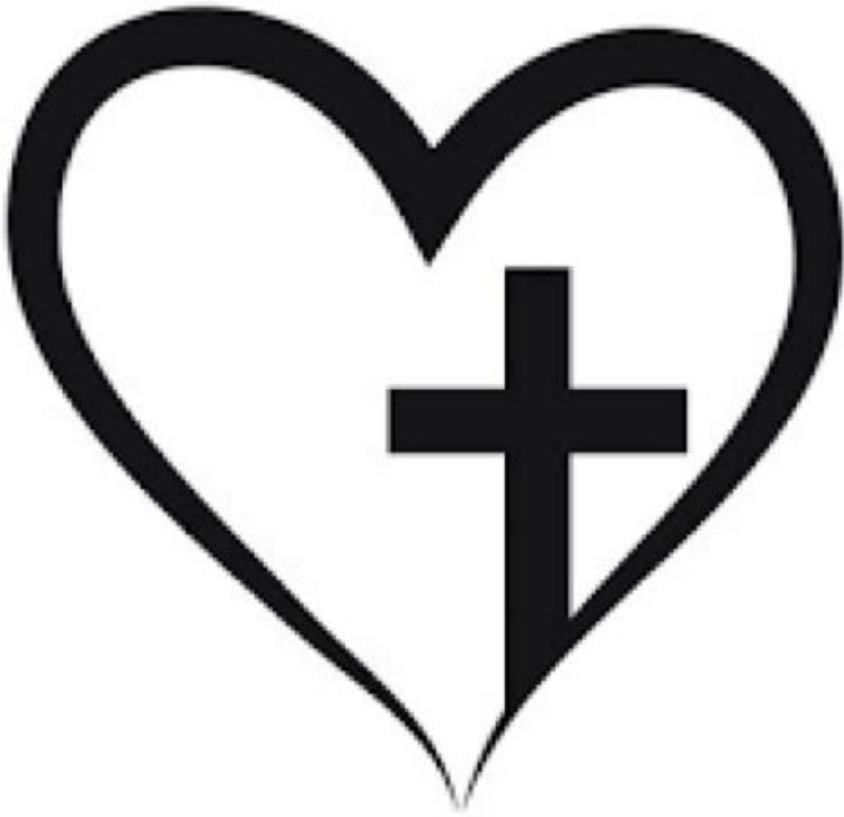


Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10, 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

page 324

The Collect of the Day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

- ¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.
- ² Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- ³ He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
- ¹⁷ Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.
- ¹⁸ They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.
- ¹⁹ Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
- ²⁰ He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.
- ²¹ Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.
- ²² Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in

Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Holy Gospel

John 3:14-21

Jesus said, “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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 #620 Jerusalem my happy home

Land of Rest

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

Hymn #690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

Dismissal Response: *Thanks be to God*

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA and used by permission. The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Hymn permissions (including streaming music) in this Service obtained from ONE LICENSE: License #A-712382. All rights reserved

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

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Organist: Clarissa Brown, Minister of Music

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Sandy Lyle

Lay Readers: Jan Lyle, Sandy Lyle

Prayers of the People: Clarissa Brown

Usher: Jan Lyle

This Week at St. Thomas'

Sunday, March 10:

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
11:15 a.m. Sunday Forum and Godly Play
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

Wednesday, March 13:

9:30 a.m. Healing Prayer and Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Altar Guild
11:00 a.m. Bible Study

Thursday, March 14:

5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 17:

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
11:15 a.m. Sunday Forum and Godly Play
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

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

W*elcome 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.*

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Office: 207-236-3680

The Rev. Paul Briggs, Interim Rector
interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org
(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*



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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