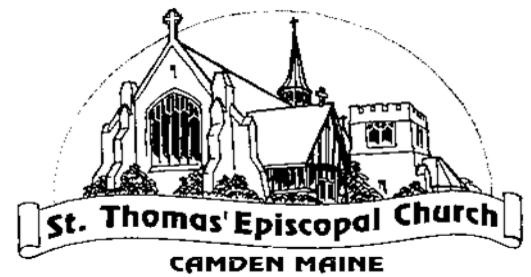


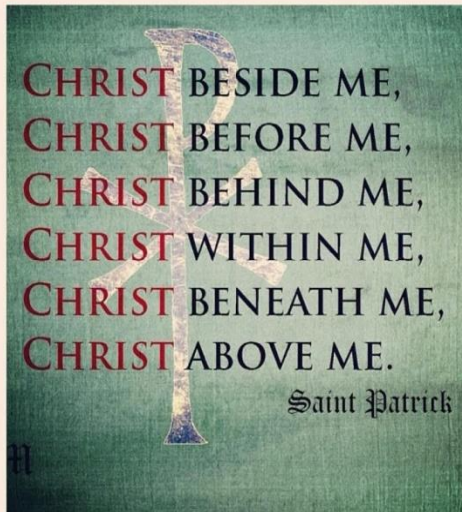
St. Thomas' Tidings

Sunday, April 26, 2020
Third Sunday of Easter

We welcome all who enter these doors, especially those who enter for the first time or after a long absence. Everyone is welcome! All are welcome to receive the Bread and Wine at this altar.



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What Is the Office of Morning Prayer?

We've all become very accustomed to the Holy Eucharist service. Whether we are Rite I people, or Rite 2 people—the outline is still the same. Eucharist is broken up into two parts: the Ministry of the Word and the Ministry of the Table. The Ministry of the Word has our opening prayers, Gloria, scripture readings, homily, Creed (Nicene), the Prayer for the Whole State of Christ's Church and the World (we know it better as the *Prayers of the People*), the Confession and Absolution, followed by the Peace. Thus concludes the Ministry of the Word.

The Ministry of the Table is just that—the entirety of this part of the service is the Holy Eucharist (*Great Thanksgiving* in English), and is done at the table of the Lord—the altar.

Before 1979, this service was not

done as the primary Sunday service. It was done no more than monthly, or quarterly—or even less in some churches. We've grown used to weekly Eucharist now, and we know the structure of that service like we know the smiles on our loved ones' faces.

But Morning Prayer has its own order of service. This liturgy guides us through seven movements of prayer: (1) an opening prayer of confession and assurance of our salvation; (2) prayerful readings from the Psalms and from the Old and New Testaments; (3) a covenant prayer of allegiance to God's Kingdom (Apostles' Creed); (4) prayers of petition and intercession; (5) contemplative prayer; (6) the daily collects for peace and grace; and (7) prayers which send us back into the world to work for good (prayer for mission).

When Morning Prayer is used as the principal service of the week, a sermon is added.

This service is not as familiar to many of us, but it has its own cadence and rhythm. The seven-fold prayer structure is broken up with chants and melodies from “canticles”—which are scripture readings put to simple music. This was often done by choirs, monks and nuns, or boys' choirs in the past—and even now—but most churches resonated to the 1979 Book of Common Prayer's focus on congregational participation—and welcomed the chance to sing along

with the organ, and whatever group led them in song.

I find the Morning Prayer service to be meditative. It is a service that asks us to participate fully in prayer—the ones we speak, the ones we listen to, and the ones we pray from our hearts.

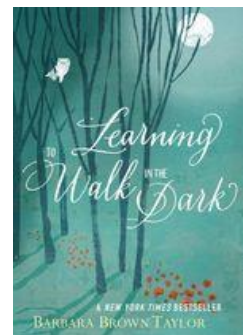
Join us every Sunday as we go live on Facebook at 10 a.m. Follow the link on the website—you don't need to be a Facebook user to do this. Let us join as a gathered community in Morning Prayer each Sunday in prayer and song. Feel the connection to each other as you pray, even though we aren't in the same room. Know that while we are all worshipping in a new form, it is always Christ who is our center. Christ will be with us, nurturing us, nourishing us and urging us to follow in his Way of love.

Lisa+

Join Us for Our Next Great Read

A new **Rector's Class** will begin **May 1**, and everyone — of all appropriate ages — is invited!

From the *New York Times* best-selling author of *An Altar in the World*, we'll be reading Barbara Brown Taylor's ***Learning to Walk in the Dark*** — which can provide a way to find spirituality in those times when



Continues on next page...

'Learning' continues...

we don't have all the answers. Here's what the *New York Times* said:

"Taylor has become increasingly uncomfortable with our tendency to associate all that is good with lightness and all that is evil and dangerous with darkness. Doesn't God work in the nighttime as well? In *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, Taylor asks us to put aside our fears and anxieties and to explore all that God has to teach us 'in the dark.' She argues that we need to move away from our 'solar spirituality' and ease our way into appreciating 'lunar spirituality' (since, like the moon, our experience of the light waxes and wanes). Through darkness we find courage, we understand the world in new ways, and we feel God's presence around us, guiding us through things seen and unseen. Often, it is while we are in the dark that we grow the most.

With her characteristic charm and literary wisdom, Taylor is our guide through a spirituality of the nighttime, teaching us how to find our footing in times of uncertainty and giving us strength and hope to face all of life's challenging moments."

I loved this book and think you will, too. Order it now from your favorite bookstore, and join the crowd in our Zoom discussions **Friday afternoons at 4:00 p.m., starting May 1!** We'll discuss pp. 1-10 of the "Introduction" for that first meeting. It's a fun class, and a great book. Join us!

Lisa+

NEW: Online Donations Option

Our online option for donations is now live. You can schedule an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) from your bank (preferred) or you can use your credit card. You can access this EFT option directly on the home page

of our website (click the "Donate" button) or you can get additional information by clicking [here](#).

If you have any questions or would like assistance in setting up an online donation, please contact me –

treasurer@stthomascamdenme.org.

Thank you for your faithful support of St. Thomas'!

Blessings,

Terry Mello

Prayer List

Please pray for those members of this parish and others who are in special need: *Betty McDermott, Jeremy Tucker, Sally Lincoln, the Brooks family, Amelia Mello, Brian Bowley, Stephanie Laite, Sandra A., Paula, Julie, Robert Pearson, Dustin, Hunter Fierro, Tadd Lyman, Shirley, Harry Hart, Ada Power, Larry Parker, Bayard Chanler, Carol, Marcie Vega, Vicky and Bill, Arnie Joy, Maxine, Judith Shepherd, Ron, Andrew, Joanne Scott, Tiffany Andrews, Seana Roubinek, Carolyn Morris, Amy, Joan Pottle, Paul Whittaker, Anne, Sandy Lyle, Brian Fitzpatrick, Skip Groman, Kathy Kulick, Lainie Vreeland, David Harper, Susan Conrad, Elaine*

This Sunday

April 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalms 116:1-3, 10-17

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

Next Sunday

May 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47

Psalms 23

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

Calendar

Sunday, April 26

10:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer—[Facebook](#) Live

Monday, April 27

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—[Facebook](#) Live

Tuesday, April 28

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer with Guided Meditation—[Facebook](#) Live

Wednesday, April 29

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.—Bible Study via Zoom

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—[Facebook](#) Live

4:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.—EfM via Zoom

8:00 p.m.—Compline—[Facebook](#) Live

Thursday, April 30

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer with Guided Meditation—[Facebook](#) live

Friday, May 1

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—[Facebook](#) Live

4:00 p.m.—Rector's Class via Zoom

Saturday, May 2

8:00 p.m.—Compline—[Facebook](#) Live

Sunday, May 3

10:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer—[Facebook](#) Live

How to Reach Us:

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