



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Morning Prayer

Sunday, April 26, 2026

10:00 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.

Entrance Hymn 180

He is risen, he is risen

Unser Herrscher

1 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! Tell it out with
 2 Come, ye sad and fear - ful - heart - ed, with glad smile and
 *3 Come, with high and ho - ly hymn - ing, hail our Lord's tri -
 4 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! He hath o - pened

joy - ful voice: he has burst his three days' pris - on;
 ra - dian't brow! Death's long sha - dows have de - part - ed;
 um - phant day; not one dark - some cloud is dim - ming
 hea - ven's gate: we are free from sin's dark pris - on,

let the whole wide earth re - jice: death is con - quered,
 Je - sus' woes are o - ver now, and the pas - sion
 yon - der glo - rious morn - ing ray, break - ing o'er the
 ris - en to a ho - lier state; and a bright - er

we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.
 that he bore— sin and pain can vex no more.
 pur - ple east, sym - bol of our Eas - ter feast.
 Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

Opening Sentence

The Officiant says

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. *Psalm 118:24*

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

**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 Officiant remains kneeling and says

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

The Invitatory and Psalter

All stand

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

WLP 880

Christ our Passover

Pascha Nostrum

Descant

3. In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead:

1. God's Pas - chal Lamb is sac - ri - ficed for us;
2. Now Christ is raised and will not die a - gain;
3. In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead:

though Ad - am's sin had doomed all flesh to die, in

There - fore with joy we keep the Eas - ter feast; for -
 death has no more do - min - ion o - ver him; Through
 though Ad - am's sin had doomed all flesh to die, in

Christ's new life shall all be made a - live. Al -

sak - ing sin, we share the bread of truth. Al -
 him we die to sin and live to God. Al -
 Christ's new life shall all be made a - live. Al -

le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!
 le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!
 le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

The people sit.

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

³He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles [2:42-47]

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 417

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain

Festival Canticle

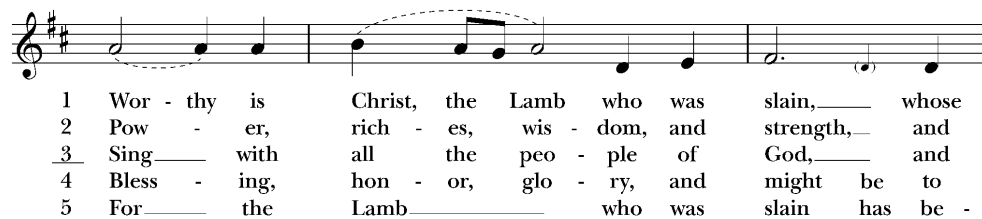
Antiphon



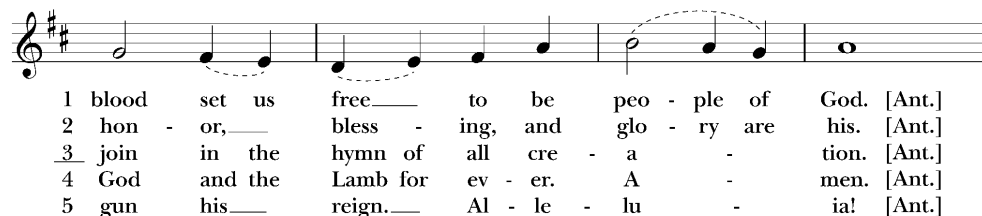
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

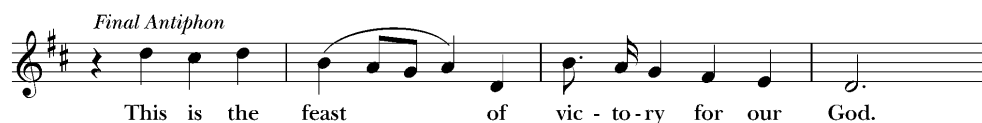


1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



1 blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. [Ant.]
2 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. [Ant.]
3 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion. [Ant.]
4 God and the Lamb for ev - er. A - men. [Ant.]
5 gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Final Antiphon



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The people sit.

A Reading from the First letter of Peter [2:19-25]

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²"He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Hymn S280

Glory to God (Canticle 20)

Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty 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



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The people sit.

A Reading from the Gospel of John [10:1-10]

Jesus said, ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

The Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

The people stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. **And grant us your salvation.**
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Prayers for Birthday, Anniversary, Travel may be offered.

Announcements

The congregation may be seated.



Online Offerings: Scan the QR Code or click the Donate Button on our website
(www.stthomascamdenme.org)

1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
 2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
 learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,

for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
 with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
 Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
 we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
 for all your goodness and loving-kindness
 to us and to all whom you have made.
 We bless you for our creation, preservation,
 and all the blessings of this life;
 but above all for your immeasurable love
 in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
 for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
 And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
 that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
 not only with our lips, but in our lives,
 by giving up our selves to your service,
 and by walking before you
 in holiness and righteousness all our days;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14

Hymn 646

The King of love my shepherd is

Dominus regit me

Descant

6 And so through all the length of days thy

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my
* 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but
* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with
5 Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy

6 good - ness fail - eth nev - er: Good Shep-herd, may I

1 good - ness fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
2 ran - somed soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
3 yet in love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
4 thee, dear Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
5 unc - tion grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port

6 sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
2 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
3 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
4 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
5 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!

6 And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

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Liturgical Ministers

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Rosalee Glass
Officiant: Sarah Groman
Pianist: Lizzie Danchi
Readers: Benjy Lowry, Gwen Prosser
Ushers: Dean Jackson, Phil Groman

People in our Prayers

Healing: Amanda, Wayne B., Mary Mitchell, Morgan Forster, Fred McLaughlin, 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

April Birthdays: Carol Freebairn (2), Susan Stopper (12), Kate Jackson (12), Freida Cotton (13), Jean Cox (19), Sally Ann Williamson (21), Kelli McGuire (22), Michelle Gabrielsen (22), Vicki Boetsch (25), Suzanne Thomas (26), Jim Ebbert (26), Dwayne Robinson (28), John Mattern (28), Vitali Chompyska (28)

Died: Joyce Cannon, The Rev. Bruce Freeman, Michael Wurzel

Diocese Cycle of Prayer: St. Giles, Jefferson, Trinity, Saco, For Mainers who are food insecure

This Week at St. Thomas'

Wednesday, April 29:

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

The Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 3:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II (*Coffee hour follows in Parish Hall*)

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

Upcoming

5/1-5/3 **Work Weekend** for adults and families at Camp Bishopswood. Lodging and meals are provided. More details and registration available at <http://www.bishopswood.org>

5/3-5/5 Dcn. Burkholder and Fr. Briggs will be attending the Diocese of Maine Clergy Conference from the afternoon of May 3-5. Your prayers are appreciated.

5/11 3 p.m. **Worship & Arts: Planning for Summer** via Zoom. Please contact Fr. Briggs interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org for background material to read before the meeting and to receive a Zoom link.

5/12 12 noon **Kneelers and Brown Bag Lunch**. Conversation about the heritage, care, and cleaning of our kneelers. Conference Room.

5/14 5:30 p.m. **Ascension Day Eucharist and Potluck**. Weather permitting, we will celebrate the Eucharist outside and then go inside for supper by 5:45 p.m. Bring a favorite main dish, salad, or dessert to share.

5/18 11 a.m. **All Souls' Memorial Garden Committee** will meet for their Annual Meeting. If you would like information about our Memorial Garden, contact Sarah Groman, Lucy Ebbert, Anne Rogers Popejoy, Sandy Lyle, or Paul Briggs.

5/24 **The Day of Pentecost (Whitsunday)**. We will have Holy Eucharist on this day to celebrate this major feast and the conclusion of Easter season. (Normally we would have Morning Prayer, since this is the fourth Sunday of the month). Contact Cheryl Reif clreif280@gamil.com if you would like to read the Gospel in a language other than English on this day at 8 a.m. or 10 a.m.

5/30 or 5/31 11:00 am–3:00 pm **Bring-a-Friend Day** at Camp Bishopswood (98 Bishopswood Road in Hope) Bring a friend, grandparent, or someone you love and spend the day at camp. Enjoy tours, archery, and time at the waterfront. Pack a picnic lunch and make a day of it. <http://www.bishopswood.org>

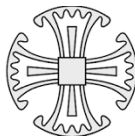
Church Staff and Parish Officers

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Tony Coyne, *Sexton*
Elizabeth Moran, *Senior Warden*
Benjy Lowry, *Junior Warden*
Terry Mello, *Treasurer*
Anne Rogers-Popejoy, *Vestry Clerk*



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