



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 30th

8:00 am

RITE I

God loves you. No exceptions.

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.



Welcome! It is wonderful have you with us. Everybody you see here was a newcomer at one time, and we've all had questions—possibly like some that you may have today.

The faith community of St. Thomas's Parish believes that everyone has been invited to follow the Way of Jesus, who commands us to love God and to love our neighbors. Therefore, we are committed to embrace and respect people of every age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity; people who live with all mental and physical abilities, in all socio-economic conditions, in all household compositions, and with every citizenship status, including immigrant and refugee; people who hold diverse political and theological backgrounds, beliefs, and questions. Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, as God's beloved, you are worthy and welcome here!

Today's Service

We are worshipping both in-person and via live-stream on YouTube. Full-text bulletins are distributed at all services and posted on our parish website. At the in-person service, "busy bags" for children and a dedicated sensory-friendly "soft space" can be found at the back of the sanctuary. We follow directions from our diocese for in-person pandemic precautions; masking is currently optional.

We commit ourselves to ensuring that our place of worship is a safe place where all can feel comfortable and know that they are accepted and loved. In the Episcopal church, everybody doesn't always do things in the same way. But **when you're worshipping God, you can't get it wrong!** If you would like help, ask anyone in the pews around you or speak with Fr. Howie.

Learn More about St. Thomas's

At the end of this booklet, as well as on our website, you will find information about our weekly worship services and about opportunities to learn and grow in the faith through our Christian education programs for all ages. There also you can explore opportunities to join us in service to the Newark community through the Episcopal Campus Ministry and "Blue Hen Bounty" food pantry, through our work in support of the Newark Empowerment Center, through refugee resettlement and other programs of community service.

Thank you for joining us today. Your presence is a blessing to us. Fill out a visitor card in your pew and leave it with a clergyperson or an usher if you would like to be contacted. We hope to see you again soon!

<https://stthomasnewarkde.church/>
<https://www.facebook.com/StThomasEpiscopalChurchNewarkDelaware/>
<https://www.instagram.com/st.thomas.newark.de/>

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is Risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

seated

First Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

Dominus regit me

- 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.

New Testament Lesson

1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Kevin, our Bishop, Howell and Clay and Juan, our priests, and Sheila, our deacon, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph, our President, John, our Governor, and Stu, our Mayor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

All **Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

[The Celebrant inserts one of the Comfortable Words sentences.]

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**

HOLY EUCHARIST

Offertory

Our offerings are an act of worship through which we respond with gratitude to God's grace, love, and mercy, putting our trust in the Lord into action. You may place your offering in the plate, or—you can give electronically through our website (QR code on the back of this booklet) and place an "online giving" card in the plate. With the bread and the wine, these donations are carried to the altar and offered to the Lord on our behalf.

The Great Thanksgiving

standing

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
People	And with thy spirit.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them up unto the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People	It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. [Proper Preface] Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues...*All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God,
Behold Him who takes away the sins of the world;
Happy are they who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

**O Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof,
but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.**

All are welcome to come forward up the center aisle to receive from the priest either the sacrament of Christ or a blessing. If you desire a blessing, cross your arms over your chest. Receive the host in open hands. Gluten-free bread is available; you may request it from the priest when you come to the front of the line. Receiving the wine is optional. To take the wine, drink from it or intinct (carefully dip) the bread into the cup. Please use the side aisles to return to your pew. If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher to let the clergy know, and communion will be brought to you.

THE COMMUNION

-silent prayer-

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth 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, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

The altar flowers this week
were given by
LaRue Manning
in memory of
Phyllis & Anthony Manning,
And Timothy Dawson

April Birthdays

David Payne	April 3
Judy Grabowski	April 6
Julie Hall	April 8
Dawn Hall	April 10
Catherine Westbrook	April 10
Francine Belinske	April 14
Joline Fincher	April 14
Tracy Tunis	April 14
Donna Weaver	April 15
Lisa DiRenzo	April 16
George Grier	April 16
Tammy Gregg	April 18
Georgio Melloni	April 22
Barbara Eldred	April 22
Dan Moore	April 23
Cameron Mathias	April 29

April Anniversaries

Keith and Natalie Flemming	April 14
Frank and Stephanie Belinske	April 24
Brook and Nicole Cebula	April 25
Bob and Cathy Wojewodzki	April 25

Worship Opportunities:

- Sundays at 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I spoken, in-person and via YouTube
- Sundays at 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II with music, in-person and via YouTube
- Wednesdays at noon - Intercessory Prayer with Holy Communion, in-person
- Thursdays at 7 pm - Compline Evening Prayer, live via Zoom

Growth and Fellowship:

- Sundays at 9:15 am- Adult Education in the Great Hall classroom
- Sundays at 10:15 am - Children's Ministries in the Undercroft
- 2nd Sundays at 9:15 am - Novel Theology in the parlor and via Zoom
- Last Sunday of the month - Family Church Sunday
- Last Sunday of the month - Coffee and Fellowship between services
- 3rd Monday of the month- Hope Dining Room service
- Wednesdays at 10:30 am - Lectionary Bible Study

Other Parish Events:

- TODAY - Family Church Sunday; no Sunday School: everyone worships together!
- TODAY - Ministry Breakfast between services; this month is Property Committee
- 5/6 - Saturday train trip to the Philadelphia Museum of Art
 - Everyone is Welcome! Bring a friend or neighbor!
 - Please let the office know if you can come, so tickets can be purchased
- 5/14 - Novel Theology between services
- 5/15 - serving at the Hope Dining Room
- 5/21 - WELCOMING our Curate, Fr Clay Brown!!! *Special Coffee Hour*

If you have anything to add to the [Parish calendar](#) or the [Carpenter's Helper newsletter](#), please email the office at StThomasOffice@googlegroups.com.

To see a full listing of parish worship, events, or news, visit our website:
www.StThomasNewarkDE.church

Parish Prayer List

Archer family	D Green	Lorraine CS
Austin M & Krissy V	Daphne D	Lynn D
Barry G	Denise B	Marge C
Bernice R	Dennis R	Maria P
Betty H	Devon MD	Marian S & family
Blackman family	Eley family	Marianne A
Bob M	Elmer T	Mary T
Bob P	Flora R	Michael C
Bob S	Francis family	Morgen and family
Bob T	Frank W	Mullens family
Brendan S	Fred & Lori	Nancy G
Brighton P	Geoff C	Noah P
Carew family	George H	Pam D
Carol G	Giorgio & family	Pat & Emmett J
Carol M	Harrison family	Rick R
Carolyn V	Jean & Richard P	Ricky G
Cecily SH	Jeanne M	Shannan D
Charles B	Jim T	Sharon O
Charlie M & Ellen S	John D	Sophie A
Chaun	Jonny K	South family
Chris E	Judy B	Stephen M
Chris G	June G	Stover B
Christine & Erich	Kathryn D	Susan & family
Christine A & Francis M	Kelly K	Tom H
Christine D	Lane family	Tom P
Chuck & Paula R	Larry	Vicki G
Connie L	Liz R	
Court W		

We pray for all who serve our country abroad, in the military,
in embassies, and in non-governmental organizations, especially...

Adam	Charlie K	Kate	Nicholas
Annie R	Christie J	Kathy	Stacy
Ben	James	Kevin	Stuart
Bob	Jeremy	Luke	Tina
Bradley	Joe	Marvin	Tyler
Brett	Josh	Matthew	Victoria
Brian	Kagen	Nate	

*To update or add to our parish prayer list,
please contact the office or speak with Fr Howie directly.
Please include a last name initial, and let us know if your loved one would like
to be contacted by our pastoral care ministry or have a visit from a priest.*

StThomassOffice@googlegroups.com 302.368.4644

4/19/2023



LEADERSHIP OF ST THOMAS'S

StThomasNewarkDe.church 302.368.4644

The Vestry

Rector's Warden: Kristin Sausville
Treasurer: Amy Keach

People's Warden: Philippa Sunnergren
Clerk of the Vestry: Sally Price

Class of 2024

Larry Duggan
Cami Seward
Philippa Sunnergren

Class of 2025

Joan Bennett
Mike Grabowski
Marilyn Prime

Class of 2026

Sally Price
Robert Sido
Belinda Young-Payne

RECTOR		
The Rev. Howell Sasser	704.578.4724	howell.sasser.jr@gmail.com
CURATE (as of May 1st)		
The Rev. Clay Brown	302.368.4644	
DEACON ASSOCIATE		
The Rev. Deacon Sheila Brigid Sharpe, AF	302.593.9951	sgsharpe@comcast.net
PRIEST ASSOCIATE		
The Rev. Juan George	302.834.8341	georgevjtaurus@yahoo.com
ORGANIST & CHOIR DIRECTOR		
Marc F. Cheban	302.220.9680	a1b2celeste@yahoo.com
CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES		
Belinda Young-Payne	302.388.4017	belmar43@aol.com
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR		
Cana Hartman	302.354.3277	cana.hartman@gmail.com
REGISTRAR		
Wendy Campbell	302.368.9562	wjcampbell7@yahoo.com
ECM (Episcopal Campus Ministry)		
Denise Burgher, convening advisor	323.627.4782	dburgher@udel.edu
Devon Miller-Duggan, faculty advisor	302.388.4758	
SEXTON		
Kenneth Hansen-Jones	662.832.6862	pioneer64@hotmail.com