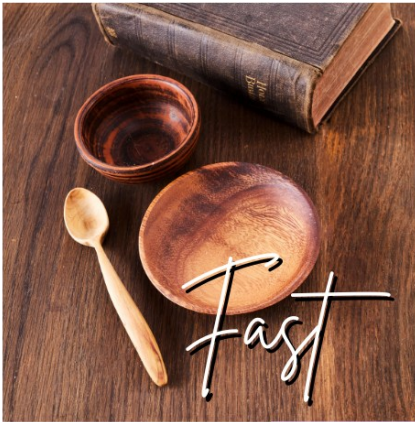


St. Thomas Church
Anglican - Episcopal
stthomaswi.com



Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 16, 2025

8:00 AM

To Visitors and Newcomers: Hello and welcome to St. Thomas. We're glad you're here! Children of all ages are welcome. At the rear of the church there are rocking chairs for use if needed. Also, there is a staffed nursery where children to age 4 may stay for all, or part of the service. To help us get to know you, please fill out a Welcome Card you will find in the Pew. Please come to the parish hall after the service for coffee and fellowship. We invite you to be part of the St. Thomas Church Community!



"St. Thomas offers a Hearing Loop for Hearing Aid Users.
To activate, turn your hearing aid to the 'T' setting."

HOLY COMMUNION ~ RITE 1

BCP pg. 319

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People His mercy endureth for ever.

THE DECALOGUE

Celebrant God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us,**
and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honor thy father and thy mother.

Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt do no murder.

Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not steal.

Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not covet.

Lord, have mercy upon us,
and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

Celebrant Seeing that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14, 16*

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Please kneel as you are able

All Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our
own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Celebrant The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

KYRIE

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

People Christ, have mercy upon us.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LESSON:

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27

- 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
 the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 **When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, it was they,
 my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.**
- 3 Though an army should encamp against me,
 yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- 4 **And though war should rise up against me,
 yet will I put my trust in him.**
- 5 One thing have I asked of the Lord;
 one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;
- 6 **To behold the fair beauty of the Lord
 and to seek him in his temple.**
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter;
 he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

- 8 **Even now he lifts up my head
above my enemies round about me.**
- 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness;
I will sing and make music to the Lord.
- 10 **Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.**
- 11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."
Your face, Lord, will I seek.
- 12 **Hide not your face from me,
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.**
- 13 You have been my helper; cast me not away;
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 14 **Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the Lord will sustain me.**
- 15 Show me your way, O Lord;
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
- 16 **Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.**
- 17 What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living!
- 18 **O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure; be strong,
and he shall comfort your heart;
wait patiently for the Lord.**
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

EPISTLE: **Philippians 3:17-4:1**

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL:

Luke 13:31-35

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord. **People** **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON

Deacon Lisa Ueda

THE NICENE CREED

BCP pg. 327

I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of his Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God, begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father;
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation
 came down from heaven,
 and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered and was buried;
 and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
 and ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
 and he shall come again, with glory,
 to judge both the quick and the dead;
 whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,

who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP pg. 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers [especially _____], that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land [especially _____], that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [_____ and] all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear [especially _____], beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of [_____ and of] all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.
Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP pg. 333

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

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

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

All Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having

in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

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

All

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

BCP pg. 337

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

All We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP pg. 339

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

The following anniversaries of members of our Parish Family will be remembered.

March 16, 2025 to Saturday, March 22, 2025

Birthdays

- 16 Debbie Paveletzke
Miles Fagan
- 17 David Gracey
- 18 Richard Haag
- 19 Will Ackell
Norah Geiger
Bob Bodway
- 22 Hazel Zaborski
Madison Acord
Ramona Griesbach
- 21 Betsy Fine

Wedding Anniversaries

No Commemorations

Anniversary of Ordination to Priesthood

- 18 Fr. John Peterson (58)

Faithful Departed

- 16 Anna Young
Nicholas Savas
- 17 Emma Schenandoah
Johanna Fairneny
- 18 Jennie Grode
- 19 Barbara Hill
- 20 Sylvester Wiatrowski
- 21 Richard Thickens
Lyle Hill
- 22 Jean Laux

Mission Partner

Double Portion with Calvary Bible Church/
St. Patrick's Church
Betsy Hake – Honduras
Mothers' Mercy Home – Kenya

Mission Payer Links

African Medical Mission
Boy Scouts Troop 3
Cub Scouts Pack 3003
Carmen & Rosa and the San Lucas UCC
– Chicago
Gideon Bible Distribution Ministry
Fr. Ian/Polly Montgomery – (SAMS)

Serving in the Military

Auston Allen – Air Force
Kyle Cooper – Army National Guard
James Kopczynski – Army National Guard
Bruce McRae – Army Reserve
Andrew Shaffer - Army
Mark Sopkiw, Jr. - Army
Matthew Verich – Navy
KaDee Peterson – Navy Reserves

Deployed

Humberto Puga – Navy

*In the wider **Anglican Communion** we pray for The Church of the Province of Central Africa. In the **Diocesan** Cycle of Prayer we pray for Christ Church Cathedral, Eau Claire; Precious Blood, Gardner. In the **St. Thomas** cycle of prayer we pray for Pray for Adult Development including Adult Education, Bible studies, Cursillo, Men and Women's Ministry and Welcome/Hospitality including Coffee Hour, Fellowship Camp, Senior Lunch, Welcome Ministers, and St. Martha's Guild.*

Flowers on the High Altar are given to the greater glory of God and in celebration for the life of and in memory of my Mom, Elvera Sopkiw, by Carol Hert.

St. Thomas Church	<u>Church Staff:</u>	<u>Vestry:</u>
226 Washington St. Menasha, WI 54952 (920)725-5601 Fax (920)725-5602 E-Mail: stthomaswi1916@gmail.com Website: www.stthomaswi.com CCLI #54142 CVLI#504135800	Rev. Andy Cruz Lillegard—Rector Rev. Aran Walter—Associate/ Youth Minister Rev. Lisa Ueda—Deacon Rev. Wm Johnston—Rector Emeritus Ashley Puga— Admin Assistant Jessica Zaborski—Children’s Ministry Laura Rothe—Organist/ Choir Director Martina Mims—Verger	Operations: Senior Warden—Anne Peterson Junior Warden—Dave Morton Treasurer— Russ Ritschke Pastoral: Jill Beverlin Adult Develop: Jon Phillip Youth Develop: Martina Mims Welcome/Hosp: Jeanna Werbeckes, Mary Danner Mission: Gordon Stillings, Mary Kay Hietpas Worship: Nancy Dombeck Finance: Dave Morton Clerk: Julie Spanbauer