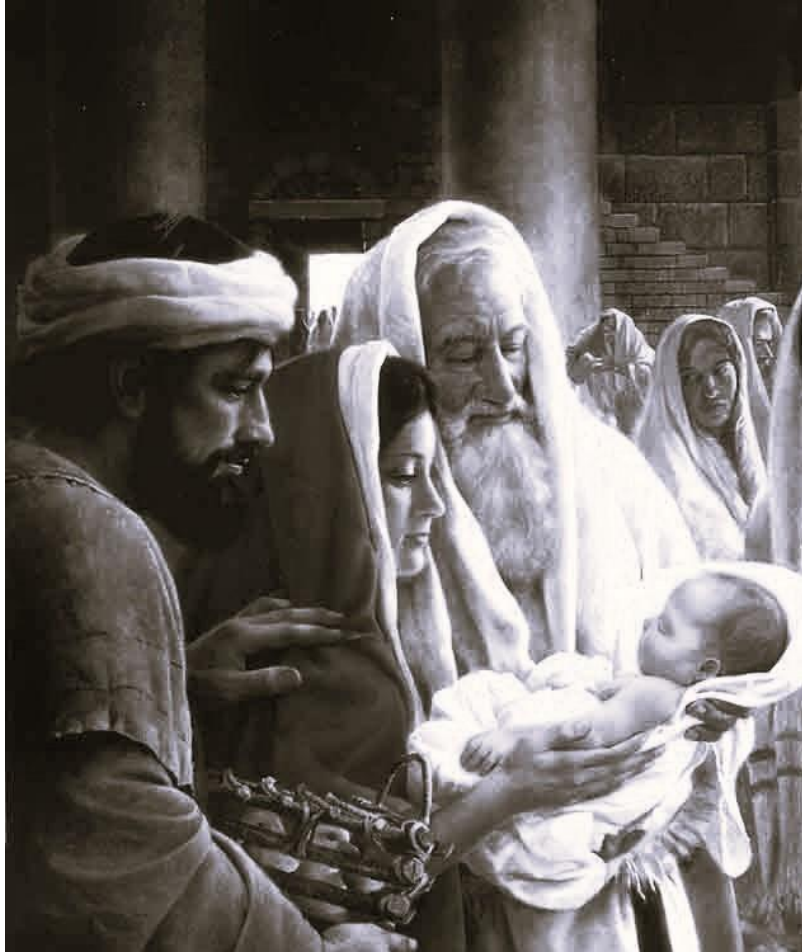


**Presentation of Jesus**  
**February 2, 2025**



**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church**  
**Camden, Maine**

# The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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

## Prelude

**Opening Hymn 457**      Thou art the Way, to thee alone

*St. James*

## Opening Acclamation

page 355

*Celebrant*      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People*          And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

## Gloria

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!  
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Children and chaplains come forward and are dismissed by the Celebrant for Children's Chapel after the Collect is said.*

## The Collect

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi [3:1-4]

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight - indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People:* Thanks be to God

### **Psalm [24:7-10]**

7 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.  
8 "Who is this King of glory?" \*  
"The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord, mighty in battle."  
9 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.  
10 "Who is he, this King of glory?" \*  
"The Lord of hosts,  
he is the King of glory."

### **A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews [2:14-18]**

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

### **Sequence Hymn 499**

Lord God, you now have set your servant free

*Song 1*

### **The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke [2:22-40]**

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn

male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;  
for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Sermon**

The Rev. Paul Briggs

**Nicene Creed**

page 358

**Prayers of the People Form IV**

page 388

**Confession of Sin**

page 360

**Prayers for birthdays, anniversaries, travel etc.**

<b>The Peace</b>		page 360
<b>Announcements</b>		
<b>Offertory</b>		
<b>Offertory Hymn 458</b>	My song is love unknown	<i>Love Unknown</i>
<b>The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B</b>		page 367
<b>Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy Hymnal S130</b>		<i>Franz Peter Schubert</i>
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>		page 364
<b>The Breaking of the Bread</b>		
<b>Agnus Dei Hymnal S164</b>		<i>Franz Peter Schubert</i>
<b>The Communion</b>	<i>This is God's table, all are welcome.</i>	
	<i>Gluten-free wafers are available; ask the priest when you come to the altar rail.</i>	
	<i>You can request that Communion be brought to your pew by letting an usher know.</i>	
<b>Postcommunion Prayer</b>		page 366
<b>Blessing</b>		
<b>Dismissal Hymn 613</b>	Thy Kingdom come, O God	<i>St. Cecilia</i>
<b>The Dismissal</b>		
<b>Postlude</b>		

*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*

**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 & Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Organist: Clarissa Brown

**9:30 a.m.**

Eucharistic Minister: Benjy Lowry, Shelly Gallender

Readers: Sarah Groman, Kate Jackson

Intercessor: Jacqueline Recht

Usher: Dean Jackson, Phil Groman

## **People in our Prayers**

**Healing** Tony, Sandy Lyle, Nancy Remchuk, Mya Delisle, Andrew Moran, Donovan, Carolyn Moore, Debra and Amy, Ned and Kathleen Bachus, Anna and her child Brody, Ruth Tolman, Helene, John, Phyllis, Michael, Bob, Sylvia, Matthew Jackson, Marlene, Percy, Joan Grey, Cathy, James, Ken, Joseph, Kelli McGuire, Tony, Jo Panayotoff, Joyce S, Jan Schaefer, Christine & Paul M, Jason, Kristen, Jeanie, Cathie, Brian, Bob S., Gary P., Ezra, Chris Strazzulla, Greg McDermott, Fr. Tom Pike, Evie Bridges, Luke Morelli, Leah, Tim Peters, Janice Boetsch, Lucy Ebbert, Shirley, Budge Walen, Chris, Sandy, Vicki Boetsch, Catherine G, Annabel, Virginia, Pam Kaler, Margery, Nick, Stephanie, Kyle R.

**February Birthdays:** Susan Such (2), Cathy Harrell (6), Barbara Lawrence (11), Ronald Zdrojeski (11), Sarah Groman (18), Teague Buchanan (21), Isa Babb (28), Rachel Bok-Goldman (28), Virginia Johns (29)

**Diocese Cycle of Prayer:** St. David's, Kennebunk; and for our siblings in common mission in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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

### **Sunday, February 2:**

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (*Coffee Hour Follows*)

4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (*Lady Chapel*)

5:00 p.m. Young Families invited for pizza and conversation (*Parish Hall*)

### **Wednesday, February 5:**

11:00 a.m. Bible Study (*online*)

### **Sunday, February 9:**

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (*Coffee Hour Follows*)

4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (*Lady Chapel*)

## ***Upcoming:***

### **Sunday February 16:**

9:30 a.m. service of Morning Prayer and Sermon

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

**Church Staff and Parish Officers**

**Kayla Clay, Parish Administrator**  
[admin@stthomascamdenme.org](mailto:admin@stthomascamdenme.org)  
Office: 207-236-3680

**The Rev. Paul Briggs, Interim Rector**  
[interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org](mailto: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*  
Anne Rogers-Popejoy, *Vestry Clerk*

Online Donation Options: Scan the QR Code below or click the Donate Button on our website ([www.stthomascamden.org](http://www.stthomascamden.org))



**venmo**



**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church**

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

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