

# The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 31, 2025

10 a.m.

## The Holy Eucharist Rite Two

*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 visitor card found in the pew and give to an usher or place in the offering plate.*

### Prelude

#### Entrance Hymn 376

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

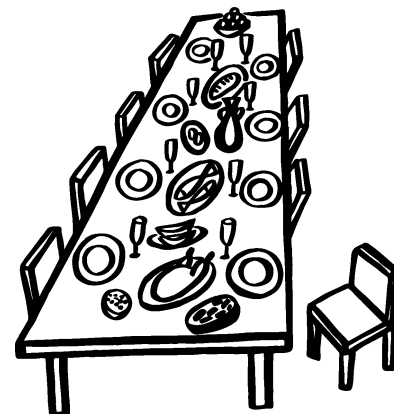
*Hymn to joy*

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach — us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.



## Opening Acclamation (BCP p. 355)

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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

*People*

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

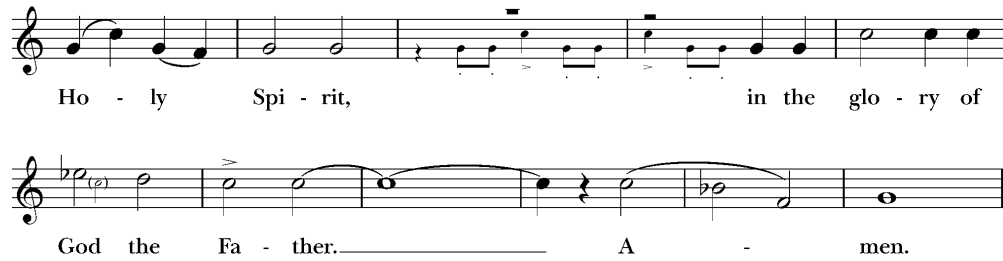
*The Celebrant may say*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*As we sing the Gloria, those participating in Children's Chapel may make their way forward.*



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-  
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,  
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;  
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-  
ceive our prayer. 6. For  
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the



*The Celebrant says to the congregation*

Will you pray for these young people and chaplains as they hear and receive God's Word?

*People*

**We will.**

*The Celebrant then says to the chapel participants*

Will you pray for us as we hear and receive God's Word?

*Chapel Participants*

**We will.**

*Celebrant*

The Lord be with you.

*People*

**And also with you.**

*Celebrant*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*Amen.*

*Deacon*

Go in peace.

## The Lessons

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Ecclesiasticus [10:12-18]

<sup>12</sup>The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord;  
the heart has withdrawn from its Maker.

<sup>13</sup>For the beginning of pride is sin,  
and the one who clings to it pours out abominations.

Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities,  
and destroys them completely.

<sup>14</sup>The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers,  
and enthrones the lowly in their place.

<sup>15</sup>The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations,  
and plants the humble in their place.

<sup>16</sup>The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations,  
and destroys them to the foundations of the earth.

<sup>17</sup>He removes some of them and destroys them,  
and erases the memory of them from the earth.

<sup>18</sup>Pride was not created for human beings,  
or violent anger for those born of women.

*Reader*

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 112

*Remain seated.*

Robert Knox Kennedy  
(b. 1945)



<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
and have great delight in his commandments!

<sup>2</sup>Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
and their righteousness will last for ever.

<sup>4</sup>Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup>For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the Lord.

<sup>8</sup>Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

<sup>10</sup>The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \*  
the desires of the wicked will perish.

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews [13:1-8, 15-16]

<sup>1</sup>Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." <sup>6</sup>So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper;  
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## Sequence Hymn 438

Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord

*Woodlands*

1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age the same;  
his holy Name—the Lord, the Mighty One.

4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!  
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore!

*Deacon*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke [14:1, 7-14]

*People*

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>1</sup>On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

<sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup>“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

*Deacon*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

### The Creed

*All stand.*

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,**

and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

*All remain standing.*

O Lord our God, grant that we might see the majesty of your glory in our lives and hear our prayers as we say. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lead your church into humility and may her leaders be first her servants, seeking only and always to glorify you in their lives.  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us selfless civil leaders who are zealous for truth, justice, and mercy and whose efforts build up the whole community and bring people together.  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Embolden us to make the difficult choices to ensure the continued abundance of your Creation.  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Make us good neighbors and open our eyes to see you in the eyes of those we encounter, that together we might build a community where everyone can thrive and live into their potential.  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give peace and strength to those who are sick and injured or who endure suffering in all its myriad forms. Especially we lift up all those on our prayer list and those we now name...  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant the dead entrance into your eternal embrace and grant us also to enter and join them there when we leave this world.  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Glory, through your Son, you have showed us the strength of your love, grant that we might follow in His path and continue his ministry until His return; through the same Son, our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever. **Amen.**

*Prayers for birthdays, anniversaries, travel may be offered.*

## Confession of Sin

*The Deacon says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*All stand.*

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	<b>And also with you.</b>

## The Holy Communion



*Necessary announcements may be made; the people may be seated.*

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

*All stand and sing.*

**Offertory Hymn 598**

Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth

*Mit Freuden zart*

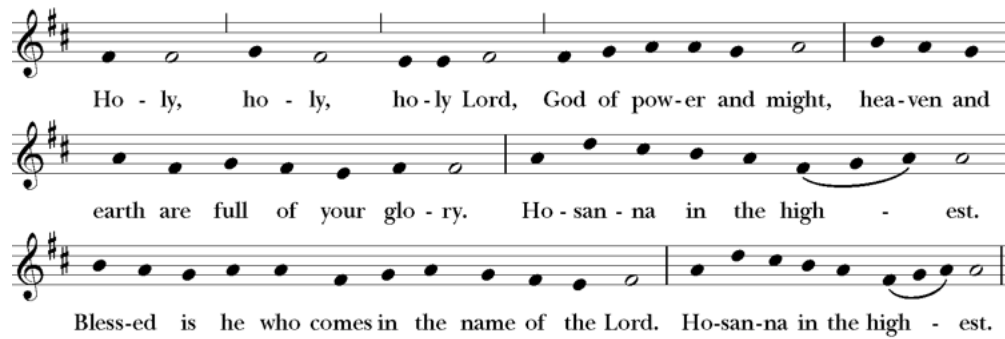
## The Great Thanksgiving

*The People remain standing.*

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	<b>And also with you.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	<b>We lift them to the Lord.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	<b>It is right to give him thanks and praise.</b>

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



*The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

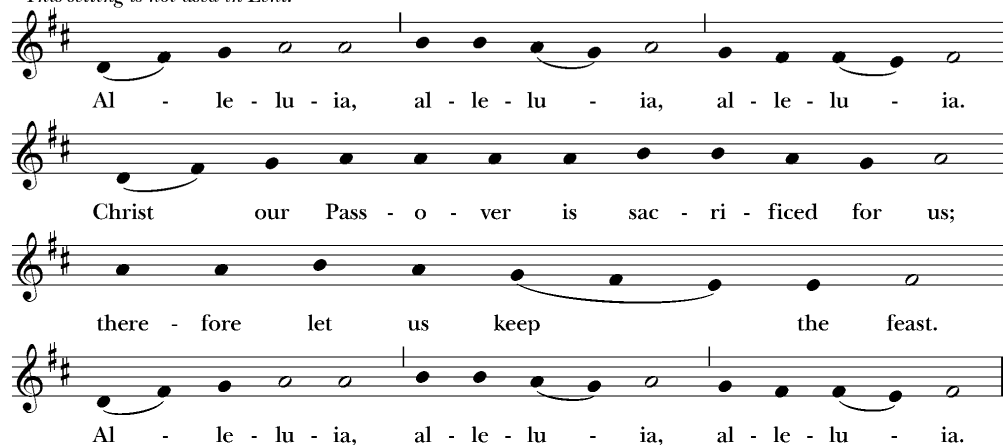
**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**



## The Breaking of the Bread

*This setting is not used in Lent.*



*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## The Communion

*This is God's table, all are welcome. Gluten-free wafers are available; ask the priest when you come to the altar rail. You can request that Communion be brought to your pew by letting an usher know.*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**God of abundance,  
you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us  
with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth  
in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever  
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## Blessing

Life is short,  
and we do not have much time  
to gladden the hearts of those who  
make the journey with us.  
So, be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.  
And the blessing of the triune God,  
who loves us, and who travels with us  
be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the  
 2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the  
 3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a  
 \*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to  
 5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is  
 2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and  
 3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
 4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner  
 5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.  
 2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!  
 3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
 4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.  
 5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*From riteplanning.com. Copyright © 2025 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.*

*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*

## Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Deacon: The Rev. Kristen Burkholder

Guest Organist: Jim Swist

Eucharistic Minister: Benjy Lowry, Bobby Purkey

Reader: Donovan Bowley, B.S.G.

Prayers of the People: Benjy Lowry

Usher: Jim Ebbert, Lucy Ebbert

## People in our Prayers

**Healing:** Dorothy Foltz-Gray, Mike Moore, David Bridges, Kathy Bridges, Donald, Diana Mohr, Gwen, Charles Lewis, Jeanie, Timothy Jackson, Catherine, Gay Schueler, Kristina Shea, Tony, Mya Delisle, Andrew Moran, Donovan, Debra and Amy, Ned and Kathleen Bachus, Anna and her child Brody, Ruth Tolman, Helene, John, Phyllis, Michael, Bob, Sylvia, Marlene, Percy, Joan Grey, Cathy, James, Ken, Joseph, Kelli McGuire, Jo Panayotoff, Joyce S, Jan Schaefer, Christine & Paul M, Jason, Kristen, Jeanie, Cathie, Brian, Bob S., Gary P., Timothy Darling, Leah, Sandy, Ezra, Chris Strazzulla, Fr. Tom Pike, Evie Bridges, Luke Morelli, Tim Peters, Janice Boetsch, Lucy Ebbert, Shirley, Budge Walen, Chris, Vicki Boetsch, Catherine G, Annabel, Pam Kaler, Margery, Stephanie, Kyle R.

**Repose of the soul of:** Fredrick Chatfield

**Thanksgiving for the Blessing of the Marriage of:** William and Kristen Bardon

**September Birthdays:** Pam Bardon (4), Deborah Whittaker (7), Diane Purkey (12), Lucy Ebbert (17), Ruth Tolman (18), Evie Bridges (19)

**Diocese Cycle of Prayer:** St. George's, York Harbor, St. Michael's, Auburn, For all who labor and for all who seek the dignity of meaningful employment

## This Week at St. Thomas'

### Sunday, August 31:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II (*Coffee Hour follows in Parish Hall*)  
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (*Lady Chapel*)

### Monday, September 1:

Parish Office closed in observance of Labor Day

### Wednesday, September 3:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Healing  
11:00 a.m. Bible Study (*online*)

### Sunday, September 7:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II (*Coffee Hour follows in Parish Hall*)  
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (*Lady Chapel*)

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

**Personal hygiene items** are being received through 9/7 to benefit middle school students in the Camden Rockport area.

### Upcoming:

Saturday, September 20, 5 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Comfort Food Dinner (Fundraiser for Outreach Ministries)  
Sunday, September 21, 9 a.m., All-Parish Pancake Breakfast to kickoff our 2026 Pledge Drive: "Tell out my soul!"  
Sunday, September 27, 4 p.m., "Paris in Camden"—Organ Concert with Jim Higdon (Fundraiser for Music Ministry)

### **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. Kristen Burkholder, Deacon  
[deacon@stthomascamdenme.org](mailto:deacon@stthomascamdenme.org)  
(207) 322-7816

The Rev. Dr. Rosalee Glass, *Deacon Emeritus*  
Tony Coyne, *Sexton*  
Elizabeth Moran, *Senior Warden*  
Br. Donovan Bowley, BSG, *Junior Warden*  
Terry Mello, *Treasurer*  
Anne Rogers-Popejoy, *Vestry Clerk*



**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church**

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

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