



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Being a light to the world.

Worship, Youth, Discipleship

Welcome to St. Thomas Church.

The Sundays after Pentecost (Ordinary Time)

*This is no ordinary time, though!
We celebrate Christ's presence with us in the worshipping community,
in the proclamation of scripture and in the breaking of the bread.*

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, 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 offering or hand it to an usher.

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 there. 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: www.StThomasBC.org, for events and services:

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
www.StThomasBC.org
The Rev. Brian R. Coleman, *Rector*

The Holy Eucharist

The Word of God

The service begins with the opening hymn and the procession of the ministers of the liturgy. All stand, as they are able.

The officiating priest, called the presider, continues with the following. ✠ indicates where it is traditional to make the sign of the cross. The people's responses are in bold.

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

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.**

All join in singing the Gloria in excelsis, an ancient hymn of praise.

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
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 continues

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

The presider focuses the people's attention and gives voice to the assembly's intentions by offering the Collect of the Day

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, which can be found on the separate lesson sheet.

THE SERMON

One of the ministers gives the sermon, explaining how the lessons relate to our lives.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand, as they are able, and join in 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 and the Son,
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 stand or kneel, as they are able.

Prayer is offered with intercession for

The Universal Church, its members, and its mission

The Nation and all in authority

The welfare of the world

The concerns of the local community

Those who suffer and those in any trouble

The departed

After each petition the reader says

God of love and mercy,
hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers the presider adds a concluding collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins to God.

After a period of silence all join in saying

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. 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 the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

The Holy Communion

The presider introduces the offertory. Bread and wine for communion are brought forward. After the collection, the gifts of the people are presented at the altar.

All join in the hymn.

The presider offers the bread and the wine and the gifts of the people back to God, remembering that God is the source of all that we give.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Eucharist is the principal act of Christian worship and expresses our thanksgiving and praise for God's saving work in Jesus Christ. In the Great Thanksgiving, we recall in particular Christ's death and resurrection and the new life of freedom and flourishing that God conveys to us through Christ's resurrection.

The service continues

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presider gives thanks for God's faithfulness in creating, sustaining and redeeming humankind.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks,
all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing
and fed us with your constant love;
you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ
and knit us into one body.
Through your spirit you replenish us
and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels
and with the faithful of every generation,
we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. ✠ Blessed is the one who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The people stand or kneel, as they are able.

Then the presider continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life.
**You formed us in your own image
and called us to dwell in your infinite love.**

You gave the world into our care
**that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.**

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation, abused one another,
and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us,
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time,
you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus.

Born into the human family, and dwelling among us,
he revealed your glory.

Giving himself freely to death on the cross,
he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
and gave it to his friends, and said:
“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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

Remembering his death and resurrection,
**we now present to you from your creation
this bread and this wine.**

By your Holy Spirit
**may they be for us the Body and Blood
of our Savior Jesus Christ.**

Grant that we who share these gifts
**may be ✠ filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ's Body in the world.**

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughter and sons,
**that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Thomas our patron,
and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.**

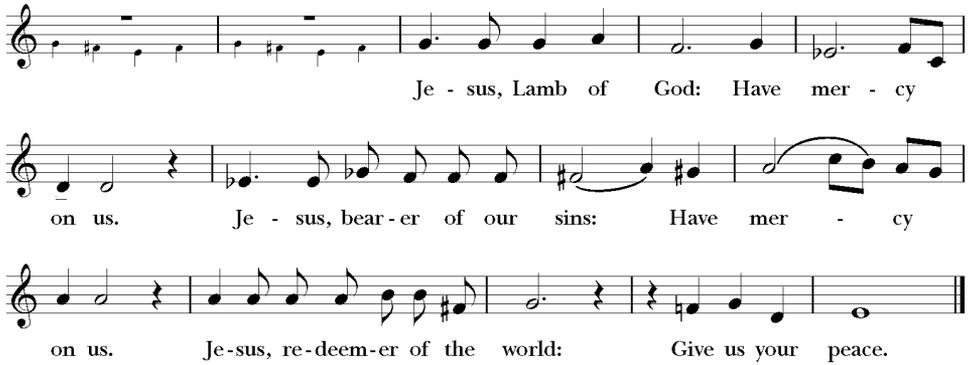
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
**in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise. AMEN.**

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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, a period of silence is kept, then all join in singing



Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy
on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy
on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

THE PEACE

All stand, as they are able. The presider introduces the Peace, saying

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

The presider invites the people to receive communion.

All are welcome at the altar. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper is normally reserved for baptized Christians. Those wishing to receive communion are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers. You may also come forward for a prayer of blessing (in that case, carry this service booklet with you to the altar).

Communion is not a celebration or mystery to be observed but one in which the people participate. The one bread is broken and shared so that the people may be united with God and with each other through Christ. We eat and drink the Body and Blood of Christ and, in so doing, become more fully Christ in the world.

During the distribution of communion the people may join in singing the hymn.

A period of silence follows communion, then all join in the post-communion prayer.

**God of abundance, you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people
in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All join in singing the hymn.

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy,
has always protected you, and loves you as a mother.
Go in peace to follow the good road
and may God's ✠ blessing be with you always.
Amen.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

*We invite you to join us for a time of friendship and refreshment in the Parish Hall,
following the service.*

**Please return this service booklet by placing it in
the box as you leave the sanctuary.**

Service Music Setting: William Mathias (1934-1992).
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