



Lent

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!

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 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.

All

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 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.

OPENING HYMN

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

KYRIE ELEISON



Musical score for Kyrie Eleison, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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 SERMON

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

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,
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 on 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

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

The presider introduces the offertory. An anthem may be sung by the choir. The people stand as the gifts of the people are brought forward and presented at the altar.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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,
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.
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.

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.

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.**

CLOSING HYMN

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Deacon: Bow down before the Lord.

The Presider offers a Lenten Prayer, to which the people respond:

Amen.

DISMISSAL

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 15-20

Holy Wednesday	Said Eucharist, 12 p.m.
Maundy Thursday	Foot Washing & Eucharist, 7 p.m.
Good Friday	Community Service, 12 noon Stations of the Cross, 3 p.m. Proper Liturgy, 7 p.m.
Holy Saturday	The Great Vigil of Easter, 7 p.m.
Easter Day	Festal Eucharist, 10 a.m.

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

Weekdays

9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer

5:00 p.m., Evening Prayer

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

Holy Days – See Announcements