

# St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road      †      Berea, OH 44017



**Fifth Sunday of Easter                      April 28, 2024**  
**9:30 AM Morning Prayer - Rite II**

**The Rt. Reverend Anne Jolly, Bishop**

**The Reverend David R. Radzik, Rector**  
**Cell Phone: (440) 305-0264 Office Phone: (440) 234-3499**  
**Rector Email: [Rector@stthomaschurch-berea.org](mailto:Rector@stthomaschurch-berea.org)**

**Parish Office Phone: (440) 234-5241**  
**Email: [church@stthomaschurch-berea.org](mailto:church@stthomaschurch-berea.org)**  
**Prayer Requests: [prayerlist@stthomaschurch-berea.org](mailto:prayerlist@stthomaschurch-berea.org)**

**Kira Seaton, Minister of Music: [scuola.musica@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scuola.musica@sbcglobal.net)**

**Barbara Telfer, Deacon [TelferBJT@hotmail.com](mailto:TelferBJT@hotmail.com)**



**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**April 28, 2024**

# Morning Prayer - Rite II

*All music for today's service can be found in the Red Hymnal in the rack in front of you. Our Prayer books are also available today, if you would like to follow the service there.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE:** Introit on "Gott sei Dank"

## OPENING SENTENCE

*Officiant:*

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

*Colossians 3:1*

## CONFESSION

*The Officiant says to the people:*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

**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 Celebrant alone stands and says:*

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 INVITATORY & PSALTER** *(All stand as are able)*

*Officiant:* O Lord, open our lips.  
*People:* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
*Officiant and People:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

**PSALM 95**

*Venite, exultemus*

*Reader One:* Please join me in reading the Venite responsively.

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving,  
and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

**In his hand are all the corners of the earth, and the strength of the hills is his also.**

The sea is his and he made it, and his hands prepared the dry land.

**O come, let us worship and fall down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

For he is the Lord our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

**Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts as in the provocation,  
and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness;**

When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works.

**Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said,**

**It is a people that do err in their hearts, for they have not known my ways.**

Unto whom I swore in my wrath, that they should not enter into my rest.

**ALL: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Reader:* Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore Him.

*All:* Alleluia!

**PSALM 25:1-9**

*Ad te, Domine, levavi*

*Reader Two:* Please join me in reading Psalm 25 responsively.

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 enemies triumph over me.

**2 Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
let the treacherous be disappointed 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 compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

**6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;**

**remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; therefore He teaches sinners in his way.

**8 He guides the humble in doing right and teaches his way to the lowly.**

9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness,  
to those who keep His covenant and his testimonies

**All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**THE LESSONS**      *(Please sit for the reading of the Epistle.)*

**THE EPISTLE**

*1 John 4:7-21*

*Reader Two:* A Lesson from First John:

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

*Reader:* Here ends the lesson.      *(You may remain seated for the Hymn and Benedictus)*

**HYMN:**

“Oh Love, How Deep”  
*(Verses 1, 2, 3, and 6)*

Hymn 448

*Deus tuorum militum*

## THE BENEDICTUS

*Reader One:* The Benedictus, Song of Zechariah:

*Benedictus Dominus Deus*  
*Luke 1:68-79*      *Canticle 16*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he hath visited and redeemed his people;  
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us in the house of his servant David,  
As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;  
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers,  
    and to remember his holy covenant;  
To perform the oath which he swore to our forefather Abraham,  
    that he would give us,  
That we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies,  
    might serve him without fear,  
In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest,  
    for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;  
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people for the remission of their sins,  
Through the tender mercy of our God,  
    whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;  
To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
    and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*(All rise for the Gloria and the reading of the Gospel)*

**All:**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## THE GOSPEL

*John 15:1-8*

*Officiant:* A Reading from the Gospel of John

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If

you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

*Officiant:* The Gospel of John.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

*(All may be seated)*

## SERMON

*Deacon Barbara Telfer*

*(Please rise for the Te Deum, Creed, and Prayers)*

## YOU ARE GOD

*Te Deum laudamus*

*Reader One and the People together:*

**You are God: we praise you; You are the Lord; we acclaim you;**

**You are the eternal Father: All creation worships you.**

**To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.**

**The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.**

**Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you; Father, of majesty unbounded, your true and only Son, worthy of all worship, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.**

**You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.**

**When you became man to set us free, you did not shun the Virgin’s womb.**

**You overcame the sting of death, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.**

**You are seated at God’s right hand in glory.**

**We believe that you will come and be our judge.**

**Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.**

## THE APOSTLE’S CREED

*Officiant and People:*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**



On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS

*The People stand or kneel:*

*Officiant:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** And with thy spirit.

*Officiant:* Let us pray.

*Officiant and People:*

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Officiant:* Save Your people, Lord, and bless Your inheritance

**Response:** Govern and uphold them now and always.

*Officiant:* Day by day we bless you.

**Response:** We praise Your Name forever.

*Officiant:* Lord, keep us from all sin today.

**Response:** Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

*Officiant:* Lord, show us Your love and mercy;

**Response:** For we put our trust in You.

*Officiant:* In You, Lord, is our hope.

**Response:** And we shall never hope in vain.

## *A COLLECT FOR PEACE*

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know You is eternal life, and to serve You is perfect freedom: Defend us, Your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in Your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **A COLLECT FOR GRACE**

Heavenly Father, in You, we live and move and have our being; We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life, we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **A PRAYER FOR MISSION**

O God, You have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent Your blessed Son to preach to those who are afar off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after You and find You; bring the nations into Your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of Your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

*(Please be seated)*

**OFFERTORY:** “Take Me to the Water”                      Spiritual                      (*LEVAS 134*)

*(Please rise for the Great Thanksgiving)*

### **THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING**

*Officiant and People:*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,**

**we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks,**

**for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;**

**but above all, for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world**

**by our Lord Jesus Christ;**

**for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,**

**that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,**

**not only with our lips, but in our lives,**

**by giving up ourselves to your service,**

**and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

### **A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM**

*Officiant:* Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill



now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

**BLESSING**

*Officiant:* Let us bless the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**CLOSING HYMN:** “In Christ There is No East or West” Hymn 529 *McKee*

**POSTLUDE:** Postlude on “*McKee*”

---

**SERVING THIS MORNING :**

*Preacher:* Deacon Barb Telfer

*Reader One:* Mary Lee Stowell

*Reader Two:* Carol Flowers *Music:* The Choir

*Altar:* Peggy Zambounis

*Flowers:* Linda Kinsey

*Bread:* Nancy Braford

**WEEKLY CALENDAR:**

<b>SUNDAY</b> 4/28	Sunday Worship in the Chapel - 9:30am Choir Rehearsal – in the Chapel after worship (11am)
<b>MONDAY</b> 4/29	Alcoholics Anonymous -Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
<b>THURSDAY</b> 5/2	AA/Bluebook - Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
<b>FRIDAY &amp; SATURDAY</b> 5/3 & 5/4	St. Thomas Plant Sale, 50 E. Bagley Rd 10 AM – 4 PM Shop for a wide variety of perennials just in time for summer!
<b>SUNDAY</b> 5/5	Choir Warm-up before service – 9:00am Sunday Worship in the Chapel - 9:30am Choir Rehearsal – in the Chapel after worship (11am)

**THIS WEEK’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ST. THOMAS PLANT SALE – Friday, May 3 & Saturday, May 4.** Both days 10am-4pm. Visit our sale at 50 E Bagley Rd, Berea, OH 44017.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** in the church office to help maintain presence during the week, maintain the sick list, and assist with the parish bulletin. Contact Fr. Dave if you’re interested.

**THE BREAD BAKERS** are looking for bakers to join their team of volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Peggy Zambounis at 440-336-1682.

**PREPARE FOR THE GREAT SAINT THOMAS RUMMAGE SALE!!!**

Although the Sale is not scheduled to be held until **Fri. July 12, and Sat. July 13<sup>th</sup>**, please consider helping us get ready!

We are in the process of cleaning out crawl spaces, closets and classrooms, and while doing this, we are finding many treasures. Remember “one man’s trash is another man’s treasure.”

There are several workdays and a setup date to prepare for this sale. Please check your calendars and think about helping:

**Saturday, May 18th, from 9 – 2. Saturday, June 29th from 9 – 2.**

**Thursday, July 11th, from 9 - ?.** (Set-up for the actual event)

We also need help for the actual sale. All hands are welcome and much needed!

**The FINAL STAR PROGRAM FOR THE SEASON:** Thurs, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm, we will host our last STAR concert until the Fall. This one will feature crooner Dennis Ford and his accompanist wife. This is an annual favorite!. Lunch is pulled pork sandwiches and the fixin’s. Please make your lunch reservations by calling 440-220-2494.

**THE RED DOOR CAFÉ IS BACK:** The Red Door Café takes place every Tuesday from 10am to 12pm in front of our main entrance on Bagley Rd, which has heavy pedestrian traffic during school hours. Help us get to know our BW neighbors.

**VETERANS’ LUNCHEON** news: We have suspended the Veteran’s Luncheon temporarily as we continue the search for a Coordinator for this very popular outreach. If you can help with this once-per-month activity, please contact Fr. David Radzik.

**SHARING WITH HOME-BOUND OR AILING FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

In our continuing search for ways to care for our church community, we invite you to let us know of people in your lives who might benefit from cards and prayers. As we reach out to those who God has put in our path, please consider not only updating us on your existing prayer concerns, but also let us know if there are others who might benefit from a card or inclusion on our prayer list.

Prayer list requests can be sent via email to Dave Frazier at [frazida@gmail.com](mailto:frazida@gmail.com).

Every week members and friends of our church family will be selected as card recipients; it is amazing how receiving a card in the mail can brighten someone’s day!

Our recipients for the next few weeks are:

Clint Anderson 38 Sycamore Drive, Olmsted Falls, OH 44138-2918

Carole Pozek 36 Parkway, Olmsted Twp. OH 44138



## **Weekday Holy Communion**

**Tuesdays, 12 PM**

Join us in Historic Ogilivy Chapel for a quiet half hour celebration of The Holy Eucharist starting on February 27th

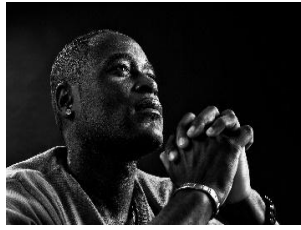
# **ST. THOMAS PLANT SALE**

***Friday, May 3 & Saturday, May 4  
10 AM-4 PM***

Need some plants for your spring planting?  
Shop from a wide variety of perennials right  
in time for summer!

***Visit our sale at***

**50 E Bagley Rd, Berea, OH 44017  
(440)234-5241**



## **IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:**

**Caregivers:** George D'Arras and Nancy Braford

**Birthdays:** Joe Allotta

**Expecting the Gift of a Child:** Caroline Renzenbrink

**Missionary:** Michelle Wood & **Military Service:** David Brabson, Ryan Dawson, Robby Hartman, Annmarie Miller, Eli Modesitt, John Toolis, Blake Schwartz, Jimmy Loder, Caleb Jones, and Maria Estrada.

**Others:** The Rosenkranz Family, The Suckart Family, Terri Depp, Christina Last, Chris Reinhart, Karen, and Mary

**Sick and Suffering:** Phyllis Hall, Owen Heller, Sue Butz, Gloriann Rota, Heather Flowers, Carol Flowers, Spencer Griffith, Linda, Matt Carlsen, Gabrielle Johnson, Mark, Kirsten Lisi, Carol Oswald, Ellie, Jane Macintosh, Evelyn & Churchill Ward, Roanne Lisi, Alicia Glynn, Chris Slager, Alma Stoica, Brian Smith, Reva Telfer, Krista Lisi, John Willis, Lynn, the Katricak Family, Bob Modesitt, Kevin Flowers, Owen Ward, Carole Pozek, Peggy Ryel, Sandy Shoenfelt, Kathy Everson, Frannie Millward, Tom Griffith, Dennis Braford, Lauren Isaac, Jan Jordan, Jude Swearingen, Bruce, Landyn Hill, Rita, Rudy Capece, Linda Gulla, Clint Hist, Bill Hacker, Nellie Cooper, the McKinney Family, Tommy, Helen Depp, Clint Anderson, Christina, Lori Hobaty, Robert Yates and Charles Beck.

**Recovering:** David Zambounis, Jim Blanca, Gerald Gown, Mark Simon, Jay Murillo

**Prayers for those traveling:** Laura Gaba and the Strongsville High School DECA

**Pray for the people** worldwide suffering from devastating fires, floods, famine, earthquakes, volcano eruptions, or lack of clean water, and pray for the victims of gun violence everywhere.

**Pray for peace in Israel, Gaza, and Ukraine:** Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of

the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and forever. Amen.