

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church
Camden, Maine

The Collect

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

The Second Reading

1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Sequence Hymn 817 Christ is Risen from the dead
(10 a.m. Liturgy only)

Early America, adapt.

(three times)

Christ is ri - sen from the dead, tramp - ling down death by death and on
those in the tombs be - stow - ing life, be - stow - ing life!

The Gospel

John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”



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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.

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Preacher: Emily Keniston

Organist: Clarissa Brown, Minister of Music

8:00 a.m.

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Sandy Lyle

Lay Readers: Pam Bardon, Clarissa Brown

Intercessor: Jan Lyle

Usher: Peggy Daniels

10 a.m.

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Dean Jackson
Lay Readers: Gwen Prosser, Sarah Groman
Intercessor: Bill Freeman
Ushers: Phil Groman, Cheryl Reif

People in our Prayers

Healing: Fr. Tom Pike, Jan Dolcater, Helene, John, Cheryl, Phyllis, Michael, Bob, Sylvia, Matthew Jackson, Marlene, Percy, Joan Grey, Bayard Chanler, Evie Bridges, Margery, Cathy, James, Jennifer Smith, Ken, Joseph, Kelli McGuire, Tony, Andrew, Jan, Jo Panayotoff, Luke Morelli, Elizabeth and Gerard Gillespie, Leah, Tim Peters, Janice Boetsch, Lucy Ebbert, Shirley, Tiffany Andrews, Budge Walen, Chris, Sandy, Vicki Boetsch, Allison Davis, Catherine G., Annabel, Virginia

Birthdays: Jacqueline Recht (May 8), Phil Groman (May 9), Nancy Adams (May 11)

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Peter, Portland; for the ministry of Bridging the Gap in Augusta; for Episcopal Peace Foundation

This Week at St. Thomas'

Sunday, May 5:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (*Coffee Hour Follows*)
11:15 a.m. Youth Formation Meeting
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

Tuesday, May 7:

10:00 a.m. Finance and Endorsement

Wednesday, May 8:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Healing
11:00 a.m. Bible Study

Thursday, May 9:

5 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Ascension Day Eucharist and Cookout

Sunday, May 12:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (*Coffee Hour Follows*)

4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

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

Church Staff and Parish Officers

Kayla Clay, Parish Administrator

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The Rev. Paul Briggs, Interim Rector

interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org

(860) 384-9193

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

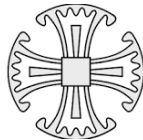
Clarissa Brown, *Organist & Choir Director*

Tony Coyne, *Sexton*

Elizabeth Moran, *Senior Warden*

Br. Donovan Bowley, BSG, *Junior Warden*

Terry Mello, *Treasurer*



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