

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY EUCHARIST
April 28, 2024
8:00am and 10:00am

Welcome to St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

During Eastertide, we are observing a paper fast, including limiting our use of paper used for our worship leaflets. Please follow along in *The Book of Common Prayer (BCP)* and *The Hymnal 1982* as you are guided by this leaflet. If you are unsure of what to do next, simply relax in the liturgy, and let the congregation carry you in worship.

PRELUDE *Air* G. F. Handel

HYMN 296

OPENING SENTENCES BCP p. 355

HYMNAL S 278, GLORIA

**THE COLLECT FOR THE
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER** BCP p. 225

THE LESSONS BCP p. 357

THE FIRST LESSON Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.
In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came

up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

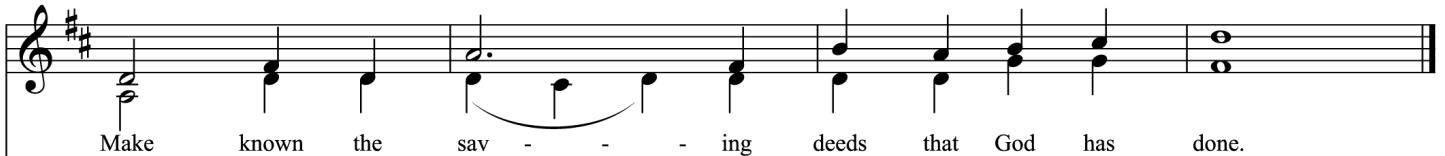
PSALM 22:24-30

BCP p. 612

8:00am *Read in unison.*

10:00 am *Join the choir in singing the Antiphon after verses 25, 28, and 30.*

Antiphon



THE EPISTLE

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

HYMN 529

THE GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the

branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

THE SERMON BCP p. 358

THE NICENE CREED BCP p. 358

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE BCP p. 387

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially:

Carl, the Waite family, Layan, Richard, Karen, Patricia, Anne and family, Martha, ‘H’, the Howie family, Judy Gowdy & family, Jeannine, Maria, Ann, ++Michael Curry, and Fletcher.

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially:

Merlin Waite, Lynn Cockburn, Barbi Olstad, Susan Voorhees, Cathy McClary, Keith Howie, William Pelly, Maxine Greidanus, Bishop Alan Wilson, John King, and Bo Darling.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE BCP p. 360

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION BCP p. 361

OFFERTORY *Magnificat*

Roland Middleton

An offering is received to support the mission of St. Thomas. All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed, using the QR code at right, or at stthomasmedina.org/giving.



HYMN 304

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING BCP p. 369

HYMNAL S 128, SANCTUS

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER CONT. BCP p. 371

THE LORD’S PRAYER BCP p. 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

HYMNAL S 165, FRACTION ANTHEM

Ushers will guide each row to the altar rail to receive Holy Communion. Please follow their instructions. If you prefer to receive a blessing (or not to receive bread and/or wine), place your arms across your chest as a sign. Gluten-free Holy Communion wafers are available upon request. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please inform the priest at the altar rail.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Wondrous Love

arr. Marie Pooler

HYMN 487

BLESSING

Celebrant May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing.

All **Amen.**

Celebrant May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever.

All **Amen.**

Celebrant May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

All **Amen.**

Celebrant And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever.

All **Amen.**

HYMN 182 vs. 1, 2, 3

DISMISSAL

BCP p. 366

POSTLUDE

Allegro

G. F. Handel

SERVING TODAY

The Rev. Liz Costello, Rector

The Rev. Edmund Harris, Associate Rector

The Rev. Shane Carlson, Curate

Jacki Sullivan, Organist/pianist

St. Thomas Choir

Natalie Ingrisano, Soprano