

# **Third Sunday in Lent**

**March 3, 2024 - 8 a.m.**



**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church**

**Camden, Maine**

# The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

*Children are always welcome in the church.*

*Please be sure your cell phone is inaudible.*

*The ministers of the Liturgy enter in silence*

Penitential Order

The Book of Common Prayer, page 319

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

*People* His mercy endureth for ever.

Confession of Sin & Absolution

page 320

Kyrie

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

## Psalm 19

<sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> One day tells its tale to another, \*  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

<sup>3</sup> Although they have no words or language, \*  
and their voices are not heard,

<sup>4</sup> Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
and their message to the ends of the world.

<sup>5</sup> In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; \*  
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

- <sup>6</sup> It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again; \*  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- <sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*  
the testimony of the LORD is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- <sup>8</sup> The statutes of the LORD are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the LORD is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.
- <sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.
- <sup>11</sup> By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup> Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- <sup>13</sup> Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a great offense.
- <sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the

discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Holy Gospel

John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Sermon

The Rev. Paul Briggs

Nicene Creed

page 326

Prayers of the People V

page 389

Blessings for birthdays, anniversaries, and other life events

The Peace

## The Holy Communion

Organ Offertory

Offertory Hymn #575    Before they throne                      *Vater unser im Himmelreich*

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer I*                      page 333

The Lord's Prayer                      page 336

The Breaking of the Bread                      page 337

The Communion

*This is God's table; all are welcome*

Postcommunion Prayer                      page 339

Solemn Prayer Over the People

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hymn #409                      The spacious firmament                      *Creation*

Dismissal *Thanks be to God*

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### ***Liturgical Ministers***

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Organist: Clarissa Brown, Minister of Music

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Pam Bardon

Lay Readers: Pam Bardon, Terry Mello

Prayers of the People: Terry Mello

Usher: Carlos Mello

## ***This Week at St. Thomas'***

### **Sunday, March 3:**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:15 a.m. Choir Practice  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II  
11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour  
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

### **Wednesday, March 6:**

9:30 a.m. Healing Prayer and Eucharist  
11:00 a.m. Bible Study

### **Thursday, March 7:**

5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### **Friday, March 8:**

8:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. St. Thomas Fair Committee Meeting  
All are welcome to  
join us in the conference room as  
we discuss the upcoming summer fair.

### **Sunday, March 10:**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II  
11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour  
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

**A.A. meetings are held daily at 6:30 p.m.**

*Welcome visitors and newcomers; we are glad you are here! If you would like more information about the community of St. Thomas, please speak to a greeter or a member of the clergy. To receive information by email, please fill out a blue card found in the pew and give to an usher or place in the offering plate.*

**Kayla Clay, Parish Administrator**

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

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(860) 384-9193

### **Church Staff and Parish Officers**

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

Clarissa Brown, *Organist & Choir Director*

Tony Coyne, *Sexton*

Elizabeth Moran, *Senior Warden*

Br. Donovan Bowley, BSG, *Junior Warden*

Terry Mello, *Treasurer*

*Restrooms are located down the right aisle, past the Chapel, at the end of the corridor on the left side.*



**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church**

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