



The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 20, 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.

Entrance Hymn 9

Not here for high and holy things

Morning Song

1 Not here for high and ho - ly things we ren - der thanks to
2 the ro - yal robes of au - tumn moors, the gold - en gates of
3 of faith and hope and love un - dimmed, un - dy - ing still through
4 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the
5 Come, let thy voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of
6 to give and give, and give a - gain, what God hath giv - en

1 thee, but for the com - mon things of earth, the
2 spring, the vel - vet of soft sum - mer nights, the
3 death, the re - sur - rec - tion of the world, what
4 sky, the fields are wet with dia - mond dew, the
5 praise; see how the gi - ant sun soars up, great
6 thee; to spend thy - self nor count the cost; to

1 pur - ple pa - gean - try of dawn - ing and of
2 sil - ver glis - te - ring of all the mil - lion
3 time there comes the breath of dawn that rus - tles
4 worlds a - wake to cry their bles - sings on the
5 lord of years and days! So let the love of
6 serve right glo - rious - ly the God who gave all

1 dy - ing days, the splen - dor of the sea,
2 mil - lion stars, the si - lent song they sing,
3 through the trees, and that clear voice that saith:
4 Lord of life, as he goes meek - ly by.
5 Je - sus come and set thy soul a - blaze,
6 worlds that are, and all that are to be.

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God,...

People

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.

Chapel participants come forward as the following is sung

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.

The Celebrant says to the congregation

Will you pray for these young people and chaplains as they hear and receive God's Word?

People

We will.

The Celebrant then says to the chapel participants

Will you pray for us as we hear and receive God's Word?

Chapel Participants

We will.

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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 Book of the Prophet Jonah [3:10-4:11]

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

Psalm 145:1-8 *Exaltabo te, Deus*

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.

- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians [1:21-30]

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand and sing

God Be In My Head

15th Century French Prayer

Scott Dyer

The musical score is written on a single staff in 4/4 time. It consists of four lines of music, each with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes, and chord symbols (C, F, G7, am, em) are placed above the staff to indicate the harmonic structure. The lyrics are: "God be in my head and in my un-der - stand-ing God be in my eyes and in my look-ing God be in my mouth and in my speak-ing God be in my heart and in my think - ing God be at mine end and at my de - part - - ing".

God be in my head and in my un-der - stand-ing God be in my eyes and

in my look-ing God be in my mouth and in my speak-ing

God be in my heart and in my think - ing

God be at mine end and at my de - part - - ing

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [20:1-16]

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

After a period of silence, 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.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Thomas our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

All stand. Prayers for Anniversaries, Birthdays, Travel, etc. may be offered.

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



Offertory Anthem

Come, Ye Sinners

Beach Spring

Online Offerings: Scan the QR Code or click the Donate Button on our website (www.stthomascamden.org)

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People

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.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Celebrant and People

S 124

Sanctus

David Hurd

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven 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 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.**

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 S 164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

This block contains the first line of musical notation for the hymn. It features a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

This block contains the second line of musical notation. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

This block contains the third line of musical notation. The melody continues, and the accompaniment provides a steady harmonic base. The lyrics are written below the notes.

give us your peace, give us your peace.

This block contains the fourth line of musical notation, which concludes the hymn. The melody ends with a final cadence, and the accompaniment provides a concluding harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

The following hymn is sung during the administration of Communion.

Hymn 660

O Master. Let me walk with thee

Maryton

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee in low - ly;
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me thy pa - tience; still with thee in clos - er,
4 in hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice free; tell me thy se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - ening way, in peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
thou canst give, with thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

Announcements

Hymn 522

Glorious things of thee are spoken

Austria

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode;
on the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes. | 3 Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner,
light by night, and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna
which he gives them when they pray. |
| 2 See! the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint, when such a river
ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver
never fails from age to age. | 4 Blest inhabitants of Zion,
washed in the Redeemer's blood!
Jesus, whom their souls rely on,
makes them kings and priests to God.
'Tis his love his people raise
over self to reign as kings:
and as priests, his solemn praises
each for a thank-offering brings. |

People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

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Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant: The Rev. Paul Briggs
Preacher and Deacon: The Rev. Kristen Burkholder
Organist: Scott Dyer
Eucharistic Minister: Dean Jackson, Bobby Purkey
Reader: Sue Foltz
Prayers of the People: Dean Jackson
Ushers: Lucy Ebbert, Jim Ebbert

People in our Prayers

Healing: Victor Gould, Tiffany, Ronald Dunbar, Sr., Carmel, Kathy Wolfe, 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, 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

September Birthdays: Pam Bardon (4); Deborah Whittaker (7); Diane Purkey (12); Lola Black (13); Lucy Ebbert (17); Ruth Tolman (18); Alie Angell (18); Evie Bridges (19)

Diocese Cycle of Prayer: St. George's, York Harbor, For those incarcerated, those who love them and those who minister to them.

Preparing for Marriage: Will Murphy and Anna Jernigan

This Week at St. Thomas'

Sunday, September 20: 4:00 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.
Centering Prayer – Lady Chapel

Tuesday, September 22:
10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (*Music Room*)

Wednesday, September 23:
9:30 a.m. Healing Prayer and Eucharist
11:00 a.m. Bible Study on Zoom (*Contact Br. Donovan Bowley for link*)

Friday, September 25
5:00 p.m. Murphy-Jernigan Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, September 26
4:00 p.m. Wedding of Will Murphy and Anna Jernigan

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 27, 2026:
8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, Rite I
10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, Rite II (*Refreshments follow in the Parish Hall*)
4:00 p.m. Centering 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 2 p.m.

Announcements

Refreshments are available in the Parish Hall following the 10 a.m. service.

Godly Play Orientation for parents of children (ages 3-10) will be today, September 20, following the 10 a.m. service. Join us in the Godly Play Room (first classroom on the left after the parish hall) to learn about this exciting faith building resource for your child that will begin next week, September 27, for nine weeks.

Blessing of the Animals, Sunday, October 4 at 9:30 a.m. to honor the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and ecology. This will be a brief outdoor service and something to invite a friend or neighbor to. Bring your pet, stuffed animal, or a photograph of your animal friend. For those who wish to stay for the 10 a.m. service, you are welcome to join the opening procession (all creatures must be under control of their human companion).

Church Staff and Parish Officers

Carrie Rossiter, Parish Administrator

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The Rev. Paul Briggs, Interim Rector

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(860) 384-9193

Scott Dyer, Director of Music Ministry

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The Rev. Kristen Burkholder, Deacon

deacon@stthomascamdenme.org

(207) 322-7816

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

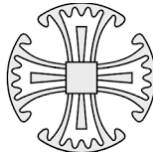
Tony Coyne, *Sexton*

Elizabeth Moran, *Senior Warden*

Benjy Lowry, *Junior Warden*

Haunani Wallace, *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