



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, Isle of Hope
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 26, 2025

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE
8:00 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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 183

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; 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: Joel 2:23-32

Bulletin 5

Psalm 65

Bulletin 5

THE GOSPEL: Luke 18:9-14

Bulletin 6

THE HOMILY

THE NICENE CREED

Bulletin 6

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Bulletin 7

THE CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

BCP 331

THE PEACE

BCP 332

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 AND PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

BCP 337

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 339

THE BLESSING

Bulletin 11

THE DISMISSAL

Bulletin 11

WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS

Thank you for joining us at worship. Restrooms are available in our parish hall and in the Christian Education building.

Children's faith formation is available during the 10:00 am service for children 0-5th 0 years old to 5th grade. In the Nursery, those from 0-4 years old learn songs, hear Bible stories, do crafts, as well as play and have snack time. If you do choose to utilize our nursery, we hope you will bring your children back into church to receive communion or a blessing. During the school year we have "Children's Chapel" for the first part of the service. Children ages 0-5th grade can process behind the cross where they will exit to go the CE Building. The children will return to the church from Children's Chapel at the Peace. For both the nursery and Children's Chapel, adults are welcome to accompany their child if that would be helpful. Please see an usher if you have any questions.

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to be fed at God's table. We use the "common cup" at St. Thomas. You can choose to eat your bread and sip from the chalice when it comes to you or you may hold on to your bread and dip it into the chalice when it comes to you. If you do not wish to receive wine, you may cross your arms over your chest. If you would like to come forward for a blessing, come to the railing and cross your arms over your chest to receive God's blessing. If you would like to learn more about the customs of our tradition, please contact The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr.

Please, fill out a visitor card from the pew rack and give to one of the clergy or the ushers so that we may greet you more formally in the days to come.

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

The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr, Priest in Charge of

Parish Life, Worship, and Pastoral Care

Dionne Greenlee, Parish Administrator

Tripp Hardee, Minister of Music

Greg Washabaugh, Sexton

Dianne Jones, Nursery Supervisor

The Vestry

Chris Conner, Senior Warden

Lizann Roberts & David Castleberry, Co-Junior Wardens

Mitch Green, Treasurer Jane Gilchrist, Clerk

Joseph Bernard	Jennifer Calver	David Castleberry
Chris Conner	Marie Centgraf	Betty Henderson
Mary Haley	Robert Hughes	Andrew Lyons
Amy Minis	Lizann Roberts	Claudia Welch

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

2 St. Thomas Avenue, Savannah, GA 31406

Telephone: (912) 355-3110 www.stthomasioh.org



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 @StThomasEpiscopalChurch.

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

10:00 AM & 11:30 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart

arr. Mark Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!

We have gathered together to celebrate and sing.

Let the waters roar, and the forests resound with song.

Let the wind whisper, and the creatures sigh.

Let the thunder roll, and the wolves howl.

Let the crickets chime, and the soft rain fall on the leaves.

Let everything that breathes praise God!

Come, make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!

Let us worship God!

THE OPENING HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

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.

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: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 235

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

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

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from Joel.

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit. I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 65 responsively by half verse

BCP 672

1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; *
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, *
because of their transgressions.

3 Our sins are stronger than we are, *
but you will blot them out.

4 Happy are they whom you choose
and draw to your courts to dwell there! *
**they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,
by the holiness of your temple.**

5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation, *
**O Hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the seas that are far away.**

6 You make fast the mountains by your power; *
they are girded about with might.

7 You still the roaring of the seas, *
**the roaring of their waves,
and the clamor of the peoples.**

8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; *
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.

10 You prepare the grain, *

for so you provide for the earth.

11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

12 You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.

13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.

14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

THE SECOND READING

2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

A Reading from Second Timothy.

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

Blest are the pure in heart

Hymnal #656

THE GOSPEL

Luke 18:9-14

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

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

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Lauren Byrd

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 Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

Litanist Uniting God, you draw your church together as the one body of Christ. Bring congregations into conversation and dialogue so the church is transformed and reformed in your abundant grace. God of grace,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Litanist Sustaining God, you create all the beauty around us. We give you thanks for the harvest of your creation. Restore creation as the seasons change. God of grace,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Litanist Governing God, you bring peace and justice through mercy. Guide judges, lawmakers, attorneys, and those in any authority to act with compassion and understanding. God of grace,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Litanist Healing God, you comfort those who suffer. Console people whose lives are disrupted by cancer, disease, and illness. Bring your healing mercy to any in need especially those we name aloud or within the silence of our hearts (*brief silence*). God of grace,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Litanist Proclaiming God, you gift the church proclamation through music. We thank you for all those who provide the joyous music of this congregation. Transform your church through the musical arts. God of grace,

Litanist Resurrecting God, you crown your beloved children with righteousness. We thank you for those who have died in faith, fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith. God of grace,

People **Receive our prayer.**

Litanist We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept

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

ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM *To Jesus I Surrender All* arr. Lloyd Larson

THE DOXOLOGY (v 3) (10:00 am) 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 OF THE GIFTS (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.**

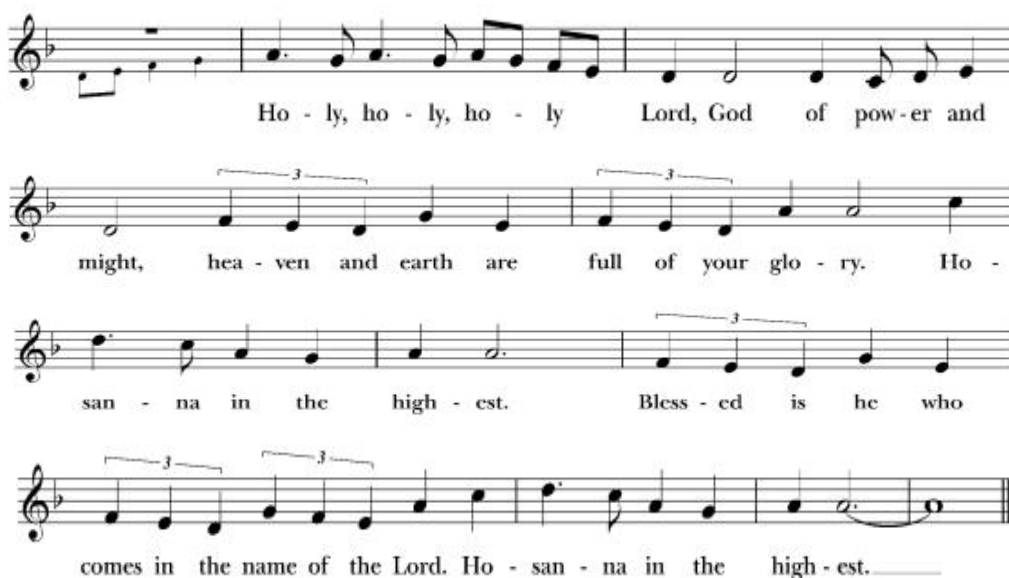
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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:



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.

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 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

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.

HYMNS AT COMMUNION

Come, thou fount of every blessing

Hymnal #686

I Surrender All

1. All to Je-sus I surrender; all to him I free-ly give; I will ev - er
2. All to Je-sus I surrender; hum-bly at his feet I bow, worldly pleasures
3. All to Je-sus I surrender; make me, Sav-ior, wholly thine; let me feel the
4. All to Je-sus I surrender; Lord, I give my-self to thee; fill me with thy
5. All to Je-sus I surrender; now I feel the sacred flame. O the joy of
Refrain (Harmony)
love and trust him, in his pres-ence dai - ly live.
all for - sak - en; take me, Je - sus, take me now.
Ho - ly Spir - it, tru - ly know that thou art mine. I surren-der all,
love and pow - er; let thy bless-ing fall on me.
full sal - va - tion! Glo - ry, glo - ry to his name!
I surrender all, all to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

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.**

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

Friends, we've made a joyful noise – but don't let it end here! Go now in peace, to love and serve, to sing and to celebrate, joining in the chorus of creation with generosity and joy. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN *Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve* Hymnal #546

THE DISMISSAL BCP 366

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE *Toccata and Fugue in D minor BWV 565* J.S. Bach

The flowers were donated by Eleanor Foster to the Glory of God and in memory of her mother Frances "Dinky" Foster and in Thanksgiving for her father James "Jim" Foster.

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Vestry on Duty: (10:00 am) David Castleberry (11:30 am) Betty Henderson
Lectors: (8:00 am) Dave White (10:00 am) Will Calver (11:30 am) Bill Franklin
Lay Eucharistic Minister: (8:00 am) Dave White
 (10:00 am) Charlie Barrow and Susan Tutan-Gonzales
Lay Eucharistic Visitor: Rick Lantz
Ushers: (10:00 am) Alton Aimar and David Castleberry
Hospitality: Joanna Ellis, Cathy and Jim Joyce
Altar Guild: Amy Jarvis, Boo McCullough, Sally Minis and Pam Smith
Nursery: Dianne Jones and Barbara Arnott *Worship Tech:* Tino Aguilar
Children's Chapel: Karen Otto and Kim Tutan
Acolytes: Crucifer: Sheldon White, Book: Lela White, Children's Cross: Gio Aguilar
Cantor: Emma Reardon and Larry Roberson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, October 26	5:30 pm	AA Meeting in the CE Building
Monday, October 27	10:00 am	Planning in the CE Building
	2:00 pm	Open Play Mahjong with Martie Gay in the Parish Hall (Register at: IOH Mahjong FB page)
Tuesday, October 28	11:00 am	Women's Bible Study in the Library
Wednesday, October 29	11:30 am	Healing Service
	5:30 pm	Hand Bell Rehearsal
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 31	5:00 pm	Halloween on St. Thomas Avenue
Saturday, November 1	1:00 pm	Funeral for Greg Smith
	6:45 pm	All Saints' Day Service in the Memorial Garden

Rev Colette will be out of the office on October 27th for ELCA Disaster Response Coordinator Training.

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, October 28th so that Rev Colette and Dee Greenlee may attend CEMA Disaster Faith Network Summit.

Candidates for Vestry

A Vestry that leads with gratitude shows that service in the church is not a duty to endure but a joy to share. Their participation says, "We are part of this Body not because we have to be, but because we get to be." That spirit changes everything — meetings become worship, decisions become prayer, and even disagreements can become opportunities for grace. By rejoicing in the work, they remind the whole congregation that participation in the church is a gift, not a chore.

The St. Thomas Vestry is looking for nominations to serve on the vestry beginning in January 2026. If you are interested, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee: Chris Conner cconner@ccbcu.com, Joseph Bernard jber88@gmail.com, David Castleberry dcastleberrymac@gmail.com, Mary Haley mary.haley@yahoo.com.

October Outreach

In October, we are collecting items for One Love Animal Rescue. Items in need include but are not limited to cat, dog, kitten, and puppy food, scratching posts and pads for cats, dog leashes (wide and thick), dog bones, and dog toys. Items can be left in the parish hall.

All Saints Remembrance Bags

Join us for our All Saints Service in the Memorial Garden on Saturday, November 1, at 6:45 p.m. To honor a loved one, you're invited to write their name on one of the luminary bags in the parish hall. The luminaries will be placed around the Memorial Garden before the service as we gather to remember those who have gone before us.

Silent Auction

The Diocesan Convention is scheduled for the first week of November. Each year, the diocese holds a silent auction to benefit Honey Creek, the Episcopal Diocese of GA Retreat Center. If you have an item or an excursion you'd like to put up for auction, please see Rev. Colette or contact Rev. Shayna Cranford at shaynacranford@gmail.com.

