

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Being a light to the world.

Worship, Youth, Discipleship

The Season after Epiphany

*A celebration of Christ's glory revealed to us.
and his manifestation to the nations.*

If you are new to St. Thomas or visiting, we are glad to have you with us. This service booklet is designed to help you join us in worship. The hymns we sing can generally be found in the blue Hymnal 1982, in the pew racks in front of you. Other music is included in this booklet. The lessons are included on the separate lesson sheet. If you need help, don't hesitate to ask an usher or a greeter, or someone nearby.

In order that we may get to know you better, please fill out one of the welcome cards, which can be found in the pew racks, and place it in the collection plate during the offertory.

Coffee and Refreshments are served after the service in the parish hall, through the double doors to the right of the altar, and all the way down the hall. There you will have opportunity to visit with members of the church community.

Ministry to Children—Children are welcome in church!

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, for to them belongs the Kingdom of God." We believe there is a place for children in worship and we welcome them. Please help them follow along. You'll be surprised at how quickly they engage. If very young children are crying over your comfort level, slip out if you need to do so, and come back in with them as soon as you are able.

See the Church's Website: visit www.StThomasBC.org, for events, service times and further information.

Please return this service booklet by placing it in the basket as you leave the Sanctuary. We'll use them again next week. Take the lesson insert home with you, so you can further study the Bible readings and keep up with what's happening at St. Thomas. Thank you.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
16 Van Buren St E
Battle Creek, MI 49017
269-965-2244
StThomasBC.org

The Holy Eucharist

The Word of God

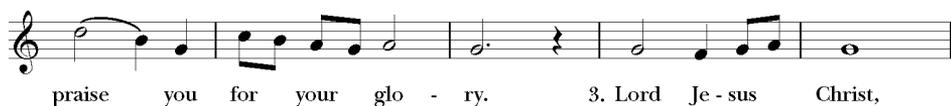
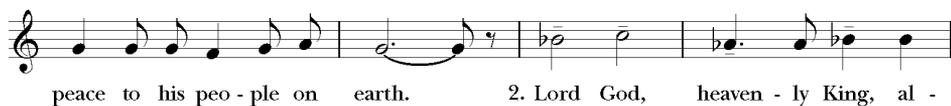
The service begins with the opening hymn and the procession of the ministers of the liturgy.

*After the hymn the officiating priest, called the presider, continues with the following.
The people's responses are in bold type.*

✠Blessed be the one, holy, and living God
Glory to God for ever and ever.

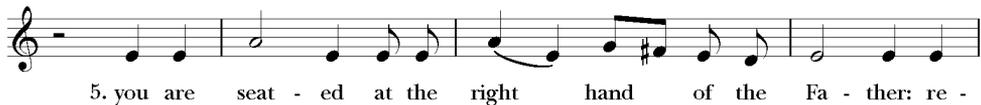
**Loving God, we have come to worship you.
Help us to pray to you in faith,
to sing your praise with thanks,
to listen eagerly to your word,
and to meet you in the breaking of bread;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All then sing the Gloria in excelsis, an ancient hymn of praise.





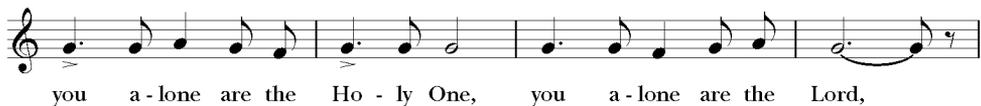
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -



ceive our prayer. 6. For



you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The presider introduces a period of silent prayer.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

The Collect, a prayer which gathers together the thoughts and prayers of the people, is said, and all respond

Amen.

THE LESSONS

The people sit. Readings from the Bible are proclaimed and we share in the gift of God's Word through listening to the scriptures, found on the separate Lesson sheet.

THE SERMON

The people sit and one of the ministers gives the sermon, explaining how the lessons relate to our lives.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand and join in saying the Nicene Creed, our shared statement of faith.

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

The people kneel or stand. Prayers are offered for the needs of the Church and the world.

After each petition the people respond

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers all join in saying

**Lord of life, in your mercy hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The people are called to remember their failures and weaknesses, and are encouraged to seek God's forgiveness.

Let us confess our sins.

A period of silence is observed. Then all join in the Confession.

**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.**

The priest gives assurance of God's love and mercy to all in the Absolution.

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.

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

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Then all join in the Sanctus, the song of the angels.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. ✠ Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

The people remain standing or kneel and 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:

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.

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,



THE LORD'S PRAYER

The presider introduces the Lord's Prayer.

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

**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

The presider breaks the consecrated bread and all join in the following

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is
sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

All are welcome to receive communion. Those who do not wish to receive communion are invited to come forward for a prayer of blessing. To receive a blessing, simply ask for a blessing when you approach the priest. If you are interested in being baptized, please speak to one of our clergy.

A period of silence follows communion, then all join in the following

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All then join in singing the hymn

The presider then prays for God's blessing on the people

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory
and gladden your hearts with the Good News of his kingdom;
and the blessing of God almighty, the ✠ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

All stand and sing the hymn, followed by the dismissal.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please return this service booklet by placing it in the
box as you leave the sanctuary. We'll use them
through February 19.

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Being a light to the world.

*We seek to love and serve the Lord
through our Mission Imperatives:*



Worship



Youth



Discipleship

*16 East Van Buren Street
Battle Creek, Michigan 49017
(269) 965-2244
www.StThomasBC.org*

Worship Services

Sundays

10:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist
5:00 p.m., Choral Evensong (1st Sunday of the month)

Weekdays

9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer
5:00 p.m., Evening Prayer
Wednesdays - 12:00 p.m., Holy Eucharist
Holy Days – See Announcements