



**SUNDAY OF THE
RESURRECTION**

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31st, 2024

6am, sunrise service

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/>

THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER

Alleluia

Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Invocation

Lesson

As Pharaoh drew closer, the Israelites looked back and saw the Egyptians marching toward them. The Israelites were terrified and cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, "Weren't there enough graves in Egypt that you took us away to die in the desert? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt like this? Didn't we tell you the same thing in Egypt? 'Leave us alone! Let us work for the Egyptians!' It would have been better for us to work for the Egyptians than to die in the desert."

But Moses said to the people, "Don't be afraid. Stand your ground, and watch the Lord rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never ever see again. The Lord will fight for you. You just keep still."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to get moving. As for you, lift your shepherd's rod, stretch out your hand over the sea, and split it in two so that the Israelites can go into the sea on dry ground. But me, I'll make the Egyptians stubborn so that they will go in after them, and I'll gain honor at the expense of Pharaoh, all his army, his chariots, and his cavalry. The Egyptians will know that I am the Lord, when I gain honor at the expense of Pharaoh, his chariots, and his cavalry."

God's messenger, who had been in front of Israel's camp, moved and went behind them. The column of cloud moved from the front and took its place behind them. It stood between Egypt's camp and Israel's camp. The cloud remained there, and when darkness fell it lit up the night. They didn't come near each other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord pushed the sea back by a strong east wind all night, turning the sea into dry land. The waters were split into two. The Israelites walked into the sea on dry ground. The waters formed a wall for them on their right hand and on their left. The Egyptians chased them and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and cavalry. As morning approached, the Lord looked down on the Egyptian camp from the column of lightning and cloud and threw the Egyptian camp into a panic. The Lord jammed their chariot wheels so that they wouldn't turn easily. The Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites, because the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt!"

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the water comes back and covers the Egyptians, their chariots, and their cavalry." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. At daybreak, the sea returned to its normal depth. The Egyptians were driving toward it, and the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the cavalry, Pharaoh's

entire army that had followed them into the sea. Not one of them remained. The Israelites, however, walked on dry ground through the sea. The waters formed a wall for them on their right hand and on their left.

The Lord rescued Israel from the Egyptians that day. Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the amazing power of the Lord against the Egyptians. The people were in awe of the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses. Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: I will sing to the Lord, for an overflowing victory! Horse and rider he threw into the sea!

Alleluia

Gospel

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they could go and anoint Jesus' dead body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they came to the tomb. They were saying to each other, "Who's going to roll the stone away from the entrance for us?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away. (And it was a very large stone!) Going into the tomb, they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right side; and they were startled. But he said to them, "Don't be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised. He isn't here. Look, here's the place where they laid him. Go, tell his disciples, especially Peter, that he is going ahead of you into Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you." Overcome with terror and dread, they fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

Homily

Alleluia

Prayers

For the world
For the Church
For our community
For our own concerns
For the dead

Peace

Alleluia

The Eucharist

We begin

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 thanks and praise.

We give thanks for God's work in creation

We remember Easter and praise God for its blessings

We give thanks to God for our salvation through Jesus

We recall his words at the Last Supper

We conclude by asking God's blessing on us

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking the Bread

Communion is shared while we sing Alleluia

Prayer of Thanks

Blessing

Dismissal



LEADERSHIP OF ST THOMAS'S

StThomasNewarkDe.church 302.368.4644

The Vestry

Rector's Warden: Marilyn Prime
Treasurer: Amy Keach

People's Warden: Joan Bennett
Clerk of the Vestry: Sally Price

Class of 2025

Joan Bennett
Mike Grabowski
Marilyn Prime

Class of 2026

Sally Price
Robert Sido
Belinda Young-Payne

Class of 2027

Mark Bastianelli
Jinglan Redder
Justin Sausville

RECTOR		
The Rev. Howell Sasser	704.578.4724	howell.sasser.jr@gmail.com
CURATE		
The Rev. Clay Brown	302.368.4644	claybrownrn@gmail.com
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
SEXTON		
Jonathan Mincey	302.368.4644	