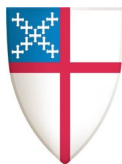


Welcome to
ST. THOMAS
Episcopal
CHURCH



*16 E. Van Buren St.
Battle Creek
(269)965-2244
www.StThomasBC.org*

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 25, 2025

The Holy Eucharist

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please use the following order of service to find your place in The Book of Common Prayer located in the pew racks in front of you. The blue Hymnal 1982 and supplemental hymnals Wonder Love and Praise and Lift Every Voice and Sing II contain hymns and service music.

If you are new to our community, please fill out a welcome card found in the pew racks and place it in the collection plate during the offering.

Coffee and refreshments are served in the Parish Hall after each service, through the double doors to the right of the altar and down the hallway. There, you will have an opportunity to visit with members of the church community.

Opening Hymn

Hymnal 518

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

He has defeated the powers of death.

Alleluia!

He has turned our shadow into light.

Alleluia!

He has turned our sorrow into joy.

Alleluia!

The Collect of the Day

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.*

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Acts 16:9-15

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 67

Chanted by Choir

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

6 The earth has brought forth her increase; *
 may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
7 May God give us his blessing, *
 and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

The Second Lesson: Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

A Reading from the Revelation to John.

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day-- and there will be no night there.

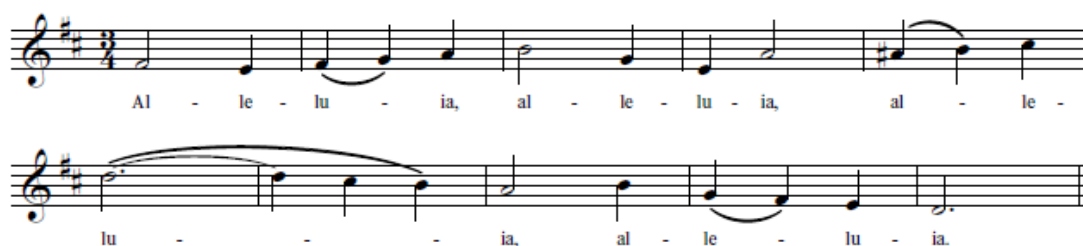
People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Sung by all before and after



The Gospel Lesson: John 14:23-29

The ✠ Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ

Announcements

Please, welcome **Kay Ensfield** as our guest organist.

Next Week's Lessons: [Acts 16:16-34](#); [Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20-21](#); [John 17:20-26](#);
[Psalm 97](#)

Today:

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Liz Neumeyer in memory of those veterans who gave their lives for our freedom.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **Graduation Sunday is June 1st.** If you know or have someone in your family who is graduating, please give those names to Fr. Michael so they can be recognized and congratulated.
- **Reminder: We are still taking pledges.** You can bring your pledge card to the office, put it in the collection plate, drop it in the mail, or pledge through Realm. If you need a new pledge card, you can pick one up in the office or you can call the office at 269-965-2244 and have it mailed to you. We need your pledge!

· **Our final Choral Evensong** of the choir year will be Sunday, June 1 at 5:00 p.m. featuring Eric Strand as organist, as well as great music by the late Robert Powell and Bainton's splendid *And I Saw a New Heaven*. We hope you'll join us!

· **St. Mary's Circle** will be meeting on Tuesday, May 27th at 12:00 noon in the lounge.

A list of this week's activities is posted on the hallway bulletin board or on our website: www.StThomasBC.org.

Serving this Week

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

Celebrant	The Rev. Michael Spencer
Preacher	The Rev. Michael Spencer
Deacon	The Rev. Trish Harris
Lectors	Kellen Petronski, Meghan Phelan
Intercessor	Grady Petronski
Crucifer	Jodi Nickerson
Chalice	Claire Nickerson, Meghan Phelan
Altar Chapter	Julie McDonald, Noreen Sidnam
Ushers	Tom & Lori Kiess, Judy Gray
Greeter	Monica Gray
Vestry Liaison	Claire Nickerson
A/V Tech	TBD