



The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 12, 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.

Entrance Hymn 632

O Christ, the Word Incarnate

Munich

Opening Acclamation

page 323

Summary of the Law and Gloria in excelsis

page 324

The Collect of the Day

page 325

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people who call upon thee, and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah [55:10-13]

¹⁰As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 65:9-14

Remain seated.

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.
¹⁰You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.
¹¹You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
¹²You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.
¹³May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.
¹⁴May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome [8:1-11]

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [13:1-9, 18-23]

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

¹Jesus went out and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed		page 326
Prayer of the People I		page 383
Confession of Sin		page 330
The Peace		page 332
Offertory Hymn 589	Almighty God, your word is cast like seed upon the ground	<i>Waldon</i>
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
<i>This is God's table, all are welcome. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the minister. Communion can be brought to your pew by letting an usher know.</i>		
Postcommunion Prayer and Blessing		page 339
Hymn 530	Spread, O spread, thou mighty word	<i>Gott sei Dank</i>

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

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Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs
 Deacon: The Rev. Kristen Burkholder
 Organist: Scott Dyer
 Eucharistic Minister: Pam Bardon
 Reader and Prayers of the People: Vicki Boetsch
 Usher: Dwayne Robinson

People in our Prayers

Healing: Michelle Gabrielsen, Ronald Dunbar, 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, Chris, Vicki Boetsch, Catherine G, Annabel, Pam Kaler, Margery, Stephanie, Helen Russell
July Birthdays: Cheryl White (12), Peggy Daniels (14), Taylor Pohlman (14), Yuliia Chompyska (19), Sarah Cotton (20), Dean Jackson (28)

Diocese Cycle of Prayer: St. George's, Tenants Harbor, St. Cuthbert's, MacMahan Island, For those who make their living from the land and the sea



The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Suzanne Widener Scott on the occasion of her birthday, by her family.

This Week at St. Thomas'

Tuesday, July 14:

10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (*Music Room*)

5 p.m. Vestry (*Conference Room*)

Wednesday, July 15:

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

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, July 19:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (*Lemonade and iced tea on the front lawn*)

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II (*Refreshments on the front lawn and parish hall*)

4:00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer (*Lady Chapel*)

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

Office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Announcements

We will commission our pastoral care team, known as the "Good Neighbor Ministry," at the 10 a.m. Liturgy today.

It is a pleasure to announce that Carrie Rossiter has accepted an invitation to join our staff as Parish Administrator. Carrie will begin her duties at St. Thomas' beginning tomorrow, July 13.

Lemonade and iced tea are available on the front lawn after both services, weather permitting. Additional refreshments are also available in the parish hall following the 10 a.m. service.

There will be no Wednesday Eucharist for the remainder of July. Eucharist with Healing Prayer will resume on August 5.

What's happening with the Bell Tower? The Vestry voted last month to proceed with the restoration of the bell tower, 11 chimes, and replace the slate roof. Two committees are being formed: Capital Campaign - Anne Rogers Popejoy and Bill Freeman, co-chairs; Building & Restoration - Leaman Scott, Chair. The first step will be for the vestry to appropriate funds and engage a firm to conduct a feasibility study within the next few months.

Seeking a trustworthy Helper for my Mother-in-law in Owl's Head. Schedule: 3-4 days/week; 2-3 hrs/day.

Light housekeeping (dishes, laundry, basic cooking). Confirmation (not actual dispensing) of medication. Possible errands including doctor appointments. Dressing & personal hygiene NOT needed. Contact: Jean Ver Hoeven, 856-304-5830, jeanann@voicenet.com

Church Staff and Parish Officers

Carrie Rossiter, Parish Administrator

admin@stthomascamdenme.org

Office: 207-236-3680

The Rev. Paul Briggs, Interim Rector

interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org

(860) 384-9193

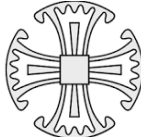
The Rev. Kristen Burkholder, Deacon

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Scott Dyer, Director of Music Ministry

musicminister@stthomascamdenme.org



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*

Our Transition Vision Statement

"We will be a healthy and thriving multigenerational church whose rich liturgical tradition inspires us to live out God's love in our actions and decisions to better meet the needs of our community."

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

33 Chestnut Street P.O. Box 631 Camden, ME 04843

www.stthomascamdenme.org