



The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 19, 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 273

Praise to the living God

Leoni

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.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, who knowest our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion, we beseech thee, upon our infirmities, and those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, mercifully give us for the worthiness of thy Son 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 [44:6-8]

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 86:11-17 *Inclina, Domine*

**11 Teach me your way, O Lord,
 and I will walk in your truth; ***
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.
12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, *
and glorify your Name for evermore.
13 For great is your love toward me; *
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.
14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent men seeks my life; *
they have not set you before their eyes.
15 But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.
17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome [8:12-25]

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [13:24-30, 36-43]
People **Glory be to thee, O Christ.**

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

627

Jacob's Ladder

American Negro Spiritual 8.8.8.5.
Arr. by Melvin West, 1984 (1930-)

1. We are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der. We are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der.
2. Ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er. Ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er.
3. Sin-ner, do you love my Je-sus? Sin-ner, do you love my Je-sus?
4. If you love Him, why not serve Him? If you love Him, why not serve Him?

We are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, Sol-diers of the cross.
Ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er, Sol-diers of the cross.
Sin-ner, do you love my Je-sus? Sol-diers of the cross.
If you love Him, why not serve Him? Sol-diers of the cross.

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. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the minister. Communion can be brought to your pew by letting an usher know.

Postcommunion Prayer and Blessing

page 339

Hymn 541

Come, labor on

Ora Labora

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Van Bankston
Deacon: The Rev. Kristen Burkholder
Organist: Scott Dyer
Eucharistic Minister: Sandy Lyle
Reader and Prayers of the People: Edmund Hartt
Usher: Jan Lyle

People in our Prayers

Healing: Rebecca Vogt, Sally Ann Williamson, Ronald Dunbar, Michelle Gabrielsen, Kim Murphy, Gordon, Karen Nolan, Paul H, Kate Pinson, Tim C, Jan & Bill, Jan L, Jeff, Sandra Covington, Peter Walker, Br Richard Biernacki, Donald Verdery, Charles Lewis, Timothy Jackson, Catherine, Gay Schueler, Ezra, Gwen Prosser, Lochlin, Mya Delisle, Andrew Moran, Donovan Bailey, Ned and Kathleen Bachus, Anna and her child Brody, Ruth Tolman, Percy, Joan Grey, Jan Schaefer, Jason, Jeanie, Brian, Corey and his mom Heidi, Fr Tom Pike, Evie Bridges, Vicki Boetsch, Janice Boetsch, Margery, Stephanie, Helen Russell, Kim Murphy

Diocese Cycle of Prayer: Christ Church Dark Harbor, Islesboro, St. Ann's, Kennebunkport, For the mission and ministry of Camp Bishopswood

This Week at St. Thomas'

Tuesday, July 21:

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

Wednesday, July 22:

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

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, July 26:

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

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, 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.

Announcements

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.

Father Briggs will be away until July 29, 2026. In the event of pastoral emergency, please contact the Rev. Kristen Burkholder (207-322-7816), Senior Warden Elizabeth Moran (207-789-5967) or Junior Warden Dr. Benjy Lowry (207-466-4992).

Office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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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*

