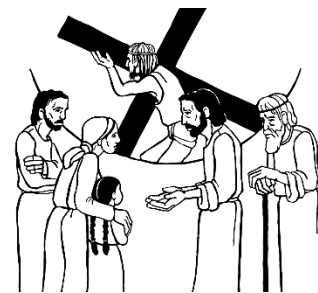


The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 7, 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 423

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

St. Denio

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

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.

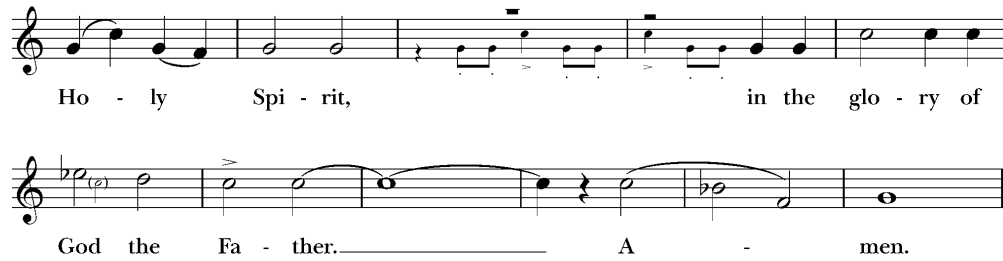
The Celebrant may say

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.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ 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 the book of Deuteronomy [30:15-20]

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1

Remain seated.

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



- ¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- ²Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- ³They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- ⁴It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- ⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- ⁶For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

A Reading from Paul's letter to Philemon [1-21]

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

Descant

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Ai - a nō e loa'a ke a - lo - ha

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Ai - a nō e loa'a ke a - lo - ha

u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.
Ai - a nō e loa'a ke A - kua nō.

u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.
Ai - a nō e loa'a ke A - kua nō.

*Translation: Where true charity and love abide, God is there.**All stand.**Deacon*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke [14:25-33]

*People***Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

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.

Most loving and glorious God, hear us we implore you and act speedily to answer our prayers as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You have blessed your church across time with leaders of true faith, grant your church today wisdom and discernment that we might effectively share the good news of Jesus.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us wisdom to choose leaders of integrity, and also the courage and resolve to hold them accountable to their responsibility to build a nation where all people might thrive and know their dignity as God's created children.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All our truest needs are provided by you. Open our minds and hearts to see the abundance of your creation and to boldly embrace policies that ensure no basic needs go unmet.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill our hearts with the love of one another as brothers and sisters in Christ and to see and be inspired by the Christ which dwells in each of us, so that together we might boldly be Christ's loving body in a hurting world.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We ask healing for all who suffer, and we ask that we might be people of healing and reconciliation to those in need in our lives. Especially we pray for those we name at this time.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We are surrounded by the great cloud of witnesses who have been the lights of the world in their time. Grant us to follow in their example and welcome us into your eternal loving presence when it is our time to leave this earth.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Most gracious Father, from the beginning you have sought to lead us into the joy possible to us through life in You. Aid us and be present with us that we might walk in the path of Jesus and live into his example. All these we offer through Christ, our Lord and highest allegiance, who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reign always and 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.

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

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)

Offertory Hymn 305

Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest

Rosedale

1. Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest;
nay, let us be thy guests; the feast is thine;
thyself at thine own board make manifest
in thine own Sacrament of Bread and Wine.

2. We meet, as in that upper room they met;
thou at the table, blessing, yet dost stand:
"This is my Body"; so thou givest yet:
faith still receives the cup as from thy hand.

3. One body we, one Body who partake,
one Church united in communion blest;
one Name we bear, one Bread of life we break,
with all thy saints on earth and saints at rest.

4. One with each other, Lord, for one in thee,
who art one Savior and one living Head;
then open thou our eyes, that we may see;
be known to us in breaking of the Bread.

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

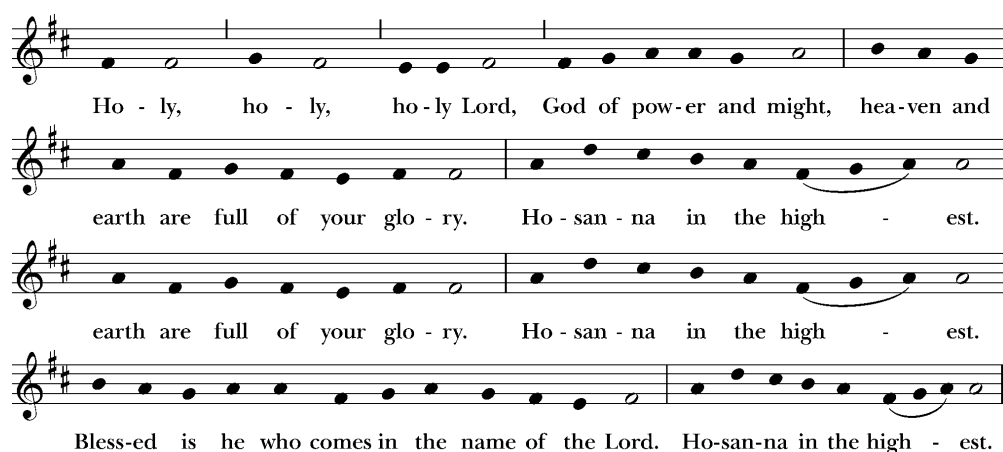
<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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.*

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.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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.**

Hymn 521

Put forth, O God, thy Spirit's might

Chelsea Square

1. Put forth, O God, thy Spirit's might
and bid thy Church increase,
in breadth and length, in depth and height,
her unity and peace.

2. Let works of darkness disappear
before thy conquering light;
let hatred and tormenting fear
pass with the passing night.

3. Let what apostles learned of thee
be ours from age to age;
their steadfast faith our unity,
their peace our heritage.

4. O Judge divine of human strife!
O Vanquisher of pain!
To know thee is eternal life,
to serve thee is to reign.

People Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs
Deacon: The Rev. Kristen Burkholder
Guest Organist: Jim Swist
Eucharistic Minister: Bill Freeman, Dean Jackson
Reader: Kate Jackson
Prayers of the People: Bill Freeman
Usher: Bobby Purkey, Diane Purkey

People in our Prayers

Healing: Br. Richard Biernacki BSG, Dorothy Foltz-Gray, David Bridges, Kathy Bridges, Donald, Diana Mohr, Gwen, Charles Lewis, Jeanie, Timothy Jackson, Catherine, Gay Schueler, Kristina Shea, Tony, Mya Delisle, Andrew Moran, 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, 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: Rosalind Bowley

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, Sanford, For Christian Education programs, For the reverent care of all creation

This Week at St. Thomas'

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*)

Wednesday, September 10:

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

Sunday, September 14:

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.

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)

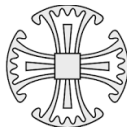
Church Staff and Parish Officers

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The Rev. Kristen Burkholder, Deacon
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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

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