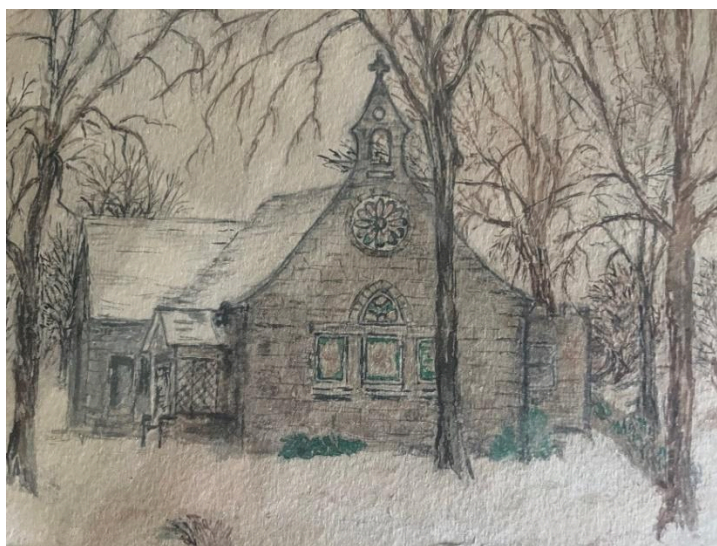


# St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road † Berea, OH 44017



**Third Sunday after the Epiphany    January 26, 2025**

**10:00 AM    Holy Eucharist – Rite II**

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

**Interim Rector: Reverend Dawson Moorer**  
**330-256-7554**

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**  
**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)**



# Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 26, 2025

*All music can be found in the Red Hymnal in the pews*

**PRELUDE** Prelude on *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

### TRANSITION PRAYER FOR ST. THOMAS

**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.

**OPENING HYMN** “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” Hymn 616 *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*  
(Verses One, Four and Five)

### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

**Celebrant:** Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People:** And Blessed be his Kingdom now and forever. AMEN.

*It is customary to make the Sign of the Cross here. Subsequent places where making the Sign of the Cross is appropriate will be marked with a ☩*

### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

**The Celebrant says:** 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.

**All:** AMEN.

**GLORIA:**       *S 280 (in the front of the Hymnal)*

**THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY**

**Celebrant:**     The Lord be with you.

**People:**       **And also with you.**

**Celebrant:**     Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Please be seated.*

**THE FIRST LESSON**

*Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10*

**Reader:** A reading from the book of Nehemiah

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord

**People:**       **Thanks be to God**

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork.

**2 One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

3 Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

**4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.**

5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

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.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

## *1 Corinthians 12:12-31a*

*Reader:* A Reading from Corinthians

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body.

If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be?

As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord

**People:** Thanks be to God

*Please stand if you are able.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN:** "God is Love" Hymn 576 *Mandatum*  
(Verses One and Two before the Gospel, Verse Three after)

**THE GOSPEL**

*Luke 4:14-21*

*The Rev. Dawson Moorer*

**Celebrant** The Holy Gospel according to Luke

**People:** Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

***Celebrant:*** The Gospel of the Lord  
***People:*** Praise to you, Lord Christ

**SEQUENCE (reprise):** "God is Love" Hymn 576 *Mandatum*  
(*Verse Three*)

***Please be seated.***

**THE SERMON**

*The Rev. Dawson Moorer*

***Please stand if you are able.***

**THE NICENE CREED**

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:

*(At italic words, it is traditional to bow in remembrance that God became truly human at Christ's incarnation)*

*By the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.*

*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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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.

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP Form III)**

*(The Reader and People pray responsively)*

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church; **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do Your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; especially those on our parish list. We raise them up to You, O Lord, and place them in our hearts this week;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Gary Carlsen.  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

### **CONCLUDING COLLECT:**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

*All: Amen.*

### **GENERAL CONFESSION**

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

*Celebrant & People:* 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.

***All: AMEN.***

## THE PEACE

***Celebrant:*** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***People:*** And also with you.

***Be seated for the Offertory***

**OFFERTORY** (*Instrumental*): “The Stars Declare His Glory” arr. Seaton (*Hymnal 431*)

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*(Eucharistic Prayer B)*

*The people stand if able The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says:*

***Celebrant:*** The Lord be with you.

***People:*** And also with you.

***Celebrant:*** Lift up your hearts.

***People:*** We lift them up to the Lord.

***Celebrant:*** Let us give thanks unto our God.

***People:*** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds:*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father  
Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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:

**SANCTUS:** S 130 (*in the front of the Hymnal 1982*)



*Then 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*

**We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;**

*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 all who minister in your Church, especially presiding Bishop Sean and Bishop Anne, 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.*

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

***People and Celebrant:***

**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.**

**FRACTION ANTHEM** S 164 (*in the front of The Hymnal 1982*)

**COMMUNION HYMN:** "I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord" Hymn 304 *Land of Rest*  
(*Verse One as a solo, all join as they are able in Verses Two through Four during communion,  
and verse five after any dedication of lay ministers.*)

***After Communion, the Celebrant says:*** Let us pray.

**ALL:** Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries, that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

**BLESSING**

**CLOSING HYMN:** "Spread Thou Mighty Word" Hymn 530 *Gott sei Dank*  
(*Verses One, Two and Three and Five*)

**DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE** Postlude on *Gott sei Dank*

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**SERVING TODAY:**

***Preacher:*** The Rev. Dawson Moorer

***Chalice Bearer:*** Mary Lee Stowell

***Altar:*** Lorrie Beatty

***Lay Reader:*** Michael Strama

*Flowers: Barb Emigh*

*Bread Baker: Nancy Braford*

*Musicians: Kira Seaton, and Sue Griffith, Bassoon*

### **CALENDAR:**

<b>SUNDAY 1/26</b>	<b>10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST-RITE II</b> <b>REV. DAWSON MOORER, CELEBRANT</b> Annual Meeting and Potluck lunch immediately after service. No choir rehearsal after service.
<b>MONDAY 1/27</b>	<b>Alcoholics Anonymous- Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)</b>
<b>THURSDAY 1/30</b>	<b>AA/Bluebook: Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)</b>
<b>SUNDAY 2/2</b>	<b>10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST-RITE II</b> Inaugural Campus Ministry/BW Athletic Teams Dinner Planning Meeting immediately after service. Choir rehearsal before and after service.

### **IN THE NEWS**

**THE ST. THOMAS ANNUAL MEETING IS TODAY, JANUARY 26<sup>th</sup> immediately after services. Potluck lunch!** Main dishes will be provided. There will be plenty of food! We ask that you please stay so we can establish a quorum (enough people) in order to hold to the meeting.

**ON FEBRUARY 2<sup>nd</sup> IMMEDIATELY AFTER SERVICES, DEACON BARB TELFER** will host the first Campus Ministry/BW Athletic Teams Dinner Planning Meeting. If you want to participate in this important community outreach ministry, please plan to attend. Please direct questions to Deacon Barb at [TelferBJT@hotmail.com](mailto:TelferBJT@hotmail.com).

**VERY SPECIAL CONCERT ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>:** St. Thomas Parishioners are invited to attend a very special concert right in our 1893 Sanctuary on February 16<sup>th</sup>, right after church! Professor Steve Koh and fellow string faculty members from Baldwin Wallace University Conservatory of Performing Arts will present a String Quartet Concert. We are hosting this incredibly talented group, that includes faculty, students, and US! Maestro Koh is an extraordinarily gifted musician, who really touched the September S.T.A.R. audience with his playing. Please join us after services on February 16<sup>th</sup> for this wonderful free opportunity to be enchanted by a String Quartet Concert.

**STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN FOR 2025 CONTINUES:**

The St. Thomas Pledge Drive for 2025 is underway. Pledge envelopes not picked up have been mailed out. If you have already picked yours up, please return it to the church office or place it in the Offertory plate. St. Thomas Church thanks you!

**WE HAVE RECEIVED A MESSAGE** from former B-W Conservatory student **Grant Olham**, who worshiped with us this fall. Although Grant has transferred to a Community College near Dayton, he, and his grandmother called to let us know Grant's new plans, and to thank us for welcoming him. "St. Thomas was his "safe place". Blessings and prayers go out to Grant as he starts this new phase of life.

**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](mailto:thrud62@yahoo.com).

**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.

**THE RED DOOR CAFÉ IS BACK** open for business at the beginning of the Spring term at BWU! This is St. Thomas' outreach to the Baldwin Wallace campus community. Pour-over coffee, tea, and conversation are served up on Tuesdays from 10 AM to Noon, engaging with BW students and passer-by spreading love, hope, and an invitation to St. Thomas. And as always, taking prayer requests.

**AS WE TRANSITION** into the next phase of life at St. Thomas, 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](mailto:bssngrif@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 by calling **216-978-4899** or e-mailing at [bssngrif@yahoo.com](mailto:bssngrif@yahoo.com). If you are interested.

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

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

**Caregivers:** George D’Arras, Nancy Braford, and Tom Griffith,

**Missionary Service:** Michelle Wood

**Birthday:** Alexa Suckart, Sparrow Anne Simon

**New Arrival:** Anastasia (Stacy) Jackson; second daughter of proud parents Hannah & Matt Jackson, and big sister Gwendolyn

**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:** Shelly Campbell, Heather Flowers, Kevin Flowers, Brenna, Dan Skjei, Phyllis Hall, Tammy Pletcher, Bev Smith, Carol Flowers, Spencer Griffith, Evelyn & Churchill Ward, Alma Stoica, John Willis, Sandy Shoefelt, Clint Hist, Bill Hacker, Nellie Cooper, Clint Anderson, Alison Griffith, Jay Murillo, Thor Kerbusch, Sue Zimdars, and Marilyn Thomas.

**Recovering:** John Staub, Dennis Braford, Gerald Gowern, Carole Strama, Winnie Dortch, and Polly Burns and Tim Cooper.

**Pray for those:** worldwide suffering from devastating fires, tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, famine, earthquakes, volcano eruptions, extreme heat or lack of clean water, and pray for the victims of gun violence everywhere. Special prayers for victims of Helene and Milton.

**Pray for peace in the Middle East, 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.**

**BLESSINGS AND PRAYER CARDS:**

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 January:**

Hannah, Matt, Gwendolyn, and new baby Anastasia Jackson  
1379 West Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44102

Marilyn Thomas – 31084 Riviera Lane, Westlake, OH 44145-1786