*  
**as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; \*  
**let them also be merry and joyful.**
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; \*  
**YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!**
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, \*  
**God in his holy habitation!**
- 6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; \*  
**but the rebels shall live in dry places.**
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, \*  
**when you marched through the wilderness,**
- 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God,  
the God of Sinai, \*  
**at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; \*  
**you refreshed the land when it was weary.**
- 10 Your people found their home in it; \*  
**in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; \*  
**sing praises to the Lord.**
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; \*  
**he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.**
- 35 Ascribe power to God; \*  
**his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.**
- 36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! \*  
**the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!  
Blessed be God!**

## A Reading from First Peter.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

## SEQUENCE HYMN

## This Is a Day of New Beginnings

1. This is a day of new be - gin - nings, time to re -  
 2. For by the life and death of Je - sus, God's might - y  
 3. Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing, step from the  
 4. Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us to show and  
 \*5. In faith we'll gath - er round the ta - ble to taste and  
 mem - ber and move on, time to be - lieve what love is  
 Spir - it, now as then, can make for us a world of  
 past and leave be - hind our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and  
 share what love can do. This is a day of new be -  
 share what love can do. This is a day of new be -  
 bring - ing, lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.  
 dif - ference, as faith and hope are born a - gain.  
 griev - ing, seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.  
 gin - nings; our God is mak - ing all things new.  
 gin - nings; our God is mak - ing all things new.

United Methodist Hymnal 383

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1978; alt. 1987 (Rev. 21-5); © 1983, 1987 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by Permission.  
 MUSIC (BEGINNINGS 98.98): Carlton R. Young, 1984; © 1987 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

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

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr

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:  
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

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

*Litanist* Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Merciful God,

*People* **Receive our prayer.**

*Litanist* Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Merciful God,

*People* **Receive our prayer.**

*Litanist* Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity. Merciful God,

*People* **Receive our prayer.**

*Litanist* Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick especially those we name aloud or silently within our hearts (*brief silence*). Merciful God,

*People* **Receive our prayer.**

*Litanist* Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment, and accompany us in our prayers during these times. Merciful God,

*People* **Receive our prayer.**

*Litanist* O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give. Merciful God,

*People* **Receive our prayer.**

*Litanist* God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

#### THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

#### ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

arr. Dale Wood

#### FESTAL DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him all crea-tures here be-



low: al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Praise him a -bove, ye heav'n-ly



host, praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost: al - le -



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

8:00 am – Eucharistic Prayer I – BCP 333

10:00 am - Eucharistic Prayer D – BCP 372

*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.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise.

Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

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.*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Anna Alexander, Thomas, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory

through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

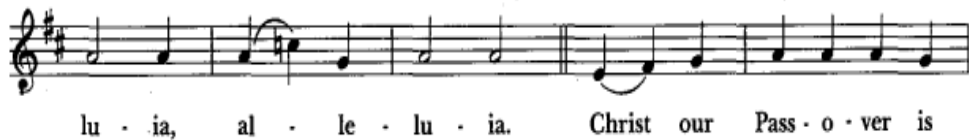
*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 FRACTION ANTHEM

S-155

*This setting is not used in Lent.*



Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

*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.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

*His Eye is on the Sparrow*

arr. Mark Hayes

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.**



SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

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*Acolytes: Crucifer:* Eva Aguilar      *Book Bearer:* Piper Brooks  
*Lay Eucharistic Minister:* (8:00 am) Dave White (10:00 am) Tracy Edgar and Karen Otto  
*Lectors:* (8:00 am) Dave White                      (10:00 am) Alton Aimar  
*Lay Eucharistic Visitor:* Dave White  
*Hospitality:* Hailey Family and Fitzgerald Family  
*Ushers:* Lela White and Steve Calver  
*Vestry on Duty:* Lizann Roberts  
*Worship Tech:* Luke Varner  
*Altar Guild:* Stacie Bacon, Tracy Edgar, Mary Haley, and Salli White  
*Nursery:* Dianne Jones and Barbara Arnott  
*Children's Chapel:* Karen Conner and Kathleen Watson  
*Cantors:* Emma Reardon and Kaleb Reavis

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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

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Sunday, May 17	9:00 am	Bible Study in the library
	5:30 pm	AA Meeting in the CE Building
Monday, May 18	10:00 am	Planning in the CE Building
	11:00 am	Library Reserved Until 4:00 pm
	2:00 pm	Women Sharing Wisdom in the CE Building
	3:00 pm	Monday Mahjong in the Parish Hall
	6:00 pm	Search Committee Meeting in the Library
Tuesday, May 19	7:00 am	Election: Voting in the Parish Hall until 7:00 pm
	11:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday, May 20	11:30 am	Healing Service in the Chapel
	5:30 pm	Bell Rehearsal
	6:30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday, May 21	6:00 pm	Women of St. Thomas' in Parish Hall

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Blessing Bags**

This Sunday we will be putting together "blessing bags" for the unsheltered in our community. Blessing Bags include water, snacks, toiletries, and a gift card. Stop by the parish hall after any of the two services and fill up a bag for your car!

## May Outreach

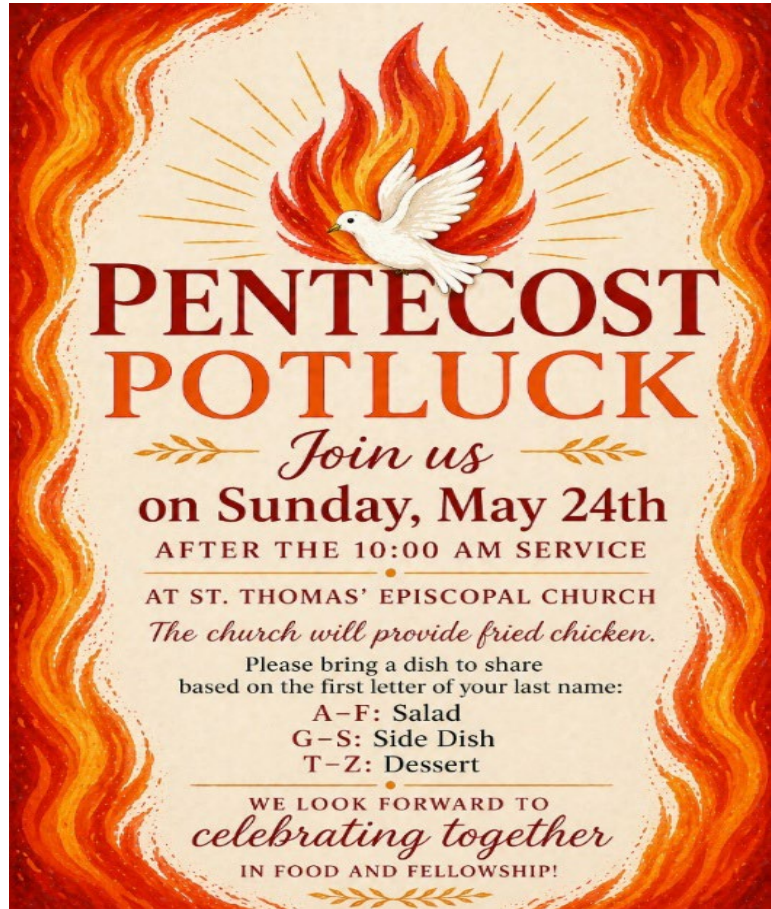
For May, we'll be collecting donations for Episcopal Youth and Children's Services. EYCS provides need-based college scholarships for undergraduates and financial assistance for children who might otherwise not be able to go to Summer Camp at Honey Creek, the Episcopal Camp & Conference Center of the Diocese of Georgia. To date, the EYCS Trust has provided over \$1,000,000 in college scholarships for over a thousand youth of the diocese, and in just the past few years, has given over \$40,000 to allow hundreds of children the chance to attend Honey Creek Summer Camp. Donations can be put in the marked box in the parish hall or the offering plate on Sundays.

### Pentecost Sunday – May 24<sup>th</sup>

Pentecost is the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

We invite all who have joined the parish over the past year to be present at one of the services as we welcome you and offer prayers for you. If you feel called to make St. Thomas' your church home, please let Rev. Colette know.

Join us after the 10:00 am service for a Pentecost Potluck! Please see the graphic for what to bring based on the first letter of your last name.



### Women of St. Thomas' Meeting

The Women of St. Thomas' will hold it's monthly meeting this Thursday at 6:00 pm in the parish hall. This is open to all the women of St. Thomas'. It's a time for meeting one another and planning upcoming events. If you're interested in using your gifts and talents at St. Thomas' come join us!

## Game Night

Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> is our monthly game night. Everyone is invited to bring their favorite game and play in the parish hall at 6:00 pm. If you are interested in learning how to play Mahjong or Rummy Cube let Rev. Colette know. We have people who will be available to teach you!



## Bible Studies

This is the last week for the Sunday morning Bible Study and the Tuesday Women's Bible Study. They will resume in September.

## WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS

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Welcome!

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.

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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](http://www.stthomasioh.org/give) or through Venmo

