

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 13, 2020 8:30 a.m.
Morning Prayer Rite II
www.stthomasgreenville.org or
Saint Thomas Episcopal Church, Greenville, Alabama Facebook Page



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
210 Church Street, Greenville, Alabama 36037
334.382.8914

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick, *Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast*
The Rev. Linda Suzanne Borgen, *Rector*
James Warren, *Director of Music*; Gary Mather, *Organist*
Dent Neilson, *Vergers*
Noel Seale, *Parish Administrator*
Julie Smith, *Nursery Nanny*

Vestry

Jean Hancock, *Senior Warden*; Lori Neilson, *Junior Warden*
Laura Watts, *Clerk*, Cemira Powell, *Treasurer*
Kenneth Edwards, Ed McFerrin, Lucy McGowin,
Magoo Hamilton, Travis Powell and Mickey Worthington

Current Diocesan and Alabama Public Health Guidelines for in-person worship

- **Masks must be worn for everyone sitting outside their vehicles where a minimum distance of 6 ft. social distancing cannot be maintained.**
- **Please refrain from singing if you are sitting outside your vehicles**

DAILY MORNING PRAYER: RITE TWO

Opening Hymn

Come down, O Love divine

H 516

Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

Opening Acclamation

BCP 78

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

The Confession of Sin

BCP 79

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People

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.

The Absolution

BCP 80

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Invitatory

BCP 81

Officiant Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:
People *Come let us adore him.*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
 serve the Lord with gladness
 and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
 he himself has made us, and we are his;
 we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
 go into his courts with praise; *
 give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;
 his mercy is everlasting; *
 and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The Psalm

Psalm 114

In exitu Israel

BCP 756

¹ Hallelujah!
 When Israel came out of Egypt, *
 the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
² Judah became God's sanctuary *
 and Israel his dominion.
³ The sea beheld it and fled; *
 Jordan turned and went back.
⁴ The mountains skipped like rams, *
 and the little hills like young sheep.
⁵ What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
 O Jordan, that you turned back?
⁶ You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
 you little hills like young sheep?
⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
 at the presence of the God of Jacob,
⁸ Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
 and flint-stone into a flowing spring.
 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

The First Reading Exodus 14:19-31*Lay Reader*

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the

sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Song of Moses *Cantemus Domino Exodus 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18*

BCP 85

Officiant and People

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *

the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *

the Lord has become my Savior.

This is my God and I will praise him, *

the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty warrior; *

Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *

the finest of those who bear armor have been

drowned in the Red Sea.

The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *

they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *

your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *

who is like you, glorious in holiness,

awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?

You stretched forth your right hand; *

the earth swallowed them up.

With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *

with your might you brought them in safety to

your holy dwelling.

You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.
The Lord shall reign *
for ever and for ever.

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.

The Second Reading Romans 14:1-12

Lay Reader

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also, those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Song of the Redeemed *Magna et mirabilia* *Revelation 15:3-4*

BCP 94

Officiant and People

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,
great deeds are they that you have done, *
surpassing human understanding.
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, *
O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,
and sing the praises of your Name? *
for you only are the Holy One.
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, *
because your just and holy works have been revealed.

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.

Come with us, O blessed Jesus,
 With us evermore to be;
 and though leaving now thine altar,
 Let us nevermore leave thee.
 Be thou one with us for ever,
 in our life they love divine
 our own flesh and blood has taken,
 and to us thou givest thine.

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew 18:21-35

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Word of the Lord

People *Thanks be to God*

The Apostles’ Creed

BCP 96

Officiant and People together, all standing

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth;
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Peace

BCP 360

The Announcements

Pg 12

Offertory Sentence

BCP 376

Officiant

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*
(Offerings may be placed in the alms basin at the altar following our worship, mailed or given to the church office, or given securely online at www.stthomasgreenville.org)

Doxology

H 380, v 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, you heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 97

The People stand

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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 Suffrages

BCP 97

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. *And grant us your salvation.*
- V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. *Let your people sing with joy.*
- V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. *For only in you can we live in safety.*
- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*
- V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. *Your saving health among all nations.*
- V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*
- V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. *And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

The Collects

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

For Discipleship

BCP 215

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for our Country

BCP 820

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought here out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with a spirit of wisdom, in your Name, those to whom we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to your law, we may show forth your praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Intercessor

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For the world, the nation, our state and our community; praying especially for our President, Donald Trump; our Governor, Kay Ivey and our Mayor, Dexter McLendon.

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Russell our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list _____page 11_____.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Officiant

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

BCP 101

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

BCP 102

Officiant and People

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Closing Sentence

BCP 102

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

Closing Hymn

All creatures of our God and King

H 400

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voices and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia!

Bright burning sun with golden beams,
pale silver moon that gently gleams,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord, Alleluia, alleluia.
People *Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia.*

St. Thomas Prayer List
September 13, 2020

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Parishioners: Midge Bennett; Richard Boulay; Brittany Dobbs; Ceil Hamilton; Cissi Jones; Gary Mather; Rosa McGowin; Marion Norman; Kenny Parker; Boo Privett; Suzie Snow.

Family and Friends of Parishioners: Toni Bass; Jill Black; Kelley Black; Ric Brown; Tony & Peggy Campolo; Anne Bailey Cates; Sarah Sewell Chapman; Deborah Crews; June Earnest; Juanita, Brian, and Susan Garrett; Dale Gates; Totsye Godwin; Butch & Cass Hamrick; Chalice Hutchins; Charlie Jernigan; Kirk Johnson; Tamara Jones; David & Jennifer Knight; Sam Lambert; Donnie & Mary Helen McGough; Cheryl McNaughton; Lucrecia Middleton; Michael Owens; Easley Jane Phelps; Anne Saint; Dale Simmons; Greg Smith; Edna Steen; Christi Stewart; Karen Troppman; Dusk Tucker; Micah Waddell; Susie Winters; those affected by COVID-19; and in the Diocesan cycle of prayer for St. Cyprian's, Pensacola, and for the prison ministry of the Covington County Jail, Andalusia.

*Please help us keep our prayer list current.
Call (334.382.8914) or email (office@stthomasgreenville.org)
our Parish Administrator with any updates by Wednesday of each week.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, September 13th, 20th and 27th Morning Prayer Rite II 8:30 a.m. We will continue outdoor worship through the month of September. Please see our parish website for our worship guidelines.

In-person Lectio Divina will meet in the parish hall on Wednesday, September 16th at 6 p.m. The Zoom link will also remain available for those wanting to join us online. Masks must be worn and social distancing guidelines will be observed.

Celebration Sunday: In keeping with the theme of 2020, this year's Celebration Sunday event will be a little different than in previous years. On Sunday, September 20th at 5 p.m. we will gather on our courtyard and front lawn to enjoy a fish fry and some great fellowship (following ADPH guidelines for social distancing and food serving) This year has brought new opportunities for ways to engage our various ministries and talents. To celebrate some of this adventure we will be sharing this summer's "Blooper Reel" from our filmed services as part of our celebration. Stay tuned for additional details!

Discipleship Day 2020 Registration Now Open on www.diocgc.org

Marked as Christ's Own Forever: A Celebration of Living Baptized in Today's World with Dr. Lisa Kimball. Discipleship Day will be a time to gather as a whole diocese to investigate ways in which we might become more confident about our calling as the baptized faithful in this fast-changing world. We will hear from Dr. Lisa Kimball of Virginia Theological Seminary and other leaders as we celebrate the new opportunities and ministries in our diocese such as Baptized for Life. We will also break out into small groups to investigate and discover the challenges before us as citizens of the kingdom. Our time together will be framed by the dynamism of our baptismal covenant and how it is lived out in our own shared stories and witness.

Saturday, September 19th Time: 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Online Event