



The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 18, 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 391 vv. 1-3

Before the Lord's eternal throne

Winchester New

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.

The Lessons

The people sit.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah [45:1-7]

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him--and the gates shall not be closed:
I will go before you and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,
I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me.
I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 96:1-9

Cantate Domino

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.

- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
 Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
 ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
 bring offerings and come into his courts.
 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
 let the whole earth tremble before him.

The Epistle

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians [1:1-10]

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
 Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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 [22:15-22]
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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 683	O for a closer walk with God <i>Beatitudo</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

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

Dismissal Hymn 718

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand

National Hymn

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

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 and Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Deacon: The Rev. Kristen Burkholder

Organist: Scott Dyer

Eucharistic Minister: Pam Bardon

Reader and Prayers of the People: Amy Frankel

Usher: Jan Lyle

People in our Prayers

Healing: Grayce Sivigny, Linda Sink, Joan M., 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

October Birthdays: Rosalee Glass (1); Luceille Young (4); Lucy Lowry (6); Rebecca Vogt (7); Bill Conrad (14); Phyllis Barry (17); Stephen Thomas (17); BC Lowry (18); Nancy Wright (25); Kathleen Buchanan (27); Doc Wallace (27); Sam Cotton (31)

Diocese Cycle of Prayer: St. Bartholomew's, Yarmouth, For our Liturgical Commission, For the wardens and vestries and committees of our parishes.

This Week at St. Thomas'

Sunday, October 18

11:15 p.m. Christian Formation (*Conference Room*)

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

Monday, October 19

4:00 p.m. Liturgy & Music Planning (*Zoom*)

Tuesday, October 20

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

Wednesday, October 21

9:30 a.m. Healing Prayer and Eucharist

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

Saturday, October 24

9:00 a.m. Capital Campaign Committee (*Conference Room*)

The Twenty-Second Sunday of October 25

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (*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

- Prepackaged side dishes are the food request for **Camden Area Christian Food Pantry** for the month of October. Donations may be left inside the Wood Street entrance to the church.
- **Nursery** for those 3 and under beginning at 9:45 a.m. Leader: Marjorie Vizethann.
- **Godly Play** orientation for parents with children ages 3-11 on Sundays. It's a Montessori-based curriculum with a gentle way to invite wonder and make meaning with core bible stories and will run nine weeks through November 20. Leaders: Anna Ford, Alexandra Stewart, and Avery Reed.
- **Agape or Foyer Groups** meet between now and January 2027. There is no agenda other than getting to know one another on a deeper level by sharing a meal and conversation outside of our regular church gatherings.
- **Liturgical Ministries:** Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Acolytes, Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers. Let us know if you are interested in any of these ministries, there is always room for more. admin@stthomascamdenme.org.
- Interested in helping plan for **Advent and Christmas celebrations?** **Liturgy Planning** will meet with Fr. Briggs via Zoom on Monday, October 19 at 4 p.m. Email interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org for article to read in preparation for the meeting and a Zoom link.
- We will return to "**Winter Worship Schedule**" with a combined service at 9:30 a.m. beginning Sunday, November 8.

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

Scott Dyer, Director of Music Ministry

musicminister@stthomascamdenme.org

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*



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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

www.stthomascamdenme.org