

# ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

est. 1791

*The Third Sunday of Easter*

*Holy Eucharist: Rite II*

*17 April 2021, 6pm*

*18 April 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](http://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:* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People:** **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### **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:* O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## We Hear God's Word

*The people are seated.*

**The First Lesson**      Acts 3:12-19

*Reader:* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.'

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 4**      *Cum invocarem*

- 1      Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
        have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
- 2      **"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"**
- 3      Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; \*  
        when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.
- 4      **Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**
- 5      Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
        and put your trust in the LORD.
- 6      **Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.**
- 7      You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
        more than when grain and wine and oil increase.
- 8      **I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

**The Second Lesson**      1 John 3:1–7

*Reader:*      A reading from the first epistle of St. John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him

or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*The people stand as able.*

**The Holy Gospel** Luke 24:36b-48

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

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

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

*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 Prayers of the People

Today the response to the prompt, “Alleluia, Christ is risen!” is, “**The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**” The final verse and response, as we “offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ,” is “**To you, O Lord.**”

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

*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.*

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

BCP 830

*Everyone celebrating a birthday or anniversary in the month of April, or anyone wishing to stand in for someone close to them celebrating such an event, is invited to stand and tell us your name and the event you are celebrating.*

*A prayer for a birthday:*

**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Announcements



Offertory Hymn

Christ has Arisen, Alleluia

LEVAS 41

Christ has a - ris - en, Al - le - lu - ia. Re - joice and

praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia. For our Re - deem - er burst from the

tomb, E - ven from death dis - pel - ling its gloom. Let us sing praise to Him

with end - less joy. Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy, Our sin for

giv - ing, Al - le - lu - ia. Je - sus is liv - ing, Al - le - lu - ia.

Words: Swahili Text; tr. Howard Olson

Music: Haya Tune; *Tumshandilie Mungu*, Makumira, Tanzania; harm. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Songs of Praise*,

Harm. Copyright © 1992. Words and Music Reprinted from *Lead Us Lord* by Howard S. Olson, Copyright © 1974

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## 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

### Processional Hymn

*I Love to tell the story*

LEVAS 64

64

**I Love To Tell the Story**

1. I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a - bove,  
2. I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it best

1. Of Je - sus and His glo - ry, Of Je - sus and His love.  
2. Seem hun - ger-ing and thirst-ing To hear it, like the rest.

1. I love to tell the sto - ry, Be - cause I know it's true;  
2. And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

1. It sat - is - fies my long - ings As noth - ing else would do.  
 2. 'Twill be the old, old sto - ry That I have loved so long.

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'Twill be my theme in glo - ry.

To tell the old, old sto - ry Of Je - sus and His love.

Words: A. Katherine Hankey (1831-1911)  
 Music: William G. Fischer (1835-1912)

## The Dismissal

**Deacon:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
**People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

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## **Announcements**

As Rowan wraps up its semester (with exams at the beginning of May), please take a moment to thank **Rachael and Matt Owen** for their leadership in representing St. Thomas' and the Episcopal Churches of our region on the campus at Rowan. They have organized a diverse and continuing slate of programs through which to serve the Rowan community and to demonstrate the love of Christ.

## This Week at St. Thomas'

Monday	4/19	4.00pm 7.00pm	Centering Prayer (Zoom) Book Group (Zoom)
Tuesday	4/20	6.30pm 7.00pm	Small Group Bible Study (Zoom) Work Crew
Wednesday	4/21	5.30pm 7.00pm	Holy Eucharist (Lychgate) Foundations of the Faith (Zoom)
Friday	4/23	8.00am	Kitchen of Hope Setup
Saturday	4/24	10.00am 6.00pm	Kitchen of Hope Food Distribution Holy Eucharist (Nave)
Sunday	4/25	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: *Acts 4:5-12, 1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18, Psalm 23*

Please continue in your daily prayers for: *Dennis, Marge, Joann, Andrea, Bob, Jimmie, Chuck, Jimmie, Jerry, Gary, Carl, Bill, Jeannie, Zenaida, Kass, Joan, Michael, Dee, Carmela, Howard, Kass, Sandy*

### 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](mailto:seniorwarden@stthomasglassboro.org)

Joe Rizzuto, *Junior Warden*  
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The Rev. Dr. John Hanson, *Deacon*  
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### St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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*Emergency Pastoral Care: 856.881.2841*