

# ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

est. 1791

*The Sixth Sunday of Easter*

*Holy Eucharist: Rite II*

*8 May 2021, 6pm*

*9 May 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, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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** Acts 10:44-48

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

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 98** *Cantate Domino*

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 **With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.**

- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the  
nations.
- 4 **He remembers his mercy and faithfulness  
to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth  
have seen the victory of our God.**
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 **Sing to the LORD with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.**
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 **Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell there- in.**
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 **In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.**

The Second Lesson 1 John 5:1-6

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

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

*The people stand as able.*

**The Holy Gospel** John 15:9-17

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

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

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The people are seated.*

**The Homily**

The Rev. Todd Foster

*Silence follows the homily.*

## **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**

**Offertory Hymn**

*What a friend we have in Jesus*

LEVAS 109



## 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.*

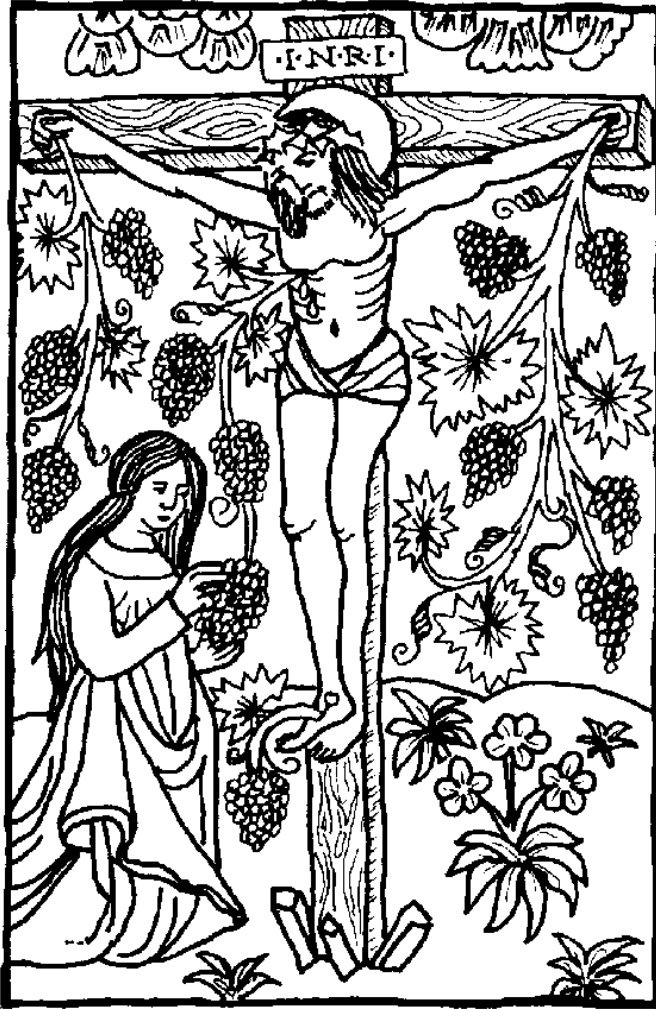
*If you do not wish to receive communion physically:*

- 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**     *In Christ there is no East*     LEVAS    62

## 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

This week we will begin a **new Bible Study** on the book of Ruth. For 4-5 weeks we will explore this beautiful story together. We will meet on Wednesday nights at 7pm on Zoom. Please join us!

**Graduating High School Seniors** will be recognized by St. Thomas' next week, 16 May, at the 10.30am service. Please plan to attend! Additionally, the Diocese of NJ is recognizing seniors with a Diocesan Baccalaureate at 3pm on 23 May. Join us online!

Next week at noon the **Sunday School** will participate in a **County Cleanup** service project and fundraiser. See Barbara K. for more information or to participate.

The **Burial Eucharist for Tina Lawton** will be held on the lawn at St. Thomas' on the Day of Pentecost, 23 May, at 6pm. Just like Sunday mornings, please wear a mask and bring a chair.

**Kitchen of Hope** distributed food this weekend, the St. Thomas' chapter of **Family Promise / IHN** is feeding homeless families this week, and the **American Red Cross** collected blood at St. Thomas' this week. Thank you to everyone who gives of themselves, their resources, even blood, sweat, and tears, to serve our communities in these important ministries!

To support the outreach ministries of **Kitchen of Hope Inc.**, St. Thomas' has been awarded **two grants** totaling about \$20,000. All the funds will help KoH in its fight against hunger and food insecurity in South Jersey.

The first is a \$14,904 pandemic relief grant from The Food Bank of South Jersey, in partnership with the Community Foundation of South Jersey. The funds will be used to buy fresh fruit and vegetables to supplement the monthly federal and state free food allocations from the Food Bank.

The second is a \$4,931 award from the Wakefern Organization, parent company of ShopRite supermarkets. The funds will be used to buy food from Shoprite supermarkets for KoH's semi-monthly free distribution to families and students in Glassboro public elementary schools who receive free meals at school but may not have food during the weekend.

## This Week at St. Thomas'

Monday	5/10	4.00pm 7.00pm	Centering Prayer (Zoom) Book Group (Zoom)
Tuesday	5/11	6.30pm 7.00pm	Small Group Bible Study (Zoom) Work Crew
Wednesday	5/12	5.30pm 7.00pm	Holy Eucharist (Lychgate) Bible Study: Ruth (Zoom)
Thursday	5/13	7.00pm	Sunday School Board Meeting
Saturday	5/15	10.00am 6.00pm	ECS-NJ Meeting (online) Holy Eucharist (Nave)
Sunday	5/16	8.00am 9.00am 10.30am Noon 6.00pm	Holy Eucharist (Parish Hall, Zoom) Sunday School (Zoom) Holy Eucharist / Baccalaureate (Lawn) Sunday School County Cleanup Youth Group (online)

Lectionary readings for next week: *Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, 1 John 5:9-13, John 17:6-19, Psalm 1*

Please continue in your daily prayers for: *Dennis, Marge, Joann, Andrea, Bob, Jimmie, Bill, Kass, Sandy, Floss, Butch, Mary-Esther, Patty, Dean, David, Lois, Michael, Bianca, Kayla, Evelyn*

### Parish Leadership

Vestry: Jim Gibbs, Carl Kinsley, Sarah Ternay, Jo-Ann Toldt,  
Dr. 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. Todd Foster, *Rector*  
[fathertodd@stthomasglassboro.org](mailto:fathertodd@stthomasglassboro.org)

The Rev. Dr. John Hanson, *Deacon*  
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