

# St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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*Please, Enter in Silence and Meditation*



The Twenty-fourth Sunday after  
Pentecost  
November 19, 2017

This service is offered to God and to the community  
that we may journey together seeking God's

Kingdom through sharing Christ's Love one with another and with all people.

New? Confused? Don't worry! We are genuinely pleased to have you worship here today. We suspect you may have some questions.

Everybody you see was a newcomer at one time or another and we've all had questions – probably the very same ones. So, don't hesitate to ask a question!

Books? This bulletin contains our liturgy, and all you need along with this bulletin is the blue Hymnal found in the pew rack for singing the hymns. But there is plenty more if you like! We have included the page numbers of the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP), also found in the pew rack. This is the sourcebook for our liturgy, and is a wonderful resource for prayer and study.

Episcopal worship invites participation by all the people to experience the risen Christ in this place. We want you to be comfortable so you can

worship God and enjoy your visit today.

The posture of prayer, whether sitting, standing or kneeling is only a physical manifestation of the inward attitude of prayer. If you adopt the attitude of prayer then you may adapt the posture of prayer to suit your own needs. When you're worshipping God, you can't get it wrong!

Regardless of what anybody else is doing, don't do anything that makes you feel uncomfortable. Remember, if you need help, ask the person next to you. We like people here at St. Thomas'.

We invite all who are baptized to come forward and join us in receiving Holy Communion. Those who wish to come and receive a blessing may come to the rail and simply fold both arms across their chest to signal their desire.

We are delighted you're here, and we want you to come back. May God bless you this day; you have blessed us with your presence.

# Holy Eucharist Rite II

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

*Not here for high and holy things.....*Hymnal 9

**Salutation.....BCP 355**

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

*Celebrant*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**Gloria in Excelsis..... Hymnal S280**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Collect of the Day .....BCP 236

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **A reading from the book of Zephaniah 1:7,12-18**

Be silent before the Lord God!  
For the day of the Lord is at hand;  
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people

who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,

“The Lord will not do good,  
nor will he do harm.”

Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;

though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near,  
near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the Lord,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,  
and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the Lord's wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm 90**

*Choir and Congregation*

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge \*  
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born, \*  
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, \*  
"Go back, O child of earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like  
yesterday when it is past \*  
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; \*  
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; \*  
we are afraid because of your wrathful  
indignation.
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you, \*

and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; \*  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

10 The span of our life is seventy years,  
perhaps in strength even eighty; \*  
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,  
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

11 Who regards the power of your wrath? \*  
who rightly fears your indignation?

12 So teach us to number our days \*  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

## **A reading from 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a

thief in the night. When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

*We all stand.*

**Sequence Hymn: .....Hymnal 541**

*Remain standing for the reading of The Gospel.*

**The Gospel *Matthew 25:1-13***

*Celebrant*      The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus  
                         Christ according to Matthew.

*People*            Glory to you, Lord Christ.

**Matthew 25:14-30**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and

settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You

knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Guest Speaker.....Elizabeth Blair Honeycutt**

**The Sermon ..... The Rev. Ken Dimmick**

**Moment of Quiet**

**The Nicene Creed.....BCP 358**

*All Stand and say together*

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.

**Prayers of the People: Led by Donna Grissom**  
*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Response: Thank you, Lord.

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**Confession and Absolution .....BCP 360**

*Celebrant*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence*

*Celebrant 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,



*online and by other ways. The tokens can be found in a plate at the back of the church.*

**Offertory Hymn: .....Hymnal 551**

*You are invited to stand as our gifts of bread, wine, and money are brought to the altar.*

**The Doxology:..... Hymnal 380**

**The Great Thanksgiving..... Eucharistic Prayer A**

*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.

*The Celebrant proceeds*

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by

his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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

**Sanctus ..... S130**

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The Celebrant continues*

*The people stand or kneel, then the Celebrant continues*  
Holy and gracious Father, in your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and

die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

## *Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

## *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 for ever.

**The Great Amen:** *We sing "Amen" together.*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be your 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**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period*

*of silence is kept.*

**Fraction Anthem: ..... S161**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
Grant us peace.

*The Celebrant says the following Invitation*

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.

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants  
with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

[*Communicant Amen.*]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

[*Communicant Amen.*]

## **The Communion of the People**

*All who seek God's blessing are welcome to come to the altar rail. If you are not yet baptized, or do not wish to receive for any reason, cross your arms over your chest and you will be given a blessing. All baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to enroll as a candidate for Holy Baptism please contact the church office or the Rev. Ken Dimmick.*

## **Communion Music**

**Communion Hymn .....Hymnal 574**

**Choir and Congregation Remaining Seated**

**Postcommunion Prayer.....BCP 366**

*Celebrant*

Let us pray.

*People and Celebrant*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior

Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## **Blessing**

**Procession to Mission.....Hymnal 680**

## **Dismissal**

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

*People*        Thanks be to God.

## **Postlude**

To continue our celebration this morning everyone is invited to the Parish Hall after the service for coffee and fellowship.