

THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 23, 2020 8:30 a.m.
Holy Eucharist 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, *Verger*
Noel Seale, *Parish Administrator*
Julie Smith, *Nursery Nanny*

Vestry

Jean Hancock, *Senior Warden*; Lori Neilson, *Junior Warden*
Laura Watts, Jr., *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 when not able to maintain 6 ft. social-distancing.**
- **Please refrain from singing if you are sitting outside your vehicles.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Hymn

When morning gilds the skies

H427

Please refrain from singing if you are sitting outside your vehicle.

When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
When evening shadows fall,
this rings my curfew call,
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

Celebrant

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

All say together

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.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Word of God

First Reading Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live." Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

- 1 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;
- 2 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;
- 5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

Second Reading Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

I come with joy to meet my Lord

H 304

Please refrain from singing if are sitting outside your vehicle.

I come with joy to meet my Lord,
forgiven, loved, and free,
in awe and wonder to recall,
his life laid down for me.

Gospel Matthew 16:13-20

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Bishop Russell Kendrick

The Baptismal Covenant

BCP 304

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

*People I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.*

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People 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.*

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People 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.*

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and
fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever
you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good
News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving
your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all
people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

The Prayers of the People

Form VI

BCP 392

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 _____.

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

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

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

Confession of Sin

All say together

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.

Absolution

BCP 360

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 eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you
People And also with you

*The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord **while observing social distancing guidelines.***

The Announcements

The Holy Communion

Please refrain from singing if sitting outside your vehicle.

Offertory

The Priest says

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)

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.
People And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP 361

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 him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to the glory of your Name.

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand as they are able.

Then the Celebrant continues:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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

People and Celebrant

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.

(The Celebrant will go out among the congregation to distribute consecrated, individually wrapped hosts for those desiring to receive Communion. We will observe distribution of Communion in one kind, which is recognized by the Church as Communion in full).

The Bread is given to the communicants with these words

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP 366

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

Blessing

Celebrant blesses the congregation saying

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
Keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of
God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be upon you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn

The church's one foundation
Please refrain from singing if sitting outside your vehicle.

H 525

The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word:
from heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

St. Thomas Prayer List
August 23, 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: 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; Ashlie Hickman; Chalice Hutchins; Charlie Jernigan; Kirk Johnson; Tamara Jones; David & Jennifer Knight; Sam Lambert; Donnie & Mary Helen McGough; Cheryl McNaughton; Lucrecia Middleton; Judy Morehead; Michael Owens; 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. Thomas, Greenville, and for the prison ministry of the Conecuh County Jail, Evergreen.

Departed: Sylvia McGowin; Dr. Vernon Stabler Jr.

*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

Wednesday, August 26, 6 pm: Lectio via zoom. Please contact the office for more details.

Sunday, August 30, 8:30 am: Please join us for morning prayer. You are welcome to bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the fresh air, or you may listen from the comforts of your vehicle using one of our FM radio transmitters. Service will also be available live stream on our FaceBook page.

Worship schedule going forward: We will celebrate Holy Eucharist the first Sunday of each month, with morning prayer each subsequent Sunday.