



The Second Sunday after Christmas Day

Sunday, January 4, 2026 9:30 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist Rite One

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.

Entrance Hymn 93

Angels, from the realms of glory

Regent Square

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;
beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scand - ing,

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
ye have seen his shall ap - pear:
in his tem - ple

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
ye have seen his shall ap - pear:
in his tem - ple

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Opening Acclamation (BCP p. 323)

The people standing, the Celebrant says

People

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.

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

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The following is sung, all standing

S 201

Glory be to God

Merbecke

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah [31:7-14]

⁷Thus says the LORD:

“Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob.”

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations:

proclaim, give praise, and say,

‘Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel.’

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, ‘He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.’

¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,’
says the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 84

Remain seated.

¹How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

²The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.

³Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.

⁴Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims’ way.

⁵Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

⁶They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

⁷LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
⁸Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
⁹For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
¹⁰For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
¹¹No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
¹²O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus [1:3-6, 15-19a]

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ^{19a}and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN 98

All stand.

Unto us a boy is born

Puer nobis nascitur

1 Un - to us a boy is born! The King of all cre -
2 Cra - dled in a stall was he with sleep - y cows and
3 He - rod then with fear was filled; "A prince," he said, "in
4 Now may Ma - ry's son, who came so long a - go to
*5 Un - to us a boy is born! The King of all cre -

1 a - tion, came he to a world for - lorn, the
2 ass - es; but the ve - ry beasts could see that
3 Jew - ry!" All the lit - tle boys he killed at
4 love us, lead us all with hearts a - flame un -
5 a - tion, came he to a world for - lorn, the

1 Lord of ev - ery na - - - - - tion.
2 he all men sur - pass - - - - - es.
3 Beth - lehem in his fu - - - - - ry.
4 to the joys a - bove - - - - - us.
5 Lord of ev - ery na - - - - - tion.

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [2:13-15, 19-23]
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

¹³ After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.”

¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O 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.

Intercessor

Raising our voices in proclamation and praise, let us rejoice as we offer our prayers to God, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

In thanksgiving for the peacemakers who toil in troubled lands, and in families of discontent, that the Prince of Peace may give them words of wisdom as they seek to encourage new means of communication and the mending of relationships; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for those who bring treasures to the poor and needy of the world, offering precious gifts of hope to God's fragile people; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who exercise leadership throughout our Church, that they may bear in their actions the love of Christ, enlightening the hearts of those who have a hidden faith, and strengthening those of a weak spirit; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For Donald, our President, members of our legislative bodies, and those who serve on the Supreme Court, that they may honor our historic inheritance and take us along new pathways in the service of bettering our nation; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have died in the noonday of their lives, and for parents who grieve the loss of children, that they may be comforted by the Father of us all, whose only Son was not spared an early death; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life, remembering those who have been our mentors and teachers, and through whose companionship we have experienced the riches of divine grace; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

As God's adopted children, through the will of Jesus Christ, let us add to these prayers and thanksgivings.

Special intentions of the congregation, the diocese, and the Anglican Communion may be added here.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

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

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

**For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;**

that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion



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

The people stand as the offerings are brought forward. Online Offerings: Scan the QR Code or click the Donate Button on our website (www.stthomascamden.org)

Offertory Hymn 324

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Picardy

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them up unto the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - - - ly, Lord God of

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full____ of thy glo - ry. Glo - - -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed____ is he that com - eth - - -

____ in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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

S164

Jesus Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

Franz Peter Schubert

The musical score consists of three staves of music in G major, common time, and 2/4 time. The top staff is for the soprano voice, the middle staff for the alto voice, and the bottom staff for the basso continuo. The music is divided into three sections with lyrics:

- Jesus Lamb of God:** The lyrics are "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us." The music features a simple harmonic progression with eighth-note chords.
- Agnus Dei:** The lyrics are "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us." The music continues the simple harmonic progression.
- Jesus, re - deem - er:** The lyrics are "Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:" The music concludes with a final cadence.



The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The priest blesses the people

Hymn 117

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning

Morning Star

1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morning,
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing,
 3 Shall we then yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple o - bla - tion,
 5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,

1 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;
 2 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
 3 o - dors of E - dom, and of - ferings di - vine,
 4 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure,
 5 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;

1 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorm - ing,
 2 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing.
 3 gems of the moun - tain, and pearls of the o - cean,
 4 rich - er by far is the heart's a - dor - a - tion,
 5 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorm - ing,

1 guide where our infant Re-deemer is laid.
 2 Ma-ker and Mon-arch and Sa-vior of all.
 3 myrrh from the for-est, and gold from the mine?
 4 dear-er to God are the prayers of the poor.
 5 guide where our infant Re-deemer is laid.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

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

Thank you to Jan Gilley for loaning her icons of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, and Christ the Pantocrator for the Christmas Season.

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs
 Deacon: The Rev. Kristen Burkholder
 Pianist: Lizzie Danchi
 Eucharistic Ministers: Pam Bardon, Dean Jackson
 Readers: Kate Jackson, Sue Foltz
 Prayers of the People: Pam Bardon
 Ushers: Bobby Purkey and Diane Purkey

People in our Prayers

Healing: Bill, Jan, Marieda Hunt, Patrick Coleman, Jan L., Miriam, The Nisbet Family, Wendy, Jeff, Sandra Covington, Peter Walker, Br. Richard Biernacki BSG, Jeff, David Bridges, Kathy Bridges, Donald, Diana Mohr, Gwen, Charles Lewis, Jeanie, Timothy Jackson, Catherine, 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, Jo Panayotoff, Joyce S, Jan Schaefer, Christine & Paul M, Jason, Kristen, Jeanie, Cathie, Brian, Bob S., Gary P., Gay Schueler, Pat Medley, 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, Anne Crawford Collins

January Birthdays: Ronan Popejoy (1), Eric Gabrielsen (1), Grayce Sivigny (2), Ed Williamson (8), Tom Pike (10), Robbie Lewis (11), Esme Black (13), Jan Conrad (18), Patricia Hopkins (20), Christine Zdrojeski (20), John Lewis (30)

Diocese Cycle of Prayer: St. Thomas', Camden, Christ Church, Norway, St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry in Portland

This Week at St. Thomas'

Sunday, January 4:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (*Coffee Hour follows in Parish Hall*)
The CAT (Congregational Assessment Tool) Survey is now live through January 28.

Online, paper copies available upon request
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (*Lady Chapel*)

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

Upcoming:

January 11:

Inquirer's Classes begin following the 9:30 a.m. Liturgy

January 25:

Annual Parish Meeting following 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

Church Staff and Parish Officers

Kayla Clay, Parish Administrator
admin@stthomascamdenme.org
Office: 207-236-3680

The Rev. Paul Briggs, Interim Rector
interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org
(860) 384-9193

The Rev. Kristen Burkholder, Deacon
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