

Welcome to
ST. THOMAS
Episcopal
CHURCH



16 E. Van Buren St.
Battle Creek
(269)965-2244
www.StThomasBC.org

THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 25, 2021

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please use the following order of service to find your place in the Book of Common Prayer located in the pew racks in front of you. The blue Hymnal 1982 and supplemental hymnals, Wonder Love and Praise and Lift Every Voice and Sing II, contain hymns.

If you are new to our community, please fill out a welcome card, found in the pew racks, and place it in the collection plate during the offering.

Coffee and refreshments are served in the Parish Hall after the service, through the double doors to the right of the altar and down the hallway. There you will have opportunity to visit with members of the church community.

HOLY EUCHARIST - 10:00 a.m.

Voluntary
Welcome

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

Gloria

BCP 356

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson: 2 11:1-15

A Reading from the Second Book of Samuel.

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant." So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house. In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 14

- 1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." *
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;
there is none who does any good.
- 2 The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all, *
to see if there is any who is wise,
if there is one who seeks after God.
- 3 Every one has proved faithless;
all alike have turned bad; *
there is none who does good; no, not one.
- 4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers *
who eat up my people like bread
and do not call upon the LORD?

- 5 See how they tremble with fear, *
because God is in the company of the righteous.
6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, *
but the LORD is their refuge.
7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! *
when the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:14-21

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn

WLP761

Gospel Lesson: Mark 6:30-34,53-56

Gospel Lesson: John 6:1-21

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were

terrified. But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

Sermon

Nicene Creed BCP 358

Prayers of the People

Confession of Sin BCP 360

The presider introduces the Offertory. The bread and wine for communion are brought forward. After the collection, the gifts of the people are presented at the altar.

Offertory Hymn Hymnal 318
The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer C) BCP 369

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus BCP 371

The Lord’s Prayer BCP 364

Fraction BCP 364

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

All are welcome at the altar. Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a prayer of blessing carrying this Order of Service to the altar with you. The Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist is normally reserved for baptized Christians of any denomination. For more information about baptism, please speak to the clergy.

Post-Communion Prayer BCP 365

Announcements by the Vestry Liaison

Blessing & Dismissal BCP 366

Voluntary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Altar Flowers are given in celebration of Karen Suggs' birthday by her daughter Melissa Jelinek.

Procedures under Phase 3 of the Diocesan Re-Entry Plan. Masks are not required, but still recommended, especially for the unvaccinated and immunocompromised. Those administering communion will wear masks for that part of the service. Physical distancing is no longer required, though crowding should be avoided. Please be respectful of those who may not be comfortable with physical touch, or who may prefer to keep physical distance.

The Chapel is reserved for those who are not ready to dispense with pandemic precautions. There, mask-wearing and physical distancing are still in force.

Fr. Brian will be on vacation through August 6.

Stuff-A-Bus Campaign — we are collecting backpacks and school supplies through August 15. A bin is available in the parish office for your donations.

Rectory Open House will be Aug 7th from 3-7 pm. The rectory address is 148 Pleasantview Drive.

Breakfast Program volunteers are needed the week of Aug 30-Sept 3. Sign-up sheet is in the hallway.

The Daily Devotional Booklet, called *Forward Day by Day*, is available in the Parish Hall.

Save the Date! St Thomas Kayak trip and parish picnic will take place on Saturday, September 11th. Online registration will open on June 27th. Kayak rental will be \$25.00 per boat. Stay tuned for more details.

August Birthdays and Anniversaries will be celebrated next Sunday, August 1st.

Next Sunday's Lessons: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a; Psalm 51:1-13; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35

For a listing of the coming week's activities see the sheet posted in the hallway or check out our website at: www.StThomasBC.org

SERVING THIS WEEK

Presider:	Fr. Mark Engle
Preacher:	Elizabeth Neumeyer
Subdeacon:	Trish Harris
Lector:	Ginny Baldwin
Intercessor:	Keith Phillips
Crucifer:	Keith Phillips
Chalice Bearers:	Claire Nickerson & Trish Harris
Ushers:	Lori Kiess & Judy Gray
Greeter:	Monica Gray
Altar Chapter:	Mira Wuerges & Keith Phillips
Vestry Liaison:	Hans Prechtel
AV Technician:	Alexis Stark