

Welcome to

ST. THOMAS CHURCH

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

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 11, 2020

Attending worship in person during the global Corona Virus pandemic entails the risk of the transmission of the disease. By remaining in church, you consent to this risk and agree to hold St. Thomas Episcopal Church of Battle Creek harmless and without fault. St. Thomas has taken reasonable steps to mitigate the transmission of the disease and to protect those who choose to attend worship in person. Participants must abide by all safety procedures, i.e., mask wearing, physical distancing, hand washing, etc., or else are encouraged to stay home and participate remotely through live streaming.

If you are new to our community, we welcome you and encourage you to fill out a welcome card, found in the pew racks, and place it in the collection plate as you leave.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant prays the Collect for Purity.

**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.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people sit.

First Lesson - Isaiah 25:1-9

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Second Lesson - Philippians 4:1-9

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians.

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All stand, as they are able, for the reading of the Gospel.

Gospel Lesson - Matthew 22:1-14

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

THE 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.
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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each petition the people respond

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant prays a concluding collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**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 Priest stands and says the Absolution.

The Celebrant introduces the Offertory. The bread and wine for communion are set upon the altar. The gifts of the people are presented at the altar.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 him thanks and praise.

Here the Proper Preface is said. Then all join in the Sanctus

**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 Celebrant praises God for the salvation of the world through the holy self giving of Jesus; and remembering the events of the Last Supper, prays that the gifts of bread and wine may become the Body and Blood of Christ.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

At the end of the prayer the people respond

Amen.

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

**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

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Please remain at your place. Communion will be distributed to the people where they are. 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.

After communion the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us
as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen**

The vestry liaison gives the announcements.

The Celebrant prays for God's blessing on the people and then dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers are given by Yvette Petti in memory of those who have lost their lives due to COVID-19.

Next Sunday's Lessons (Feast of St. Luke): Sirach 38:1-4,6-10,12-14; Psalm 147:1-7; 2 Timothy 4:5-13; Luke 4:14-21

Reminders THIS WEEK:

Tuesday-	-Staff Meeting, 10:30am
Wednesday	- Holy Eucharist, 6pm -Preaching Circle, 6:30pm in the Lounge
Thursday-	-Vestry, 6pm -Pre-Convention Meeting, 7pm
Friday-	-Bible Study, 11am -Holy Eucharist, 12pm
Saturday-	-Breakfast Program, 7am-10:30am

Feast of St. Luke - Next Sunday we will celebrate the Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist, who was also, according to tradition, a physician. The service will include special prayers for doctors, nurses and those who practice the healing arts, as well as the laying on of hands and anointing for healing.

All Saints' Day, November 1, - Opportunity for Baptism - baptism is available to adults, infants and children. Please contact Fr. Brian immediately if you or someone you know would like to be baptized.

November NewSpirit Articles must be submitted to Karmel Addis (karmel@bcppg.com) by Oct. 21.

Breakfast Program: St. Thomas volunteers are needed for November 14; please sign up to help across from the parish office.

Serving this Week

Presider:	Fr. Brian Coleman
Preacher:	Keith Phillips
Subdeacon:	Michele Reid
Lector:	Kathy Dingwall
Usher:	Roy Hillman & Doug Chapel
Altar Chapter:	Mira Wuerges and Caroline Leblanc
Vestry Liaison:	Judy Gray