



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 17, 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, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven: We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless, but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Savior Christ is gone before; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The people sit.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles [1:6-14]

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

Silence may follow.

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

Remain seated.

¹**Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.**

²**Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
 let them also be merry and joyful.
⁴Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
 exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
 YAHWEH is his name, rejoice before him!
⁵Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
 God in his holy habitation!
⁶God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
 but the rebels shall live in dry places.
⁷O God, when you went forth before your people, *
 when you marched through the wilderness,
⁸The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
 at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
 at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
⁹You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
 you refreshed the land when it was weary.
¹⁰Your people found their home in it; *
 in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
³³Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
 sing praises to the Lord.
³⁴He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
 he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
³⁵Ascribe power to God; *
 his majesty is over Israel;
 his strength is in the skies.
³⁶How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
 the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
 Blessed be God!

The people sit.

A Reading from the First letter of Peter [4:12-14; 5:6-11]

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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 [17:1-11]

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

¹[Jesus] looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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

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
Preacher: The Rev. Kristen Burkholder
Pianist: Lizzie Danchi
Eucharistic Minister: Pam Bardon
Reader and Prayers of the People: Terry Mello
Usher: Dwayne Robinson

People in our Prayers

Healing: Paul H., 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: Good Shepherd, Rangeley, Emmanuel Lutheran Episcopal, Augusta, For those who advocate for the poor and the oppressed

This Week at St. Thomas'

Sunday, May 17:

Join us following the service for "Coffee with Clergy" in the Parish Hall

Monday, May 18:

11:00 a.m. All Souls' Memorial Garden meeting

Wednesday, May 20:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Prayer

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

The Day of Pentecost, May 24:

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

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

5/24: **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*

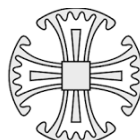
Tony Coyne, *Sexton*

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