



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 worshiping 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!



THE WORD OF GOD

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.**

Gloria



Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you. **People** And also with you.

Celebrant 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 LESSONS seated

First Lesson Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put >> my trust in you; * let me not be humiliated, nor let my ene->> mies tri-umph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you >> be **put** to shame; * let the treacherous be disappoint->> ed **in** their schemes.
- 3 Show me >> your ways, O Lord, * and >> teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in >> your truth and teach me, * for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted >> all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your com->> pas-**sion** and love, * for they are >> from **e**-ver-lasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth >> and my trans-gressions; * remember me according to your love, and for the sake of your >> good-ness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and up->> right is the Lord; * therefore he teaches sin->> ners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble >> in **do**-ing right * and teaches his >> way **to** the lowly.

Epistle Lesson

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

I Will Bow (Shaker song)
Frederick Chatfield

I will bow and be simple, I will bow and be free; I will bow and be humble, yea, bow like the willow tree.

I will bow, this is the token, I will wear the easy yoke,
I will bow and be broken, yea, I'll fall upon the rock.

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

seated at the preacher's invitation

THE NICENE CREED standing

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 human. 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.

Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. Who 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.

With faith and confidence, let us pray to the Lord.

We offer a prayer of thanks for people everywhere who labor for the spread of the Gospel. May we be joined with them heart to heart, and hand to hand. We ask for the grace to remember that every act of kindness, however simple, builds the Kingdom of God. Carpenter of Nazareth, hear our prayer.

We offer a prayer of gratitude for the bishops and others who lead Christian communities around the world, especially the Archbishop of Canterbury, our Presiding Bishop, and our Bishop. May they be faithful pastors and wise guides.

Carpenter of Nazareth, hear our prayer.

We offer a prayer of support for the leaders of the nations, especially our President, our Governor, and our Mayor. May they have zeal for justice and abundant mercy. We ask for the grace to recall that we also share in the stewardship of creation. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of hope for the needs of our nearest neighbors. May we have the eyes to see their needs and the hands to help meet them. We ask for the grace to follow in our Lord's footsteps, working to bring hope and new life to the world. Carpenter of Nazareth, hear our prayer.

We offer a prayer of fellowship with all human labor. We ask for the grace to be able to see in all work a reflection of the hand that created all things.

Carpenter of Nazareth, hear our prayer.

We offer a prayer of safety for all who serve in the armed forces, all who go in harm's way to protect others, and all who carry the scars of their service. We remember especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts.

Carpenter of Nazareth, hear our prayer.

We offer a prayer of concern for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those listed in this morning's service leaflet and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. May they have comfort and hope, and may we be instruments of God's peace in their lives. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

We offer a prayer of fellowship with all our partners in mission, especially for The Nippon Sei Ko Kai and for Immanuel Highlands Episcopal Church, Wilmington. May we stand shoulder to shoulder with them in sharing God's redeeming love.

Carpenter of Nazareth, hear our prayer.

We offer a prayer of thanks for all the blessings we have received. May they strengthen us to live with joy and gratitude.

Carpenter of Nazareth, hear our prayer.

We offer a prayer of peace for all who have died, especially those who have gone before us in this church and all those we remember now, aloud or in our hearts. May they rest from all their labors, and may we join with them in the Communion of the Saints. Carpenter of Nazareth, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father,
guide our hands,
gladden our hearts,
and accept these prayers for Jesus' sake.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

All 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.

Celebrant 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 standing

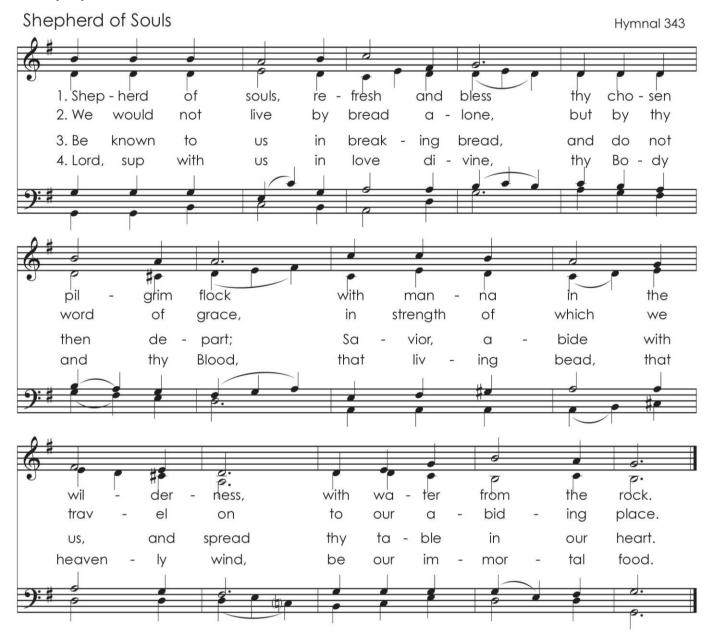
Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

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 though 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.

Offertory Hymn



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*Proper Preface*] Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

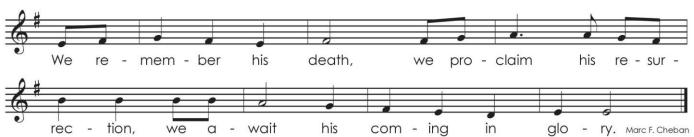
In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People



The Celebrant continues And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant

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

ΑII

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.

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



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.

All 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.

ΑII

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.

Announcements
Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

Stepping Up Together

Almighty God, you bless all our works that begin, continue, and end in you; and you inspire in your people a love for your house: sustain us as we work for the repair of our church building and remind us that we have and hold everything for your glory alone, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

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, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Processing into the community



Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Please take this service booklet home with you, and mark your calendar with upcoming events. These dates are also noted on our parish calendar, found in the emailed weekly newsletter "The Carpenter's Helper" as well as through on our website. If you choose to leave this service booklet, please know that it will be recycled as part of our commitment to care for creation.

Parish Calendar

Monday, 10/2

- (C) Blue Hen Bounty, 9am-12pm
- (U) Private Meeting, 6-7:30pm
- (G) Scottish Dancing, 7-9:30pm

Tuesday, 10/3

- (C) Blue Hen Bounty, 9am-12pm
- (G) Private Meeting, 4:30-6pm
- (G) Ballroom Dancing, 6-10pm
- (U) Private Meeting, 6:30-7:30
- (U) AA group, 8-9:30pm

Wednesday, 10/4

- (C) Blue Hen Bounty, 9am-12pm
- (C) Lectionary Bible Study, 10:30-11:30am
- Service of Intercessory Prayer, 12-1pm

Thursday, 10/5

- (C) Blue Hen Bounty, 9am-12pm
- (U) Private Meeting, 6-9pm
- (Z) Compline Evening Prayer, 7-7:30pm

Friday, 10/6

- (P) Al-Anon, 11:30am-1:30pm
- (P) Women's AA Group, 6:30-7:30pm

Saturday, 10/7

No current reservations

Sunday, 10/8

- Holy Eucharist, Rite I spoken, 8-8:45am
- Holy Eucharist, Rite II with music, 10:30-11:45am
- (P) Vestry Meeting, 12-1pm
- (Gr) Blessing of the Animals, 2pm
- (G) Private Meeting, 3-6pm
- (G) Ballroom Dancing, 6-10pm

Location key:

- (C) Classroom off the Great Hall
- (G) Great Hall
- (Gr) Grove
- (K) Kitchen
- (M) Music Room
- (P) Parlor
- (S) Sanctuary
- (U) Undercroft
- (Z) Zoom

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:

- Scheduled Sundays at 9:15 am- adult education in the great hall classroom
 - o Check our parish calendar for a complete listing
- Sundays at 10:15 am Children's Ministries in the Undercroft
- 3rd 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

Upcoming Parish Events:

- 10/8 Blessing of the Animals
- 10/31 candles in the cemetery
- 11/4 All Souls special service

If you have anything to add to the <u>Parish calendar</u> or the <u>Carpenter's Helper newsletter</u>, please email the office at <u>StThomassOffice@googlegroups.com</u>.

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

Parish Prayer List

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

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

Matt S

Adam Charlie K **Nicholas** Kate Annie R Christie J Kathy Stacy Kevin Stuart Ben James Bob Luke Tina Jeremy 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 9/27/2023

Jeanne M

Christine A &

302.368.4644

Vicki G

October Birthdays

Madison Ballard Michael Grabowski Teresa Doggett Sharon South Susan Fletcher Shawna Corsello Kate Donnelly Kelly Vickers Katie Price Elenore Twardus Joseph Tompkins Joshua Payne Richard Fincher Judith Fincher Marjorie Cann Bob Gilley Matthew Handling	October 2 October 3 October 4 October 5 October 7 October 9 October 10 October 10 October 14 October 16 October 21 October 26 October 26 October 28 October 28 October 29
Bob Gilley Matthew Handling Joshua Grieten	

October Anniversaries

Edward and Krista Murray	October 2
Michael and Sarah Picollelli	October 10
Joseph and Lisa Swain	October 10
Duncan and Velda Pike	October 12
David and Susan Fletcher	October 19
George and Jo-Ann Grier	October 23
Rick and Donna Rotandi	October 26
Wayne and Donna Weaver	October 27
Dennis and Jinglan Redder	October 31





LEADERSHIP OF ST THOMAS'S

StThomasNewarkDe.church 302.368.4644

The Vestry

Rector's Warden: Kristin Sausville Treasurer: Amy Keach

<u>Class of 2024</u> Larry Duggan Cami Seward

Philippa Sunnergren

<u>Class of 2025</u> Joan Bennett Mike Grabowski

Marilyn Prime

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

Class of 2026
Sally Price
Robert Sido
Belinda Young-Payne

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SEXTON		
Kenneth Hansen-Jones	662.832.6862	pioneer64@hotmail.com