



The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 10, 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.

Prelude: Recorder Consort: Gavotte

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

Entrance Hymn 409

The spacious firmament on high

Creation

Unison or harmony

1 The spa - cious fir - ma - ment on high,
 2 Soon as the eve - ning shades pre - vail,
 3 What though in sol - emn si - lence all

with all the blue e - ther - cal sky,
 the moon takes up the won - drous tale,
 move round the dark ter - res - trial ball?

and span - gled heavens, a shin - ing frame,
 and night - ly to the lis - tening earth
 What though no re - al voice nor sound

their great O - rig - i - nal pro - claim.
 re - peats the sto - ry of her birth:
 a - mid their ra - diant orbs be found?

The un - wea - ried sun from day to day
 whilst all the stars that round her burn,
 In rea - son's ear they all re - joice,

does his Cre - a - tor's power dis - play;
 and all the plan - ets in their turn,
 and ut - ter forth a glo - rious voice;

 and pub - lish - es to ev - ery land
 con - firm - the ti - dings, as they roll
 for - ev - er sing - ing, as they shine,

 the work of an al - might - y hand.
 and spread the truth from pole to pole.
 "The hand that made us is di - vine."

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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.*

S 280

Glory to God (Canticle 20)

Powell

The following is sung, all standing; children and chaplain may come 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 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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

Will you pray for these young people, etc.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The people sit.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles [17:22-31]

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people

everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 66: 7-18

Charles Villiers Stanford



7. Bless our | God, you | peoples; *
make the | voice of his | praise to be | heard;

8. Who holds our | souls in | life, *
and will not al | low our | feet to | slip.

9. For you, O | God, have | proved us; *
you have tried us | just as | silver is | tried.

10. You brought us | into the | snare; *
you laid heavy | burdens up | on our | backs.

11. You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through | fire and | water; *
but you brought us out | into a | place of re | freshment.

12. I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will | pay you my | vows, *
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my | mouth when I | was in | trouble.

13. I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the | smoke of | rams; *
I will | give you | oxen and | goats.

14. Come and listen, all | you who fear | God, *
and I will | tell you | what he has | done for me.

15. I called out to | him with my | mouth, *
and his | praise was | on my | tongue.

16. If I had found | evil in my | heart, *
the | Lord would | not have | heard me.

17. But in truth | God has | heard me; *
he has attended to the | voice | of my | prayer.

18. Blessed be God, who has not re | jected my | prayer, *
nor with | held his | love from | me.

The people sit.

A Reading from the First letter of Peter [3:13-22]

¹³Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with

gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

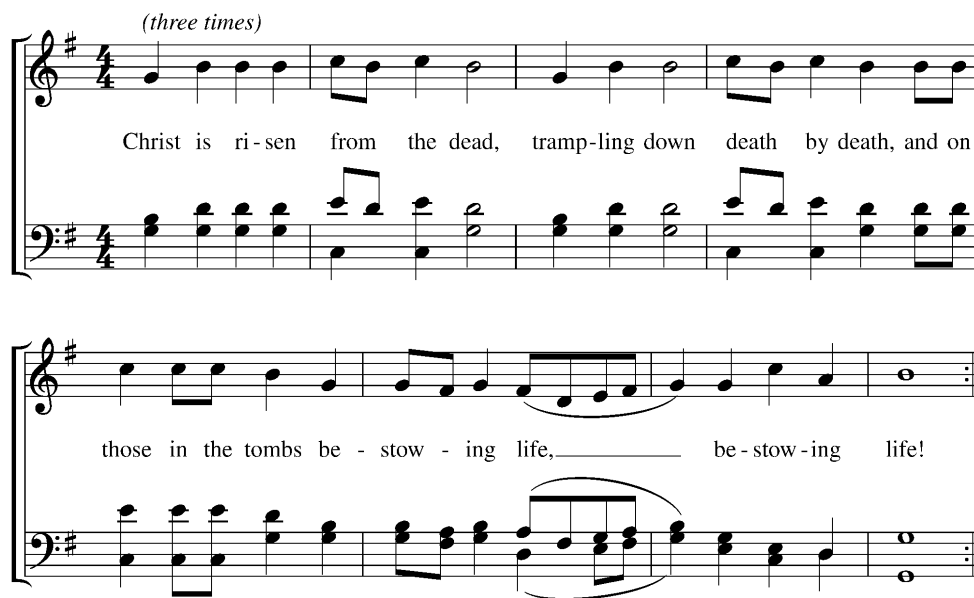
Sequence Hymn WLP 817

Christ is risen from the dead

Early American

All stand.

(three times)



All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John [14:15-21]
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[Jesus said,] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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.

Deacon

Let us thank God whom we worship here in the beauty of holiness.

Intercessor

Eternal God, the heaven of heavens cannot contain you, much less the walls of temples made with hands. Graciously receive our thanks for this place, and accept the work of our hands, offered to your honor and glory, we pray
We thank you, Lord.

For the Church universal and all those whom we serve, we pray
We thank you, Lord.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Thomas our bishop, for Paul and Kristen our parish clergy; for your presence whenever two or three have gathered together in your Name, we pray
We thank you, Lord.

For this place where we may be still and know that you are God, we pray
We thank you, Lord.

For making us your children by adoption and grace, and refreshing us day by day with the bread of life, we pray
We thank you, Lord.

For those in authority, for Donald our President, Janet our Governor, and Audra our Town Manager; for the knowledge of your will and the grace to perform it, we pray
We thank you, Lord.

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as you see best

for us, we pray
We thank you, Lord.

For the blessing of our vows and the crowning of our years with your goodness, we pray
We thank you, Lord.

For all the departed, for the faith of those who have gone before us and for our encouragement by their perseverance,
We thank you, Lord.

Presider

Almighty God, source of all good gifts, we are grateful for our many blessings that have been bestowed upon us, and desire to be faithful stewards of your bounty. Help us to step forward in faith and guide our hearts into generous giving so that this congregation may continue to be a place of peace, safety, renewal, and outreach to the glory of your name.
Amen.

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

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 292

O Jesus, crowned with all renown

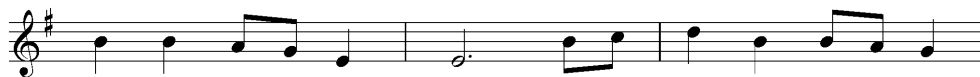
Kingsfold



1 O Je - sus, crowned with all re - nown, since thou the earth hast
2 Lord, in their change, let frost and heat, and winds and dews be
3 that we may feed the poor a - right, and, gath - ering round thy



trod, thou reign - est and by thee come down hence -
given; all fos - tering power, all in - fluence sweet, breathe
throne, here, in the ho - ly an - gels' sight, re -



forth the gifts of God. Thine is the health and
from the bount - eous heaven. At - tem - per fair with
pay thee of thine own: That we may praise thee



thine the wealth that in our halls a - bound, and
gen - tle air the sun - shine and the rain, that
all our days, and with the Fa - ther's Name, and

thine the beau - ty and the joy with which the years are crowned.
 kind - ly earth with time - ly birth may yield her fruits a - gain:
 with the Ho - ly Spi - rit's gifts, the Sa - vior's love pro - claim.

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Celebrant *People*
 The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
 It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

Sanctus S 128

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy

Mathias

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The People stand or kneel.

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.

The Celebrant continues

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.*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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 151

Christ our Passover

Peregrinus/Hurd

This setting is not used in Lent.

Cantor



All



Cantor

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

All

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. You may receive at the altar or at the Communion station by the pulpit. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the minister. Communion can be brought to your pew by letting an usher know. The following hymns are sung during the administration of Communion.

Recorder Consort Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks G.P. Da Palestrina (1525-1594)
So longeth my soul after thee, O God. Psalm 42:1

After Communion, all stand and the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Celebrant may bless the people.

Announcements

Hymn 705

As those of old their first fruits brought

Forest Green

Unison or harmony

1 As those of old their first fruits brought of vine - yard, flock, and
*2 A world in need now sum - mons us to la - bor, love, and
3 With grat - i - tude and hum - ble trust we bring our best to

field to God, the giv - er of all good, the
give; to make our life an of - fer - ing to
thee to serve thy cause and share thy love with

source of bount-eous yield; so we to - day our
 God that all may live; the Church of Christ is
 all hu - man - i - ty. O thou who gav - est

first fruits bring, the wealth of this good land, of
 call - ing us to make the dream come true: a
 us thys - elf in Je - sus Christ thy Son, help

farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind, and heart, and hand.
 world re - deemed by Christ - like love; all life in Christ made new.
 us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude: Recorder Consort: Two Villancicos: Dadme albricias & Hoy camamos

Juan del Eñcina (1468-1529)

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA and used by permission. The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Hymn permissions (including streaming music) in this Service obtained from ONE LICENSE: License #A-712382. All rights reserved

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Organist: Tony Antolini

Eucharistic Ministers: Bill Freeman, Derek Reed

Reader: Gwen Prosser

Prayers of the People: Bill Freeman

Ushers: Cheryl Reif, Cheryl White

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, 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., Corey & his mother, Heidi; Jane Schroeder, 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
May Birthdays: Jacqueline Recht (8), Phil Groman (9), Nancy Adams (11), Gay Schueler (14), Donovan Bowley (20), Faith Robinson (22), Susan Freeman (27), Pat Medley (29)

Diocese Cycle of Prayer: St. John's, Brownville Junction, For members of the Commission on Ministry, For the children in foster care

This Week at St. Thomas'

Wednesday, May 13:

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

The Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 17:

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

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 p.m. **Vestry Meeting** in 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.

5/16: 9 a.m. **Spring Clean-up Day at St. Thomas**; bring rake, hedge trimmer or other favorite garden tool. There will be doughnuts! Contact Bill Freeman williamfreeman@roadrunner.com

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 a.m.–3:00 p.m. **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>

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

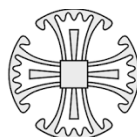
Church Staff and Parish Officers

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