

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

est. 1791

The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

30 January 2021, 6pm

31 January 2021, 8am, 10.30am



Share this bulletin without touching:

The contents of this bulletin may be found by scanning the QR Code to the left with your smart phone.

If you picked up this bulletin, please take it home with you.

During this season of coronavirus infections, please demonstrate your love for your friends and neighbors by:

1. Wearing a mask (covering both mouth and nose)
2. Remaining six feet apart from anyone you don't live with
3. Refraining from touching, hugging and shaking hands – even during the Peace
4. Singing is only permitted outdoors, six feet apart, wearing masks
5. Service bulletins you have touched must be taken home
6. After the service everyone must disperse with no lingering
7. No sharing of common objects such as pens, paper, etc.

Welcome to St. Thomas’!

We are pleased you have come to worship with us today! St. Thomas’ welcomes all regardless of age, abilities, physical or mental health, ethnicity, sexual orientation or gender identity, income, education, political affiliation or faith commitment. The things which bind us are greater than the things that separate us, and the love of God is greater than all our divisions.

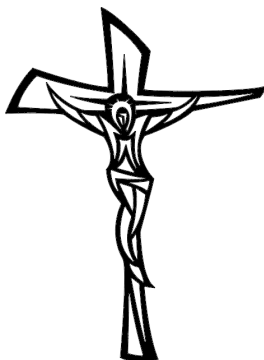
Children are welcome at all services. Childcare is not available during this season of Corona virus precautions.

We extend a special welcome to **Rowan students!** We are here to support you in your journey during this season of life.

We understand the **Holy Eucharist**, also known as Communion, as participation in the Body of Christ. As such, it flows from the vows we have made in baptism. It is a weekly reminder and recommitment to continue in regular worship, to repent from evil, to proclaim the Good News of God in Christ, to seek and serve Christ in everyone, and to respect the dignity of every human being. All who seek Christ – of every age and tradition – are invited to share in Holy Communion. Instructions are provided in this bulletin at the appropriate place in the service.

The **offering plate** will not be passed during this season; it has been set out on a table for your convenience. Or you may give by clicking the “Donate” button at www.stthomasglassboro.org. Thank you for your support of the ministry of St. Thomas’!

Bathrooms are located in the Parish Hall.



The Holy Eucharist

Rite II (BCP 355)

We Gather in God's Name

Greeting

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

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

Presider: Almighty God, 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.**

Hymn of Praise

Hymnal S-280

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Salutation

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Presider: Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

We Hear God's Word

The people are seated.

The First Lesson Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Reader: A reading from Deuteronomy.

Moses said: The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 111

Confitebor tibi

1 Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the deeds of the LORD! *
they are studied by all who delight in them.

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.

**4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.**

5 He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**6 He has shown his people the power of his works *
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.

**8 They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.**

9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.

**10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.**

The Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Reader: A reading from Paul's first epistle to the church in Corinth.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

The Holy Gospel Mark 1:21-28

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated.

The Homily

Silence follows the homily.

Jeannie Marcucci

We Respond in Faith

The people stand as able.

The Nicene Creed

**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

Today the response to the prompt, “Lord in your mercy” is, “**Hear our prayer.**”

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The people kneel or stand as able. Silence may be kept. Minister and People:

**People: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Priest: 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.**

The people stand as able.

Passing the Peace is primarily a liturgical practice, not a social one. While the threat of Covid-19 is prominent, the peace will be brief. Please do not move around or make contact (shaking hands, hugs) with others. Instead you are invited to look to the person on either side of you and wish them peace with a bow or a wave.

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.


We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The people are seated.


The Announcements

Jesus Christ our Lord

493



1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
 3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
 4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
 5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;



1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
 2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
 3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
 4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
 5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
 be now and ever given
 by saints below and saints above,
 the Church in earth and heaven.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: Azmon, Carl Gotthilf Gläser (1784-1829); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

♩-84
 CM

We Offer Ourselves To God

The altar is prepared in silence. Then the people stand as able.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

A Proper Preface may be used here.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider 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.”

Presider: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider 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.

Presider: 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.

People: AMEN.

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

The Lord's Prayer

**People: 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We Receive the Gift of God

Receiving Communion during Covid:

Please remain where you are, standing or seated in prayer. After the presider has received the Sacrament in both kinds, donned a mask, and carefully sanitized hands, the presider will bring the sacrament to each person in turn.

If you wish to receive communion physically:

- 1. Hold out your cupped hands to receive the bread. The presider will drop the host into your hands without making contact.*
- 2. Wait until the presider has moved away to remove your mask, consume the host, and replace your mask.*
- 3. Communion will be offered in one kind only (just the bread). This is still full communion.*

If you do not wish to receive communion physically:

- 1. Cross your arms over your chest. The presider will offer you a blessing instead, again without touching.*
- 2. You are invited to utter the Prayer for Spiritual Communion while communion is being distributed.*

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

(from The Prayer Book for the Armed Services)

The Post-communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

People: **Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

See hymn on next page! →

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1 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple,
 2 They who have ears to hear the mes - sage,
 3 Is - ra - el comes to greet the Sa - vior,
 4 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple,

o - pen your ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O
 they who have ears, then let them hear. They who would learn the
 Ju - dah is glad to see his day. From east and west the
 o - pen your ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O *Fine*

roy - al priest - hood, God has come to you.
 way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.
 peo - ples trav - el, he will show the way.
 roy - al priest - hood, God has come to you.

God has spo - ken to his peo - ple, Hal - le - lu - jah!

And his words are words of wis - dom, Hal - le - lu - -

jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! God has spo - ken to his peo - ple,
 To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra,

Hal - le - lu - - jah! And his words are
 To - rah o - ra, *Da Capo*

words of wis - dom, Hal - le - lu - - jah!
 To - rah o - ra, Hal - le - lu - - jah!

"Torah ora" is Hebrew for, "The Law is our Light."

Words: Willard F. Jabusch (b. 1930), alt.

Music: *Torah Song [Yisrael V'raitai]*, Hasidic melody; arr. Richard Proulx, (b. 1937)

98. 95 with Refrain

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

In order to minimize the possibility of infecting others, please exit the campus immediately.

Announcements

This weekend is the last that our Deacon intern, **Jeannie Marcucci**, will be with us before she starts a new assignment at All Saints, Swedesboro. We thank Jeannie for her faithful service to St. Thomas' and wish her every blessing as she continues to answer God's call to her life.

The St. Thomas' **Annual Meeting** is today, Sunday, 31 January 2021 at 2pm. Join us via Zoom! Pick up a paper copy of the **Annual Report** if you attend church in-person this week. Else you can download it from the church website.

This week (not last!) St. Thomas' is hosting **Family Promise**. Once again, due to the pandemic, we are not hosting families in our buildings but we are taking meals to them at the resource center. Please contact Donna Freidel if you would like to assist. Thank you to those who have already signed up!

The **Youth Group Game Night** is tonight (Sunday) at 6pm via Zoom. Contact Daniel Owen for details. Youth Group will not meet next week.

The St. Thomas' **Book Group** is starting a new title, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* by James H. Cone, chosen to compliment our annual celebration of **Black History Month**. Join us on Zoom on Monday nights at 7pm beginning tomorrow, 1 February. Please read the introduction and chapter 1 in advance of our first gathering.

On Tuesday, 2 February, St. Thomas and **TEC@RU** is hosting a Netflix watch party for college students in honor of Black History Month. Contact Rachael Owen for more information.

Next week we will have a special guest preacher for **Black History Month**: all three of our services will feature our own Dr. Jonathan Wilson!

We continue to offer **two outdoor Eucharists per week**: Sunday at 10.30am and Wednesday at 5.30pm. We meet rain or shine: consider your clothing, your health, and the weather before joining us. If the weather makes an outdoor service impossible at 10.30am, we may choose to move it into the Parish Hall and broadcast it on Zoom. Every week we also offer **two indoor Eucharists**, one on **Zoom**, and one **recording**!

The state of New Jersey has opened registrations to receive **vaccination against Covid-19**. Sign up at <https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/>

This Week at St. Thomas'

Monday	2/1	4.00pm 7.00pm	Centering Prayer (Zoom) Book Group (Zoom)
Tuesday	2/2	Noon 6.30pm 7.00pm	Coffee Hour (Zoom) Small Group Bible Study (Zoom) Work Crew
Wednesday	2/3	5.30pm	Holy Eucharist (Lychgate)
Saturday	2/6	9.00am 6.00pm	Vestry Retreat (Zoom) Holy Eucharist (Nave)
Sunday	2/7	8.00am 9.00am 10.30am	Holy Eucharist (Parish Hall, Zoom) Sunday School (Zoom) Holy Eucharist (live, outdoors)

Lectionary readings for next week: *Isaiah 40:21-31, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23, Mark 1:29-39, Psalm 147:1-12, 21c*

Please continue in your daily prayers for: *Dennis, Marge, Joann, Sandy, Andrea, Bob, Jimmie, John, Lou, Marie, Marla, Helen, April, Sarah, Dean, Chris, Jack, Nancy, Bruce, Sheila, Les, Patty, Chuck*

Parish Leadership

Vestry: Eric Cephas, Wayne Rowbotham, Jim Gibbs, Carl Kinsley,
Sarah Ternay, Jo-Ann Toldt

Tal Kramer, *Senior Warden*
seniorwarden@stthomasglassboro.org

Joe Rizzuto, *Junior Warden*
juniorwarden@stthomasglassboro.org

The Rev. Todd Foster, *Rector*
fathertodd@stthomasglassboro.org

The Rev. Dr. John Hanson, *Deacon*
deaconjohn@stthomasglassboro.org

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