

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 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 alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,”

for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD;
for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Psalm 119: 9-16

9 How shall a young man cleanse his way? *

By keeping to your words.

10 With my whole heart I seek you; *

let me not stray from your commandments.

11 I treasure your promise in my heart, *

that I may not sin against you.

12 Blessed are you, O LORD; *

instruct me in your statutes.

13 With my lips will I recite *

all the judgments of your mouth.

14 I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees *

than in all manner of riches.

15 I will meditate on your commandments *

and give attention to your ways.

16 My delight is in your statutes; *

I will not forget your word.

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by
the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Holy Gospel

John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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 # 488 Be thou my vision	<i>Slane</i>
The Great Thanksgiving <i>Eucharistic Prayer I</i>	page 333
The Lord's Prayer	page 336
The Breaking of the Bread	page 337
The Communion	
	<i>This is God's table; all are welcome</i>
Postcommunion Prayer	page 339
Solemn Prayer Over the People	
Hymn #370 vv. 1, 2, 6, 7 I bind unto myself today	<i>St. Patrick's Breastplate</i>
Dismissal Response: <i>Thanks be to God</i>	

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: Pam Bardon

Lay Readers: Pat Ayers, Pam Bardon

Prayers of the People: Jan Lyle

Usher: Peggy Daniels

This Week at St. Thomas'

Sunday, March 17:

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. Sunday Forum and Godly Play

11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour

4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

Wednesday, March 20:

9:30 a.m. Healing Prayer and Eucharist

11:00 a.m. Bible Study

Thursday, March 21:

5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 24:

8:00 a.m. Liturgy (Begins in Parish Hall)

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Liturgy (Begins in Parish Hall)

11:15 a.m. Sunday Forum and Godly Play

11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour

4:00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer (Lady Chapel)

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.*

Kayla Clay, Parish Administrator

admin@stthomascamdenme.org

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

33 Chestnut Street P.O. Box 631 Camden, ME 04843
www.stthomascamdenme.org