



The Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 8, 2026 9:30 a.m.

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.

The ministers enter in silence

Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.
People **His mercy endureth for ever.**

The Celebrant says

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 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.*

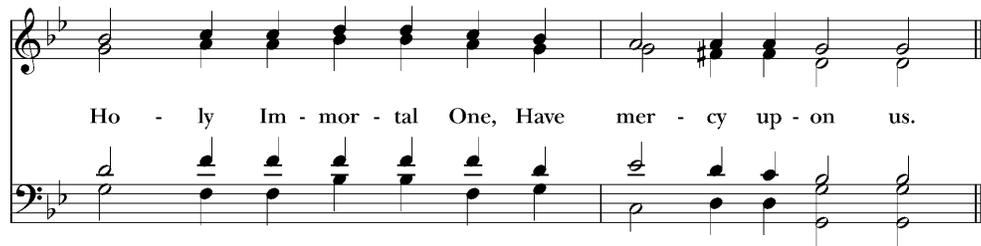
Children's Chapel participants come forward as the following is sung:

Hymn S 102

Holy God

Archangelsky

Musical notation for the hymn 'Holy God'. It features a treble clef and a bass clef. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,'. The notation includes various note values and rests, with some notes beamed together.



Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Exodus [17:1-7]

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 95

Remain seated.

- ¹**Come, let us sing to the LORD; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.**
- ²**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**
- ³**For the LORD is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.**
- ⁴**In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.**
- ⁵**The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.**
- ⁶**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.**
- ⁷**For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**
- ⁸**Harden not your hearts,
as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.**

⁹They put me to the test, *
 though they had seen my works.
¹⁰Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
 “This people are wayward in their hearts;
 they do not know my ways.”
¹¹So I swore in my wrath, *
 “They shall not enter into my rest.”

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome [5:1-11]

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Sequence Hymn 686

Come, thou fount of every blessing

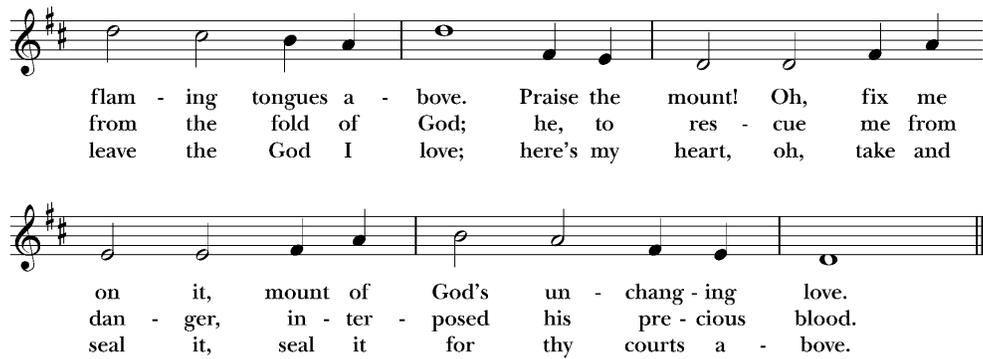
All stand.

1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly

heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a

ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and
 on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke [10:25-37]

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Trinity Church Mission Team

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

Deacon or presider

Heavenly God, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son. Accept and fulfill our petitions, as we pray in Christ's name, saying: "Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer."

Intercessor

We offer prayer for the Christian Church, here and in every place. May your people, O God, remain receptive to your Spirit, even when hard-pressed by fears and doubts of many kinds. Keep us all in the one communion of saints, companions of the pilgrim's way. We pray for our bishop, Thomas, and all members of your Church.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We offer prayer for the world's leaders, as they seek peace. Give us strength and courage, O God, to act and speak out on behalf of those who have no voice. Help us to see the resources that we have to oppose injustice, particularly through those who represent us in government, and give us the will to act.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We offer prayer for the pain we see daily in the world. Help us to keep our hearts tender, sensitive to the pain and sorrow of others. Touch our hearts with your Spirit, so that we may become like you, O God of mercy. Give us grace, that we may reveal you in all our actions.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We offer prayer for the concerns of this community. Help us to encourage one another and teach us to appreciate simple faith and youthful enthusiasm. May the boldness of others inspire us to act on your behalf.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We offer prayer for those who face violence or family upheaval; for those injured or bereaved by sudden disaster; for those whose struggle is not against outward circumstances but against disappointment, envy, frustrated ambition, or lack of security and love. We pray for those who are ill and for those who suffer, especially those we name before you now, silently or aloud.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We thank you, Lord, for friends and families near and far, and for all the blessings of this life, naming them now before you, silently or aloud

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We thank you, Lord, for your victory over death, and we gladly remember those who have gone before, who stood by us, who cheered us by their sympathy and strengthened us by their example. We pray for those who have died [including those we name silently or aloud

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Presider

O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength. By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

If any one sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

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



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 343

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

St. Agnes

Musical score for Offertory Hymn 343, featuring a treble and bass clef staff with lyrics. The music is in G major and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen; 2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy; 3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not; 4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy. The second system continues: pil - grim flock with man - na in the; word of grace, in strength of which we; then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with; and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that.



The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

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

Sanctus 124

Celebrant and People



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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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,

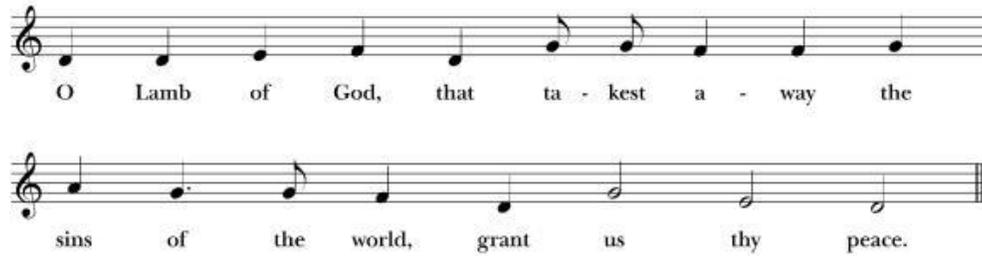
People and Celebrant

**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

Fraction Anthem S 157

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

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 Deacon says

Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel and the Celebrant says

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

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

- Listening Session Sign-up
- Return to two services
- Holy Week

1 Sing - ing songs of ex - pec - ta - tion, on - ward
 2 One the light of God's own pres - ence, o'er his
 3 One the strain the lips of thou - sands lift as

goes the pil - grim band, through the night of
 ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the
 from the heart of one; one the con - flict,

doubt and sor - row, march - ing to the prom - ised land.
 gloom and ter - ror, bright - ening all the path we tread:
 one the per - il, one the march in God be - gun:

Clear be - fore us through the dark - ness gleams and
 one the ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the
 one the glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the

burns the guid - ing light: trust - ing God we
 faith which nev - er tires, one the ear - nest
 far e - ter - nal shore, where the one al -

march to - geth - er step - ping fear - less through the night.
 look - ing for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.
 might - y Fa - ther reigns in love for ev - er - more.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

From riteplanning.com. Copyright © 2026 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: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Deacon: The Rev. Kristen Burkholder

Pianist: Lizzie Danchi

Eucharistic Minister: Shelly Gallender, Benjy Lowry

Readers: Sue Foltz, Donovan Bowley

Prayers of the People: Benjy Lowry

Ushers: Dean Jackson, Cheryl White

People in our Prayers

Healing: Mary Mitchell, Morgan Forster, Kate Pinson, Karen Nolan, Tim C., 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, Shirley, Budge Walen, Chris, Vicki Boetsch, Catherine G, Annabel, Pam Kaler, Margery, Stephanie, Helen Russell

March Birthdays: Mike Moore (5), Kristen Burkholder (5), Andrew Moran (6), Paul Briggs (9), Joe Kulick (14), Jamie Popejoy (17), Terry Mello (19), Benjy Lowry (27)

Diocese Cycle of Prayer: St. Augustine's, Dover-Foxcroft, For those struggling with addiction

This Week at St. Thomas'

The Third Sunday in Lent, March 8:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (*Coffee Hour follows in Parish Hall*)
Trinity Mission Team Presentation
Inquirer's Classes following 9:30 a.m. Liturgy (*Conference Room*)
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (*Lady Chapel*)

Tuesday, March 10:

5:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting (*Conference Room*)

Wednesday, March 11:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Prayer
11:00 a.m. Bible Study on Zoom (*Contact Donvan Bowley for link*)

Friday, March 13:

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Listening Session (*Conference Room*)

Saturday, March 14:

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - Listening Session (*Conference Room*)
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Listening Session (*Conference Room*)

The Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 15:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (*Coffee Hour follows in Parish Hall*)
Inquirer's Classes following 9:30 a.m. Liturgy (*Church*)
11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. - Listening Session (*Conference Room*)
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (*Lady Chapel*)

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

Upcoming:

March 29

8:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Liturgy, begins in Church
10:00 Palm Sunday Liturgy, begins in Parish Hall

April 1

9:30 a.m. Eucharist with Healing Prayer (*Chapel*)

April 2

5:30 p.m. Agape Meal (*in Parish Hall*)
6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Liturgy (*in Church*)

April 3

12 noon Good Friday Ecumenical Service at Chestnut Street Baptist Church

April 4

9:00 a.m. Holy Saturday Liturgy
7:30 p.m. THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

April 5

8:00 a.m. Easter Day Liturgy
10:00 a.m. Easter Day Liturgy

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*

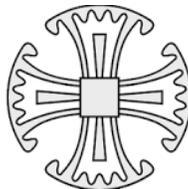
Tony Coyne, *Sexton*

Elizabeth Moran, *Senior Warden*

Benjy Lowry, *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