

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 10, 2026 8:00 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.

The service may be found in The Book of Common Prayer page 323 and begins with the Easter acclamation

Opening Acclamation

page 323

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

The Collect of the Day

page 325

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

O God, who hast prepared for those who love thee such good things as pass man's understanding: Pour into our hearts such love toward thee, that we, loving thee in all things and above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 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

Remain seated.

⁷Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard,
⁸Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.
⁹For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
¹⁰You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
¹¹You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
¹²I 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.
¹³I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
¹⁴Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
¹⁵I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
¹⁶If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;
¹⁷But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
¹⁸Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld 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.

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John [14:15-21]

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

[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 be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Nicene Creed **page 327**

Prayer of the People III **page 387**

The Confession of Sin is omitted during the Easter Season

The Peace **page 332**

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer II) **page 340**

The Lord’s Prayer **page 336**

The Breaking of the Bread **page 337**

The Communion **page 337**

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.

Postcommunion Prayer **page 339**

Blessing and Dismissal

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Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Eucharistic Minister: Pam Bardon

Reader and Prayers of the People: TBD

Usher: Jan Lyle

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 and Healing Prayer

11:00 a.m. Bible Study on Zoom (*Contact Donovan Bowley for link*)

The Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 17:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Coffee Hour to follow in the 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

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The Rev. Dr. Rosalee Glass, *Deacon Emeritus*

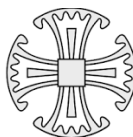
Tony Coyne, *Sexton*

Elizabeth Moran, *Senior Warden*

Benjy Lowry, *Junior Warden*

Terry Mello, *Treasurer*

Anne Rogers-Popejoy, *Vestry Clerk*



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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