

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road † Berea, OH 44017



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 29, 2024
10:00 AM Morning Prayer - Rite II
Officiant: Mary Lee Stowell

The Rt. Reverend Anne Jolly, Bishop

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

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Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 29, 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.

PRELUDE Prelude on *Gardiner*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR TRANSITION:

Senior Warden

ALL: Almighty God, look graciously on all of us here at St. Thomas during this time of transition. Be with us and lead us as we seek the next rector for our church. We ask your direction and guidance for all the individuals that will step up to be part of the search committee here, so that they will choose the right spiritual leader for this parish. We pray we receive an upright and faithful priest, who will care for your people, and equip us for our ministries. Grant us perception, faithfulness and joy, so that we may hear your voice in all our deliberations. Grant us also the desire and the ability to truly hear each other and those who have entrusted us with this process. Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

Please rise if you are able.

OPENING HYMN: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" Hymn 609 *Gardiner*
(Verses One, Two, Three and Five)

OPENING SENTENCE

Officiant:

The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. *John 4:23*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant:

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.**

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

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 says:

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

THE INVITATORY & PSALTER

Officiant: O Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouths 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.

THE VENITE S 35 *(In the front of the Hymnal)*

Please be seated.

- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 **The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 **More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 **Who can tell how often he offends? Cleanse me from my secret faults.**
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

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 remain seated for the Epistle reading.

THE EPISTLE

James 5:13-20

Lay Reader

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: ***Thanks be to God***

Please stand, if able, for the recitation of the Benedictus es, Domine

A SONG OF PRAISE

(read in unison)

Benedictus es, Domine

Lay Reader and People together:

Glory to You, Lord God of our fathers; You are worthy of praise; glory to You.

Glory to You for the radiance of Your Holy Name;

we will praise You and highly exalt You forever.

**Glory to You in the splendor of Your temple; on the throne of Your majesty,
glory to You.**

Glory to You, seated between the Cherubim;

we will praise You and highly exalt You forever.

Glory to You, beholding the depths; in the high vault of heaven, glory to You.

Glory to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;

we will praise You and highly exalt you forever.

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.

Please stand, if you are able.

GRADUAL HYMN: “Spirit Divine” Hymn 509 *Nun danket all und bringet Ehr*
(Verses One, Two and Three before the Gospel, and Verses Four and Five after)

THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-50

Officiant: A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.”

But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.

If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Lay Officiant

Please remain seated for the Te Deum.

TE DEUM LAUDAMUS:

See the next page for the Te Deum

Please stand, if you are able, for the Apostle's Creed and Prayers.

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

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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 SUNDAYS

Officiant:

O God, You make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of Your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of You, that the week to come may be spent in Your favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A COLLECT FOR PEACE

Officiant:

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.*

MISSION PRAYER

Officiant:

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

Please be seated for the Offertory

INSTRUMENTAL OFFERTORY HYMN: O God of Bethel” (Hymn 709, Dundee)

Please stand, if you are able, for the General 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.**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN: “Fight the Good Fight” Hymn 552 *Pentecost*
(Verses One and Two)

CLOSING PRAYER

Officiant: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** Ephesians 3:20, 21

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

ALL: **Thanks be to God**

POSTLUDE: Images of *Litton* (Hymn 347)

SERVING THIS MORNING:

Officiant: Mary Lee Stowell

Musicians: Kira Seaton and Sue Griffith

Flowers: Julie Kalbrunner

Lay Reader: Tim Gilles

Altar: Etta Scheu

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

SUNDAY 9/29	Sunday Worship in the Chapel – 10:00 am
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MONDAY 9/30	Alcoholics Anonymous -Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
THURSDAY 10/3	AA/Bluebook - Harkess Hall, (7-9pm) Choir Rehearsal – 7:30pm - Chapel
SUNDAY 10/6	Choir Rehearsal before the service – 9:15am Sunday Worship in the Chapel – 10:00 am Choir rehearsal following Worship

IN THE NEWS

TODAY, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9/29, there will be a short rehearsal after service.

S.T.A.R. CONCERT October 10th at 12:15pm. Reservations are required due to seating in Ogilvy Chapel. Please contact Julie Kalbrunner, (440) 220-2494.

OH, WE LIKE Wii! Wii BOWLING BEGINS OCTOBER 11th. All are invited to the St. Thomas Wii Bowling event each Friday night at 7:30 pm in Harkess Hall. This event will be free and will be hosted each week through November 22, 2024. Bring a friend and have some fun. No bowling or Wii experience necessary.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH at 4:00 PM, the incomparable **Min Yeong Kim** will be in concert at TRI-C Western Campus accompanied by the equally talented **Josh Fadenholz**. Ms. Kim has been a soloist at St. Thomas for services and our Advent Evensong service. And Mr. Fadenholz, who is the music director at All Saint’s Church, also frequently performs with the St. Thomas Choir. Concert location: CCC Western Campus Theatre, 11000 Pleasant Valley Rd, Parma. Tickets \$15 at the door. Call Kira Seaton (216) 269-7575 for more details. Concert proceeds will partially support the Western Campus Chorale upcoming trip.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RED DOOR CAFÉ is open for business! This is St. Thomas’ outreach to the Baldwin Wallace University campus community. Pour-over coffee, tea, and conversation are served up on **Tuesdays from 10 AM to Noon** with Deacon Barb and her faithful volunteers engaging with BW students and passer-by spreading love, hope, and the invitation to join us at St. Thomas. And as always, taking prayer requests.

AS WE TRANSITION into the next phase of life at St. Thomas, please know that Senior Warden Sue Griffith is always available for consultation, to listen to concerns or ideas, and to be a conduit for information between the congregation and those serving you. She can

be reached by calling **216-978-4899** or e-mailing at bssngrif@yahoo.com.

LAY READERS NEEDED: If you are interested in joining the lay reader ministry, please contact Carl Scheu at (440) 292-7189 or send an email to thrud62@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED in the church office to help maintain presence during the week, maintain sick list, and assist with parish bulletin. Contact Senior Warden Sue Griffith 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.

PLEASE REVIEW the Prayer List on the last page of the bulletin, so that we can better serve our community in prayer. You can assist us by checking on those whose names are on the list or let us know how members of our church family and friends are doing. That way we can best direct our intentions and prayers. Thank you in advance for your support and assistance with this important ministry.

We invite you to let us know of people who might benefit from cards and prayers. Prayer list requests can be sent via email to prayerlist@stthomaschurch-berea.org.

Every month, a new set of members or 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!

CARD RECIPIENTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2024:

Clint Hist

8150 Crestwood Dr, North Ridgeville, OH 44039-7312

Marlene & Gary Carlsen

10020 Maple Branch Trail, Strongsville, OH 44149-1279

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:



“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.” Colossians 4:2

Caregivers: George D’Arras and Nancy Braford

Missionary Service: 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.

Sick and Suffering: Brenna, Dan Skjei, Phyllis Hall, Ed McTernan, Tammy Pletcher, Pat Shook, John Staub, Bev Smith, Gary Carlsen, Carol Flowers, Spencer Griffith, Evelyn & Churchill Ward, Alma Stoica, John Willis, Sandy Shoenfelt, Tom Griffith, Dennis Braford, Clint Hist, Bill Hacker, Nellie Cooper, Clint Anderson.

Recovering: Jane Macintosh, Heather Flowers, Gerald Gowern, Mark Simon, Shelly Campbell.

Pray for those worldwide suffering from devastating fires, tornados, hurricanes, floods, famine, earthquakes, volcano eruptions, extreme heat 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.**