## ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

est. 1791

The First Sunday of Lent February: Black History Month

Holy Eucharist: Rite II 20 February 2021, 6pm 21 February 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.

## The Holy Eucharist

Rite II (BCP 355) + The Great Litany (BCP 148)

### We Gather in God's Name

The people kneel or stand as able.

The Litany is only sung outdoors under pandemic protocols.

The Great Litany



Officiant: O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Officiant: O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Officiant: O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses

of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy



*Officiant:* From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; and from everlasting damnation,

People: Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Officiant: From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and

hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all

want of charity,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Officiant: From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the

deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

*Officiant:* From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness

of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Officiant: From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and

flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Officiant: From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from

violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and

unprepared,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

*Officiant:* By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy

Nativity and submission to the Law; by thy Baptism,

Fasting, and Temptation,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Officiant: By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and

Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the

Holy Ghost,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Officiant: In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity;

in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Officiant: We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church Universal in the right way,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, and

deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they

may set it forth, and show it accordingly,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy

harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to give to all people increase of

grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the

fruits of the Spirit,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant:* That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all

such as have erred, and are deceived,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear

thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant:* That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants,

the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and

walk in the ways of truth,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant:* That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the

world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and

to bestow freedom upon all peoples,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant:* That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners

and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are

desolate and oppressed,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the

bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may

enjoy them,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant:* That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several

callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common

good,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger

by reason of their labor or their travel,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all

women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by

strife,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant:* That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all

who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with

thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all

who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to have mercy upon all humankind,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant:* That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to

forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our

lives according to thy holy Word,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to forgive our enemies,

persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to

comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who

fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Officiant: That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed

eternal life and peace,

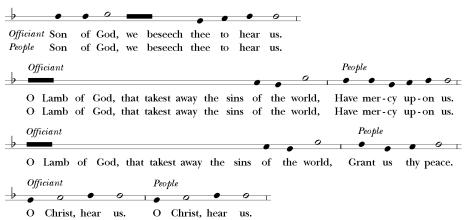
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant:* That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of

the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all the

saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.



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Officiant Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
People Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.
Officiant Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
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The people stand as able.

#### Salutation

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

#### The Collect of the Day

*Presider:* Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are

assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and

for ever. **Amen.** 

#### We Hear God's Word

The people are seated.

**The First Lesson** Genesis 9:8-17

*Reader:* A reading from the book of Genesis.

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in

the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

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

Psalm 25:1-9 Ad te, Domine, levavi 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; \* let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \* let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, \* and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*
  for you are the God of my salvation;
  in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, \* for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \* remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; \* therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right \* and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness \* to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**The Second Lesson** 1 Peter 3:18-22

Reader: A reading from Peter's first epistle.

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

The people stand as able.

**The Holy Gospel** Mark 1:9-15

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated.

**The Homily** *Silence follows the homily.* 

The Rev. Todd Foster

#### 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 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





Words: James Rowe (1865-1933) Music: Howard E. Smith (1863-1918)

#### 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: Presider:

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:* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

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 Prayer over the People

See processional hymn on next page →

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Words: Traditional

Music: American Melody; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals,

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#### 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.* 

# Stacey Yvonne Abrams: Voting Rights Advocate

Stacey Yvonne Abrams is a voting rights activist, lawyer, author and founder of Fair Fight Action, an organization that addresses voter suppression. Her non-violent campaign to increase voter registration and turnout in Georgia and other Southern states, won her a nomination for the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize.

Abrams is the first black woman to serve in the Georgia House of Representatives from 2007 to 2017, serving as minority leader from 2011 to 2017. In 2018, she was



the Democratic nominee for governor of Georgia, becoming the first African-American female major-party gubernatorial nominee in the United States.

The second of six siblings, Abrams was born to Methodist Reverends Robert and Carolyn Abrams in Madison, Wisconsin, and raised in Gulfport, Mississippi. The family moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where Abrams graduated from Spelman College in 1995. She earned a master's of public affairs degree in 1998 from the University of Texas at Austin. In 1999, she earned a Juris Doctor degree from Yale Law School.

After graduating from law school, Abrams worked as a tax attorney in Atlanta, with a focus on tax-exempt organizations, health care, and public finance. In 2010, while a member of the Georgia General Assembly, Abrams co-founded and served as the senior vice president of NOW Corp., a financial services firm. Abrams also co-founded Nourish, Inc., a beverage company with a focus on infants and toddlers.

Article submitted by The Rev. Dr. John Hanson.

During Black History Month we honor persons of color who have made significant contributions in the work of overcoming our country's heritage of racial discrimination.

#### **Announcements**

Next month on Laetare Sunday, 14 March, at 10.30am, **Bishop Stokes** will make a visitation to St. Thomas' for our outdoor service. This is a time for Confirmations, Receptions, Reaffirmation, or even Baptisms. Please contact Fr. Todd immediately if you are interested in taking part in any of these rites.

## **Lenten Worship and Formation Opportunities:**

- Daily, Monday Saturday: **Morning Prayer** (on website)
- Mondays, 4pm: Centering Prayer (Zoom)
- Wednesdays, 5.30pm: Holy Eucharist (Lychgate)
- Wednesdays, 7pm: Lenten Pilgrimage to the Holy Land (Zoom)
- Fridays, 7pm: **Stations of the Cross** (Zoom)
- By Appointment: **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)** (Zoom/Telephone)

We continue to offer **two outdoor Eucharists per week**: Sunday at 10.30am and Wednesday at 5.30pm. These meet in rain or shine: please consider your clothing, your health, and the weather before joining us outdoors for 30 or 60 minutes. 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. We also offer **two indoor Eucharists per week** with very limited seating. Please reserve your seat on the church website.

The state of New Jersey has open a "pre-registration portal" for residents to sign up to receive **vaccination against Covid-19**. Sign up at https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/

This Week at St. Thomas'			
Monday	2/22	4.00pm 7.00pm	Centering Prayer (Zoom) Book Group (Zoom)
Tuesday	2/23	Noon 6.30pm 7.00pm	Coffee Hour (Zoom) Small Group Bible Study (Zoom) Work Crew
Wednesday	2/24	5.30pm 7.00pm	Holy Eucharist (Lychgate) Lenten Pilgrimage (Zoom)
Friday	2/26	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross (Zoom)
Saturday	2/27	6.00pm	Holy Eucharist (Nave)
Sunday	2/28	8.00am 9.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Holy Eucharist (Parish Hall, Zoom) Sunday School (Zoom) Holy Eucharist (live, outdoors) Youth Group (Online)

Lectionary readings for next week: *Genesis* 17:1-7, 15-16, *Romans* 4:13-25, *Mark* 8:31-38, *Psalm* 22:22-30

Please continue in your daily prayers for: *Dennis, Marge, Joann, Sandy, Andrea, Bob, Jimmie, John, Lou, Marie, Marla, Helen, Dean, Patty, Chuck, Valerie, Linda, Russel, Sid, Joe* 

#### Parish Leadership

Vestry: Jim Gibbs, Carl Kinsley, Sarah Ternay, Jo-Ann Toldt, Barbara Cadogan, Stacey Noll, Wayne Rowbotham

Eric Cephas, Senior Warden
seniorwarden@stthomasglassboro.org

Joe Rizzuto, Junior Warden
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The Rev. Todd Foster, *Rector*fathertodd@stthomasglassboro.org

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

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