



WELCOME TO ST. THOMAS'. WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE TODAY, AFFIRMING OUR SHARED FAITH IN CHRIST, AND WORSHIPING IN THE EPISCOPAL TRADITION. IF YOU ARE NEW TO ST. THOMAS', BE AT PEACE HERE, FIND GOD AT WORK, AND KNOW THAT WE ARE GRATEFUL TO PRAY WITH YOU TODAY.

HOLY EUCHARIST – RITE II

May 3, 2026 • The Fifth Sunday of Easter • 8:00 & 10:00 AM

Abbreviations found in this bulletin refer to: BCP—Book of Common Prayer (red book), HYMN—The Hymnal 1982 (blue book), WLP—Wonder, Love & Praise (green book), and LEVAS—Lift Every Voice and Sing (red & black book) * *indicates 10 am only*

THE ENTRANCE RITE

VOLUNTARY "Toccata on *Lasst uns erfreuen*" Mark Sedio (b. 1954)
*HYMN 1 "Father, we praise thee" *Christe sanctorum*

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

COLLECT OF PURITY **BCP 355**

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.

THE GLORIA **BCP 356 / *S-278**

COLLECT OF THE DAY **BCP 225**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Acts 7: 55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

EXPLANATORY NOTES & RUBRICS

Please stand as you are able.

The Collect for Purity is a prayer of preparation as we enter worship.

The Collect of the Day is a traditional prayer, following a particular formula, that is part of the Propers for the day (assigned set of texts, including the readings).

Please be seated.

In the Episcopal Church, we read a full complement of lessons from Scripture each Sunday. We follow the Revised Common Lectionary used by many denominations. The Old Testament Lesson and the Gospel are usually chosen to complement each other.

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

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

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

SERMON

The Rev. Martha E. Goodwill

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.

Please stand as you are able.

The Gospel is the most important reading of all the lessons, and is accompanied by more ceremony. It, like all the Lessons, is Proper to the Day.

Please stand as you are able.

The Nicene Creed is the official and ecumenical (meaning agreed upon by most of the churches) statement of the faith and of the Universal Church accepted by the Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople in the Fourth century. Many people choose to bow their heads in reverence at the portion of the creed that mentions the Incarnation.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Empowered by the Lord's promise that he will do whatever we ask in his name, let us pray, saying: **We ask in Jesus' name.**

For the church of God and for its leaders, that our lives may be for the glory of God alone, let us pray: **We ask in Jesus' name.**

For more vigorous efforts to unite all Christian peoples, lest factions and jealousies prevent the spread of the gospel, let us pray: **We ask in Jesus' name.**

For all who exercise the ministry of preaching, that their words may be full of the Spirit and of wisdom, let us pray: **We ask in Jesus' name.**

For those among us whose hearts are troubled and anxious, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we now name aloud or in silence: _____, that they may find support in our care, let us pray: **We ask in Jesus' name.**

For this local community, that our belief in God will be deepened by the word and sacrament we share, let us pray: **We ask in Jesus' name.**

For those who have died, remembering especially James Gilhooley, fiancé of Laura Webber, and those we now name aloud or in silence: _____, let us pray: **We pray in Jesus' name.**

Celebrant God of our Lord Jesus Christ, we bring these and all our needs to you, filled with confidence in the power of Jesus' name. Hear us and answer our prayers in your great wisdom and love. We ask this through Christ who is our risen Lord now and forever.

People **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in

Please continue standing or kneel. The Leader and People pray responsively.

At St. Thomas' we take our Prayers from a book called Intercessions for the Christian People that ties the themes and language of the prayers to the readings for that day, or from Times and Seasons, which is an authorized books of prayers from the Church of England. What these prayers do well is challenge us to pray for people, events, and things that we might not always think about. You are encouraged to add your own prayers to the petitions printed either silently or aloud.

All join the Deacon in the Confession., kneeling as able.

Another way we respond to the proclamation of God's word and pray for ourselves is with the Confession. Confession prior to receiving the Holy Communion is not only good practice but a biblical requirement: we are taught that we must examine our consciences before receiving Communion with the goal of true amendment of life. See the Exhortation on BCP p. 316 for further instruction.

The Celebrant alone stands and pronounces the Absolution.

... Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

... By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

THE GREAT AMEN

***S-146**



Music: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943). Copyright © 1984 Theodore Presser Co. Used by permission.

The Great Amen is the people's assent to the prayer of the priest. It is a great moment of unity and should be said or sung boldly.

LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

An intentional period of silence is kept as the priest breaks the bread. An appropriate devotion is to say quietly or silently the confession of St. Thomas, "My Lord and my God."

THE FRACTION

"Christ our Passover"

BCP 364 / *S-154

*COMMUNION ANTHEM "Blest Feast of Love Divine!" James R.K. Freeman

*Blest feast of love divine! 'Tis grace that makes us free.
to feed upon this bread and wine, in memory, Lord, of Thee.
But if this glimpse of love is so divinely sweet,
What will it be, O Lord, above, Thy gladdening smile to meet.
to see Thee face to face, Thy perfect likeness wear,
And all Thy ways of wondrous grace through endless years declare!*

All Christians baptized in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, regardless of denomination, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Come forward and kneel or stand at the Altar rail. If you do not wish to receive wine from the chalice for any reason, indicate by crossing your arms over your chest. Communion in one kind is as communion in both.

***HYMN 345**

"Savior, again to thy dear Name"

Ellers

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Please stand. During the final verse of the hymn, the clergy and altar party will form the closing procession.

***HYMN 194**

"Jesus lives! thy terrors now"

St. Albinus

Please continue standing or kneel as you are able.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Celebrant gives the blessing and the Deacon pronounces the dismissal.

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

The service is now concluded. The Acolytes will lead the Choir and the Altar Party out of the Nave. Once they have left, the Congregation may depart, though we strongly encourage you to remain for the entirety of the closing Voluntary, for which you may be seated.

THE PROCESSION

VOLUNTARY

"Thine Be the Glory"

Emily Maxson Porter

Thanks to those who are serving today (denotes 8am):*

Acolytes: Caroline Whitley, Colin Burkhart, Blythe Mitchell.

Audio Visual: Blake Biafora, Stuart Hine. **Greeters:** *Jacob and Evy Rodrigues, Russ Martin.

Healing: Liz Stiles. **Lay Eucharistic Ministers:** Tom Shevlin, Yamilet Roman.

Lectors: *Mike Bice, George Burkhart, Peter Barlow.

Oblation Bearers: Vickie Ryan, Adrienne Ruga. **Prayers of the People:** *Mike Bice, Joan Barns.

Ushers: George Burkhart, Bill Thomas.

Altar Guild: Laura Labbee, Jean Irwin.

Beverage Hosts: Liz Stiles, Peggy Lewis. **Counter:** Diane Robinson.

Flower Guild: Sue Humphrey, Laura Vrooman.

Upcoming Events at St. Thomas'

5/2 – Isaiah's Place *Hot Meal Prep*, 11:30 am | 5/3 – Isaiah's Place *Sandwich Sunday*, 9:00am, Exploring Communion, 11:30 am | 5/7 – Men's Club | 5/8 – Art Project, Opening Reception, 5:30 pm | 5/14 – Ascension Day Deanery Celebration at St. Bartholomew's, 7:00 pm | 5/15 – Faith and Family Night at the Bradenton Marauders, 5:30 pm | 5/18 – FAST, Joshua Assembly at Shiloah Missionary Baptist Church, 7:00 pm | 5/21 – Morning Prayer at Benison Farm, 8:00 am.

Our Website

StThomasStPete.org

Visit our website to view:

- Our Parish Calendar
- The Draft
- Worship Information
- Outreach and Ministry Details

The Draft

Subscribe to our Weekly E-Newsletter for important news

Subscribe by signing up on our website, calling the parish office or emailing:
office@stthomasstpete.org

Live Stream

10am Worship Streamed
Live every Sunday



[comeseesthomas](https://www.facebook.com/comeseesthomas)



Subscribe on Youtube:
[StThomasEpiscopalChurchStPete](https://www.youtube.com/StThomasEpiscopalChurchStPete)

Altar Flowers are given today to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Meryl Barns Zigila by her parents Bill and Joan Barns.

Parish Prayer List:

Ongoing: Geoff B., Carol W., Larry S., Connie W., Laura V., Nancy D., Rene C., Susan H., Louise C., Marilyn L., Ricardo R., Marty G., Sue M., Bob M., Jim R., Sam G., Robin T., Lore A., Sally W., Carrie J. | **Expecting:** Nick T. and Leah B. | **Baptismal Candidates:** Monica S., Sophia S.

Missionaries to Honduras: Alden H., Russ M., Kim C., Suzanne Z., Aaron P., Gretchen B., Diana H., Frank R., Andrea R., Liz K., Fran M., Amanda C., Blake C., Jerry A., Katie A., Brittany B., Elena C., Dawn C., and Mark H. | **First Communicants:** Luke C, James C., Thalia B., Jack L..



The Right Rev. Douglas F. Scharf,
VI Episcopal Bishop of Southwest Florida

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Ryan R. Whitley, *Rector* • The Rev. David B. L. Gould, *Assistant*
The Rev. Martha E. Goodwill, *Deacon* • Yamilet Roman, *Seminarian*
Jordan R. Markham, *Organist and Choirmaster* • Russ Martin, *Parish Administrator*
Jon Ward, *Sexton*
Joan Groendal-Patterson, *Nursery Attendant* • Haliegh McGrath, *Nursery Attendant*

Vestry

(Class of 2026)
Colin Burkhart • Michael Labbee, *Senior Warden* • Tom Shevlin
(Class of 2027)
Ted Badger, *Junior Warden* • Ed Lanctot • Kanika Tomalin
(Class of 2028)
Cathy Ball • Jay Hill, *Treasurer* • Greg Prescott

Our Mission: Making a difference for others, because God is making a difference for us.

Our Vision: To create a safe, loving, and accepting place for all people to grow in their faith and spread love out into the beloved community.

