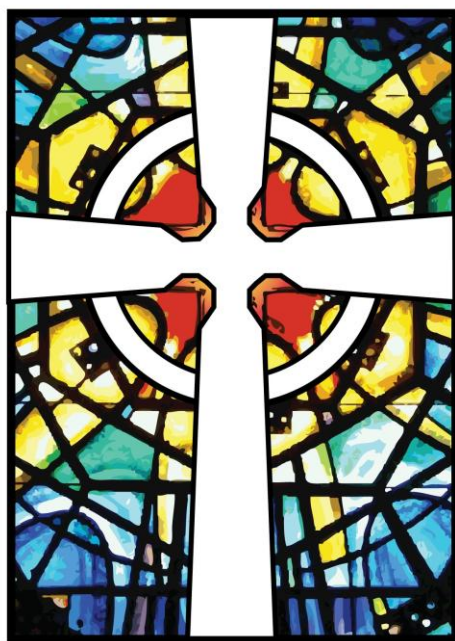


ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 14, 2026

8:00 & 10:30 AM



Today we celebrate our growing community with a Liturgy of Belonging, an opportunity for new members to be welcomed in love and support by the church family of St. Thomas.

We also welcome our new curate, Fr. Jackson Davey, and his wife Emily.

Welcome to St. Thomas Episcopal Church!

We warmly welcome you to our parish and are glad you are worshipping with us today. Our ushers and welcome team are ready to assist you and answer your questions.

Guests

If you are new, visiting, or a guest, please scan this QR code to connect with us! We would like to greet you by name. Please see our welcome team for a nametag.



Children

Children are welcome in all our services! Activities for them are available in the narthex (lobby). Childcare is also available in our nursery for children up to age five. Just ask an usher.

Restrooms

Gendered restrooms are located in the hallway off of the parish hall. A non-gendered and accessible restroom is available in the same hallway. An usher can guide you.

Hearing Assist Devices

Hearing assistance devices are available in the narthex (lobby).

Service Notes

Today you will see and hear cues to stand, kneel, and be seated. Instructions are printed in *italics* and spoken congregational responses in **bold**. Feel free to observe these traditions as you are able, but please, do what works best for you. Be comfortable here in God's house. Our services are streamed live on YouTube. Any hymns not included in this bulletin can be found in your pew hymnals, most often The Hymnal 1982 (blue). All music is used by permission under One License #A-717375 and CCLI #21653437.

Our Mission and Core Values

St. Thomas Episcopal Church is a diverse community that seeks unity with God and each other in Christ.



Muffins With Mark+ today!

If you feel new to St. Thomas, come enjoy some baked goods and an informal chat with Rev. Mark and other newcomers.

Meet in Mark's office today at noon. Muffins With Mark+ is held every few weeks, after the 10:30 service. You can reach Mark anytime by calling the church office at 757-547-4662, ext. 6.

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Bob and Mary Whitehouse
in celebration of their 34th anniversary.*

PRELUDE: Partita on "Nettleton"

Alfred V. Fedak

GATHERING SONG: We Are One in the Spirit

Booklet #32

WORDS OF WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING HYMN: Lift High the Cross

1982 Hymnal 473

Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore _____ his sa - cred Name.

till all the world _____ a - dore _____ his sa - cred Name.

Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain

the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: Gloria

Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30 (music on next page)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: Gloria

Setting by Carl Haywood, LEVAS 243

3
Glo - ry, Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, Glo - ry,
Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your ho - ly name.. 1.Glo - ry to God_ in the
high - est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth. 2.Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - mighty 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. Glo - ry, Glo - ry, hal - le - lu -
jah, Lord we praise your ho - ly name.. Glo - ry, Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we
praise your ho - ly name.. 4.You take a - way the sins 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 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of_ the Fa - ther. Glo - ry,
Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, Glo - ry, Glo - ry, hal - le - lu -
jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. A - - - men.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 116:1, 10-17 *Spoken responsively by half verse*

1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
10 How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?
11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.
13 Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.
14 O LORD, I am your servant; *
**I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**
15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,
17 In the courts of the LORD'S house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

THE EPISTLE: Romans 5:1-8

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 9:35-10:8-23

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death;

and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”

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

At 10:30, repeat the Sequence Hymn, Spirit of the Living God.

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Mark McKone-Sweet

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

LITURGY OF BELONGING: A Celebration of Membership

Rector We now welcome these persons who wish to join with this Body of Christ, the people of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Chesapeake. I would like to introduce:

The Rector speaks the name of everyone before him and those not able to attend today.

Rector Is it your wish to make St. Thomas Episcopal Church your church family, the people with whom you will share your journey of faith? Is this the place and are these the people with whom you will seek to make sense of the issues of your life, your dreams, and who God calls you to be?

New Persons **Yes, that is my wish.**

Rector Is it your wish to make this the place where you continue your journey into greater health and wholeness, where you listen to the story of God's salvation and the Good News of Jesus Christ, where you are called to a life of ministry and justice, and where you are fed at the table of new life?

New Persons **Yes, that is my wish.**

Rector Will you commit yourself to seek and serve Christ in union with this community of faith?

New Persons **I will, with God's help.**

Rector Will you pledge your spiritual, social, and financial support to this parish?

New Persons **I will, with God's help.**

The Rector asks the congregation to stand as able.

Rector Will you, who are members of this faith community and are witnessing the promises of these persons, share their joys and sorrows, and do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Rector Will you welcome the persons before us into this family, embrace their gifts, their needs, and their dreams, and recognize their presence and participation, which will change the shape of this body and help us grow in new ways?

People **We will.**

Rector Will you support them in their journeys and assist them in their ministries?

People **We will.**

All **Loving God, send your Holy Spirit to be among us, knitting us one to another. Help us to grow, love, and support each other, that by our common life in this community we may come to know and serve you and all our sisters and brothers. In Christ's name, we pray.**

Rector As rector of this congregation and speaking for everyone who is a part of it, I welcome each of you as active members of St. Thomas.

The congregation welcomes new members.

PRAYER FOR THE WELCOME OF A NEW CURATE

Everliving God,

strengthen and sustain Jackson in the ministry to which you have called him in this parish. Grant that with patience, wisdom, and love, he may serve your people faithfully; and grant that together we may follow Jesus Christ, offering to you our gifts and talents; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant Will you who witness this new beginning support and uphold Jackson in this ministry?

People **We will.**

May Almighty God give you grace to serve with joy, compassion, and courage; wisdom to proclaim the Gospel faithfully; and love to build up Christ's Church in this place. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of peace with others.

OFFERTORY: Interludium by Alfred H. Brewer (8:00)

O Love by Elaine Hagenberg (10:30)

*Our work as a church continues by your generosity. Thank you for your support.
For online giving, please visit stthomaschesapeake.org/giving, or scan this code:*



Please stand as you are able.

DOXOLOGY

Tune: Old 100th

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Enriching Our Worship Form I

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **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.

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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.

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 St. Mary, St. Thomas, 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.**

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant breaks the bread in silence.

FRACTION ANTHEM: Lamb of God *Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30, LEVAS 270 (red and black)*

3

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._____

This is the table, not of the Church, but of God. It is made ready for those of us who love God, and for those who want to love God more. So, come, those of us who have much faith, and those who have little; those of us who have been here often, and those who have not been here long; those of us who have tried to follow, and those who have failed. Come, because it is God who invites us. It is God's will that we should meet here.

Please be seated until the ushers direct you.

COMMUNION MUSIC: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Mark Hayes

COMMUNION HYMN: I, the Lord, of Sea and Sky

WLP 812 (green)

- 1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me,
I will hold your people in my heart.*

- 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

- 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Please stand as you are able.

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.

Please be seated.

VESTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: We All Are One in Mission

WLP 778

See sheet music on back page.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Jason D. Payne

1. We all are one in mis-sion, we all are one in call,
 2. We all are called for ser-vice to wit-ness in God's name.
 3. We all be-hold one vi-sion, a stark re-al-i-ty;
 4. Now let us be u-nit-ed and let our song be heard.

our var-ied gifts u-nit-ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min-is-tries are dif-f'rent, our pur-pose is the same:
 the stew-ard of sal-va-tion was nailed up-on a tree.
 Now let us be a ves-sel for God's re-deem-ing Word.

A sin-gle, great com-mis-sion com-pels us from a-bove
 to touch the lives of oth-ers by God's sur-pris-ing grace,
 Yet res-ur-rect-ed Jus-tice gives rise that we may share
 We all are one in mis-sion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to-gether that all may know Christ's love.
 so peo-ple of all na-tions may feel God's warm em-brace.
 free re-con-cil-i-a-tion and hope a-mid de-spair.
 our var-ied gifts u-nit-ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Words: Rusty Edwards (b. 1955). Music: *Nyland*, Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans (1874-1948).