

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

est. 1791

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

24 April 2021, 6pm

25 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. 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 Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

The people are seated.

The First Lesson Acts 4:5-12

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 **He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.**
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
- 5 You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 **Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

The Second Lesson 1 John 3:16-24

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

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able.

The Holy Gospel John 10:11-18

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

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

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

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.

The Announcements

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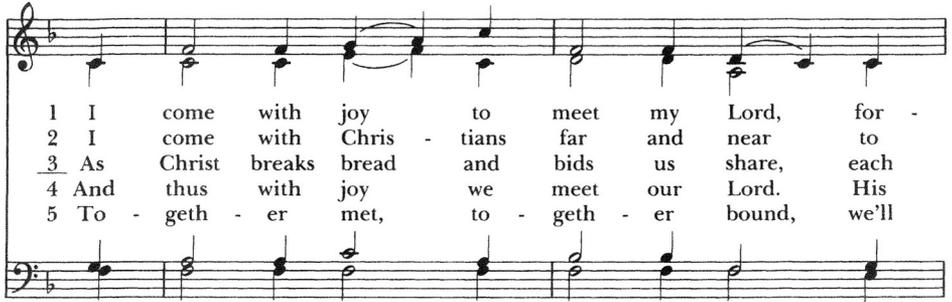
Offertory Hymn

I come with joy to meet my Lord Hymnal 304

Holy Eucharist

304

Unison or harmony



1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll



1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple



1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
4 bet - ter known: we see and praise him here.
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

F (capo 3, D). Keyboard and guitar should not sound together.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt.

Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889–1983)

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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
The Christian Life

Savior, like a shepherd lead us Hymnal 708
708

1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,

for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Words: *Hymns for the Young*, ca. 1830, alt.

Music: *Sicilian Mariners*, Sicilian melody, from *The European Magazine and London Review*, 1792

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87. 87. 87

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.

Announcements

Congratulations to **Dr. Danielle Arigo**, a member of our St. Thomas' community and a professor of psychology at Rowan, who has won a large grant from the National Institutes of Health.

This Week at St. Thomas'

Monday	4/26	4.00pm 7.00pm	Centering Prayer (Zoom) Book Group (Zoom)
Tuesday	4/27	6.30pm 7.00pm	Small Group Bible Study (Zoom) Work Crew
Wednesday	4/28	5.30pm 7.00pm	Holy Eucharist (Lychgate) Foundations of the Faith (Zoom)
Friday	4/30	8.00pm	TEC@RU Netflix party
Saturday	5/1	6.00pm	Holy Eucharist (Nave)
Sunday	5/2	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 8:26-40, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8, Psalm 22:24-30*

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, Floss, Butch*

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*
juniorwarden@stthomasglassboro.org

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

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

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