



**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, Isle of Hope  
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 29, 2024**

**HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE  
8:00 AM**

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 323

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**  
*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And with thy spirit.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP 182

*Celebrant* Let us pray. O God, who declarest thy almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace, that we, running to obtain thy promises, may be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Bulletin 3

Psalm 124

Bulletin 4

The Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

Bulletin 5

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

Bulletin 5 or BCP 326

The Prayers of the People

Bulletin 6

The Confession of Sin & Absolution

BCP 331

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 340

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

The Fraction

BCP 337

Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 337

The Commissioning of the Lay Eucharistic Visitor

Bulletin 10

The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP 339

The Blessing & Dismissal

Bulletin 10

# HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

*Great is Thy Faithfulness (quoting Bach BWV 552)*

Mark Hayes

THE OPENING HYMN

*O God, our help in ages past*

Hymnal #680

*All children in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to follow the small cross out of the church into the chapel for children's chapel. Adults or older siblings are welcome to accompany them. They will return to the church at the Peace.*

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 for ever. Amen.**

THE GLORIA

HYMNAL S-278



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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 234

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray. O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS *The people sit*

THE FIRST LESSON

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

A Reading from Esther.

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor. The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 124 *said responsively by half verse*

- 1 If the LORD had not been on our side, \*  
**let Israel now say;**
- 2 If the LORD had not been on our side, \*  
**when enemies rose up against us;**
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive \*  
**in their fierce anger toward us;**
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us \*  
**and the torrent gone over us;**
- 5 Then would the raging waters \*  
**have gone right over us.**
- 6 Blessed be the LORD! \*  
**he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; \*  
**the snare is broken, and we have escaped.**
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, \*  
**the maker of heaven and earth.**

THE SECOND LESSON

James 5:13-20

A Reading from James.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins. The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

*I'll praise my maker while I've breath*

Hymnal #429

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another." The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE HOMILY

The Very Rev. 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  
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* Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.
- Litanist* We pray for the people of God in all places. Shape our witness to the good news of Jesus that we joyfully share your transforming love with all whom we encounter. Hear us, O God.
- People* **Your mercy is great.**
- Litanist* We pray for the healing of the earth. Renew oceans and seas, marshes and estuaries. Uphold the work of conservationists, oceanographers, and all who care for fragile ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God.
- People* **Your mercy is great.**
- Litanist* We pray for peace and cooperation among local and global communities. Bless the efforts of community organizers, international aid workers, and all those who work for justice and peace around the world. Hear us, O God.
- People* **Your mercy is great.**
- Litanist* We pray for all who are in any need. To all who grieve, bring consolation; to all who are weary or lonely, bring solace. By your grace, make your presence known among all who call to you for healing (*pause*) Hear us, O God.
- People* **Your mercy is great.**
- Litanist* We pray for caregivers: doctors and nurses, home health aides and counselors, and those who care for loved ones. Sustain them in their work and help us to build a health care system that supports all. (*pause*) Hear us, O God.
- People* **Your mercy is great.**
- Litanist* We give thanks for the saints who now rest in your eternal presence. In thanksgiving for their lives of faithful service and witness, we commend them to your loving care. (*pause*) Hear us, O God.
- People* **Your mercy is great.**
- Litanist* We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

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.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

THE OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Lord, Speak To Me*

Lani Smith

THE DOXOLOGY (v3)

Hymnal #380

**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.**

THE PRESENTATION (11:30 am)

*Celebrant* All things come of you, O Lord.  
*People* **And of your own have we given you. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE: ALL CREATION SINGS FORM C (ELCA)

*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 our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

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

O God triune, how majestic  
 is your name in all the earth.  
 Over the eons your merciful might  
 evolved our home, a fragile tree of life.  
 Here by your wisdom are both life and death,  
 growth and decay,  
 the nest and the hunt,  
 sunshine and storm,  
 darkness and light.  
 Sustained by these wonders,  
 we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:  
 The earth is full of your glory.

*People* **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.  
 In Christ you bring life from death;  
 we remember his cross,  
 we laud his resurrection.  
 Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.  
 Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.  
 Receiving this mystery,  
 we mortals sing our song:

*People* **The earth is full of your glory.**



We praise you for the heart of Jesus,  
so filled with your love for this earth.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

*People* **Do this for the remembrance of me.**

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

*People* **Do this for the remembrance of me.**

Gathered around this table,  
we your children unite in this song:

*People* **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds,  
you uphold the living,  
you embrace the dead.  
Send forth your Spirit  
and renew the face of the earth.  
Strengthen us for our journey with this meal,  
the body and blood of Christ.  
Give us a future that trusts in you  
and cares for your earth.  
Empowered by your promises,  
we rise from our deaths  
to praise you again:

*People* **The earth is full of your glory. Amen, and 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

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*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.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

*God Will Take Care of You* Carolyn Cohen and Tripp Hardee

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.

*Clergy and People*

**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 be silent, for God is a whisper. And the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN

*Thou, whose almighty word*

Hymnal #371

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*A Purcell Procession (based on Westminster Abbey)*

Phil Lehenbauer

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Kathryn Curran donated by Anne and Jimmy Porter.*

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY

*Vestry on Duty:* (10:00) Lizann Roberts (11:30) Robert Hughes *Worship Tech:* Luke Varner

*Lectors:* (8:00) Dave White (10:00) Jane Gilchrist (11:30) Bill Franklin

*Lay Eucharistic Ministers:* (8:00) Dave White (10:00) Tracy Edgar and Annie Quaile

*Lay Eucharistic Visitor:* Dave White *Acolyte:* Tino Aguilar

*Ushers:* (10:00) Joe Roberts and Billy Steinhauser (11:30) Bill Franklin

*Cantor:* Carolyn Cohen

*Nursery:* Selleck Hostetter

*Children's Chapel:* Karen Otto

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

*Hospitality:* Altar Guild

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, September 29	Blessing Bags during Hospitality 12:00-1:30 p.m. EYC in the EYC Room. 12:15 p.m. Garden Clean-Up 1:45 – 2:45 p.m. High School Pilgrimage Meeting in the Library. 5:30 p.m. AA in the CE Bldg. 6:00 p.m. United in Song Fall Hymn Festival-First Presbyterian
Monday, September 30	9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting in the Library. 10:00 a.m. Planning in the Parish Hall. 4:00 p.m. Deadline to RSVP for WNS.
Tuesday, October 1	No Women's Bible study in the Library.
Wednesday, October 2	NO Healing Service in the Chapel. NO Bell Rehearsal. 6:00 p.m. WNS 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal.
Thursday, October 3	5:00 p.m. Private Wedding Rehearsal
Friday, October 4	5:00 p.m. Private Wedding in Chapel
Saturday, October 5	10:00-2:00 Savannah Garden Tours Isle of Hope.

*Rev. Melanie will be out of the office Monday afternoon through Wednesday afternoon for Clergy Conference.*

*Rev. Colette will be out of the office from September 30<sup>th</sup> to October 3<sup>rd</sup> for SYNOD Convocation.*

### **Hospitality Spotlight**

The hospitality today is provided by the St. Thomas' Altar Guild. Please come join us after the 10 am service. The altar guild provides an integral part of each service at the church. Most of it is behind the scenes. We would love to have new people. See any altar guild member for information or to join us.

### **Absentee Voting**

An information table will be set up in the parish hall today during hospitality. If you'd like to fill out the absentee ballot request form here and have it mailed for you, please bring your cell phone and ID to aid you in completing the form. The absentee ballot request can be submitted between August 19th and October 25th. The absentee ballot must be received, voted, and returned by November 5th, 7:00 p.m. You must be registered to vote by October 7th. To check your registration visit [sos.ga.gov](https://sos.ga.gov).

### **Wednesday Night Supper**

Please join us this Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. for a wonderful meal and fellowship. The menu is fried chicken, green beans, coleslaw, and dessert. \$8.00 per adult or \$25.00 family maximum. Please RSVP by Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Diocesan Convention Delegates Needed**

We need two more volunteers to serve as St. Thomas' delegates to Diocesan Convention in Tifton, GA beginning the evening of Thursday, November 7 through mid-day on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. Please, contact Rev Melanie if you are interested.

## Feed St. Thomas' EYC

EYC is still looking for volunteers to provide lunch on Sundays. Please see Olivia Kate if you can provide a lite lunch.

## Men's Bible Study

October 15<sup>th</sup>, we are starting a Men's Bible Study that will meet every Tuesday at 6:00 pm. We will be using the *Wired Word* curriculum. Each week our lesson will be based on a current event in the news. The curriculum uses scripture to create questions and discussions, encouraging us to apply God's Word to our everyday lives. If interested, please let Rev. Colette know so she can email you the curriculum.



## WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS

If you are new or with us for the first time, thank you for joining us at worship. Restrooms are available in our parish hall and Christian Education buildings. Nursery care is available in our Christian Education building for children ages 0-4. Please, see an usher to assist you in locating the nursery. 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. We have a Children's Chapel for the first part of the service. Children in grades K- 5 are invited to follow the little cross in the opening procession where they will exit to go to our chapel.

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to be fed at God's table. If you do not want to receive communion, but you would like to receive a blessing, please, signify by crossing your arms over your chest when the priest comes to you with the bread.



If you would like to give electronically towards our offering today here are two options: <https://www.stthomasioh.org/give> or on Venmo [@StThomasEpiscopalChurch](#)