



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Being a light to the world.

Worship, Youth, Discipleship

Sundays in Lent

Welcome to St. Thomas Church.

During the season of Lent we are preparing for the festival of Easter. We do this through the traditional disciplines of self-examination and repentance, prayer, fasting, self-denial, and reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

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 participate 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 offering.

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!

Nursery and Sunday School ministries are currently suspended due to impacts from the pandemic.

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 comfortable.

See the Church's Website for a complete listing of events: www.StThomasBC.org

Please return this service booklet by placing it in the box 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
StThomasBC.org

The Holy Eucharist

The Word of God

All stand as the ministers gather at the font for the Penitential Order. The people's responses are in bold print.

The officiating priest, called the presider, continues with the following.

✠ Blessed be the God of our salvation.
Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
and to our God who will richly pardon.

A period of silence is kept.

Wash me through and through from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.
Lord, have mercy.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Christ, have mercy.

Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
Lord, have mercy.

The presider gives assurance of God's mercy and forgiveness 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.

HYMN OF PENITENCE: KYRIE PANTOKRATOR

Then all join in singing as the procession moves to the altar.



Al - might - y Lord Most High draw near whose awe - some splen - dor none can
How mea - sure - less your mer - cies stand, the hope and pledge of sins for -
From such a heart we bend the knee and all our sin and shame con -
So lift on high the Sav - ior's praise with all the hosts of heav'n a -



bear, e - ter - nal God, in mer - cy hear, re -
giv'n; those sins, un - num - bered as the sand, that
fess, Lord, your un - worth - y serv - ants see, and
bove, and sing through ev - er - last - ing days the



ceive once more the sin - ner's prayer; u - pon your word of grace we
hide the ve - ry stars of heav'n; O God of grace, to us im -
clothe us round with right - eous - ness; that loved and par - doned, healed and
God of glor - y grace and love. The Lord of all let us a -



call whose word of pow'r has or - dered all.
part a pen - i - tent and con - trite heart.
blest, we taste your mer - cies man - i - fest.
dore, for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith © 1988 Hope Publishing Co.
Music: *Old 113th*, melody from *Strassburger Kirchenamt*, 1525

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

A period of silent prayer is introduced followed by the Collect of the Day, a prayer which gathers together the thoughts and prayers of the people.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.
Let us pray.

At the end of the prayer the people 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, which may be found on the separate lesson sheet. A period of silent reflection follows the reading.

THE SERMON

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

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All stand, as they are able.

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**Though he was in the form of God,
Christ did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him
and given him the name
that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Philippians 2:6-11

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All kneel or stand, as they are able.

Prayers are offered for ourselves and for the needs of others.

After each petition all join in the response

God of love and mercy.
Hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers all join in saying

**Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy
but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.**

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 Holy Communion

The presider introduces the offertory. An anthem may be sung by the choir as the bread and wine for communion are brought forward. At the start of the hymn, the gifts of the people are brought forward and presented at the altar.

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 service continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

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.

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord;
who was tempted in every way as we are,
yet did not sin. By his grace we are able
to triumph over every evil,
and to live no longer for ourselves alone,
but for him who died for us and rose again.

or

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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

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.

Setting: Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

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 daughters and sons,
that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God;
Blessed 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, for ever and ever.
Amen.

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. A period of silence is kept, then all join in singing the Agnus Dei.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

The presider invites the people to communion.

All are welcome at the altar. Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a prayer of blessing carrying this Order of Service to the altar with you. The Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist is normally reserved for baptized Christians of any denomination. For more information about baptism, please speak to the clergy.

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

A period of silence follows communion. Then all join in saying the following.

**Loving God, we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All join in singing the hymn.

After the presider pronounces God's blessing on the people, the deacon dismisses us.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Lent at St. Thomas
See announcements for more details

Weekday Mass in the Chapel
Wednesday, Noon

Daily Office
Morning Prayer, 9:00am
Evening Prayer, 5:00pm

Holy Week Schedule, April 3-9

Maundy Thursday	Foot Washing & Eucharist, 7 p.m.
Good Friday	Ecumenical Service, Noon Stations of the Cross, 3p.m. Proper Liturgy, 7 p.m.
Holy Saturday	Liturgy of the Word, 9 a.m. The Great Vigil of Easter, 7 p.m.
Easter Day	Festal Eucharist, 10 a.m.

Music permissions:
All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-703201.

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., 1st & 3rd Sundays

Weekdays - in the Chapel

9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer
5:00 p.m., Evening Prayer

Wednesdays – 12:00 p.m., Holy Eucharist

Holy Days – See Announcements