

**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church  
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 24, 2023**



## 8:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

*Children are always welcome in the church.  
Please be sure your cell phone is inaudible.*

### Prelude

**Opening Hymn #527**      Singing Songs of Expectation      *Ton-y-Botel*

**Opening Acclamation**      Book of Common Prayer, page 323

**The Collect for Purity**      page 323

**Gloria**      page 324

**Collect, Readings and Gospel** (*pages 3-5 of Bulletin*)

**Sermon**      The Rev. Paul Briggs

**Nicene Creed**      page 326

**Prayers of the People** (*pages 5-6 in your bulletin*)

**Confession and Absolution**      page 331

**The Peace**

**Announcements and Birthdays** (*Birthday Prayer page 6 of Bulletin*)

**Offertory Voluntary**

**Doxology Hymn 380** (v. 3)      *Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

**The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II**      page 340

**The Lord's Prayer**      page 336

**The Breaking of the Bread**      Page 337

**Prayer of Humble Access**      page 337

**The Communion**

**Communion Voluntary**

**Postcommunion Prayer**      page 339

**Blessing**

**Dismissal Hymn #551**      Rise Up, Ye Saints of God!      *Festal Song*

**The Dismissal**

**Postlude**



## 10:00 am – The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

*Children are always welcome in the church.  
Please be sure your cell phone is inaudible.*

### Prelude

**Opening Hymn #527**      Singing Songs of Expectation      *Ton-y-Botel*

**Opening Acclamation**      Book of Common Prayer, page 355

**Gloria in Excelsis** (*insert in Hymnal*)      *Powell*      Hymnal S280

**Collect and Readings** (*pages 3-4 of Bulletin*)

**Sequence Hymn #660**      O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee      *Maryton*

**The Gospel** (*page 4-5 of Bulletin*)

**Sermon**      The Rev. Paul Briggs

**Nicene Creed**      page 358

**Prayers of the People** (*pages 5-6 in your bulletin*)

**Confession and Absolution**      page 360

**The Peace**      page 360

**Announcements and Birthdays** (*Birthday Prayer page 6 of Bulletin*)

**Offertory**

**Offertory Hymn 380** (v.3)      *Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

**The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer C**      page 369

**Sanctus** (*insert in Hymnal*)      *Powell*      Hymnal S129

**The Lord's Prayer**      page 364

**The Breaking of the Bread**

**The Communion**

**Communion Voluntary**

**Postcommunion Prayer**      page 365

**Blessing**

**Dismissal Hymn #551**      Rise Up, Ye Saints of God!      *Festal Song*

**The Dismissal**

**Postlude**



## The Collect

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The First Reading

**Jonah 3:10-4:11**

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

## Psalm 145:1-8

- <sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, O God my King, \*  
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- <sup>2</sup> Every day will I bless you \*  
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- <sup>3</sup> Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; \*  
there is no end to his greatness.
- <sup>4</sup> One generation shall praise your works to another \*  
and shall declare your power.
- <sup>5</sup> I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty \*  
and all your marvelous works.
- <sup>6</sup> They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, \*  
and I will tell of your greatness.
- <sup>7</sup> They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; \*  
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- <sup>8</sup> The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

## The Second Reading

## Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

### Prayers of the People – Form III

**Leader:** Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

*That we all may be one.*

**Leader:** Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

**Leader:** We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

**Leader:** We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

**Leader:** Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

**Leader:** Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

**Leader:** Give to the departed eternal rest.  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

**Leader:** We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

**Leader:** Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## **Birthday Prayer**

**Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase. Bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand, comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful, raise them up if they fall. And in their heart, may thy peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



*The flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God by Carlos and Terry Mello  
in Memory of Isabelle Mello*



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*Restrooms are located down the right aisle, past the Chapel, at the end of the corridor on the left side.  
Additional restrooms are located in the basement (down the same corridor, via the stairway on the left).*

## *Liturgical Ministers*

**Celebrant & Preacher:**  
**Organist:**

The Rev. Paul Briggs  
Clarissa Brown, Minister of Music

### **8:00 a.m. Liturgy**

**Lay Eucharistic Minister:** Pam Bardon  
**Lay Readers:** Terry Mello, Pam Bardon  
**Prayers of the People:** Jan Lyle  
**Usher:** Carlos Mello

### **10:00 a.m. Liturgy**

**Lay Eucharistic Minister:** Jacqueline Recht  
**Acolytes:** Charlotte Watkins  
**Lay Readers:** Dean Jackson, Sarah Groman  
**Prayers of the People:** Kate Jackson  
**Ushers:** Dean Jackson, Roy Gilley

## **How to Reach Us:**

**Parish Office:** 207-236-3680

[www.stthomascamdenme.org](http://www.stthomascamdenme.org)

**The Rt. Rev. Thomas Brown, Bishop of Maine**

[tbrown@episcopalmaine.org](mailto:tbrown@episcopalmaine.org)

**The Rev. Paul Briggs, Interim Rector**

[interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org](mailto:interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org)

**The Rev. Dr. Rosalee Glass, Deacon Emeritus**

[rosalee.glass43@gmail.com](mailto:rosalee.glass43@gmail.com)

**Clarissa Brown, Minister of Music**

[voxhumana711@gmail.com](mailto:voxhumana711@gmail.com)

**Anne Rogers-Popejoy, Interim Office Administrator**

[admin@stthomascamdenme.org](mailto:admin@stthomascamdenme.org)

### **Office Volunteers**

[officevolunteers@stthomascamdenme.org](mailto:officevolunteers@stthomascamdenme.org)

### **Communications**

[communications@stthomascamdenme.org](mailto:communications@stthomascamdenme.org)

**Elizabeth Moran, Senior Warden**

[elizabethmoran1@mac.com](mailto:elizabethmoran1@mac.com)

**Br. Donovan Bowley, BSG – Junior Warden**

[brdaidan@gmail.com](mailto:brdaidan@gmail.com)

**Terry Mello, Treasurer**

[treasurer@stthomascamdenme.org](mailto:treasurer@stthomascamdenme.org)