

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road † Berea, OH 44017



Last Sunday after the Epiphany

March 2, 2025

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

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

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

PRELUDE: Prelude on *Laudes Domini*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

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 “When Morning Gilds the Skies” Hymn 427 *Laudes Domini*
(*All five verses!*)

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.

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated for the Readings

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 34:29-35

Reader: A reading from the book of Exodus

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 99 (*read responsively*)

Dominus regnavit

1 The LORD is King; let the people tremble; He is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.

2 **The LORD is great in Zion; He is high above all peoples.**

3 Let them confess His Name, which is great and awesome; He is the Holy One.

4 "O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and fall down before His footstool;
He is the Holy One.

6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon His Name, they called upon the LORD, and He answered them.

7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept His testimonies and the decree that He gave them.

8 O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and worship Him upon His holy hill; for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

THE SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Reader: A Reading from Corinthians

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Please stand if you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN: "Christ Upon The Mountain Peak" Hymn 129 *Mowlsley*

(Verses One, Two and Three before the Gospel, Verse Four after)

THE GOSPEL *Luke 9:28-36, [37-43a]* *The Rev. Dawson Moorer*

Celebrant The Holy Gospel according to Luke

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

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"--not knowing what he said.

While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not."

Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

SEQUENCE (reprise): "Christ Upon The Mountain Peak" Hymn 129 *Mowsley*
(Verse Four)

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.
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, then 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 Congregation may be seated

COMMISSIONING OF THE WARDENS AND MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY:

The Wardens and members of Vestry come forward and stand in front of the celebrant and the congregation.

Celebrant: Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose today is

to commission these persons in the Name of God and of this congregation to a special ministry to which they are called.

The Celebrant addresses the congregation:

Are these persons that you present prepared, by a commitment to Christ as Lord, by regular attendance at worship, and by the knowledge of their duties, to exercise their ministry to the honor of God, and the well-being of His Church?

Congregation: We believe they are.

The Celebrant addresses the Vestry candidates: You have been called to a ministry in this congregation. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Vestry Candidates: I will.

The Celebrant continues: Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Vestry Candidates: I will.

THE COMMISSIONING:

Celebrant: *Let us pray.*

O Eternal God, the foundation of all wisdom and the source of all courage: Enlighten, with Your Grace, the Wardens and Vestry of this congregation, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things, they may seek Your Glory, and promote the mission of Your Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: continues: In the Name of God, and of this congregation, I commission you.

Senior Warden: Lorrie Beatty

Junior Warden: Dan Patterson

Vestry: Laura Gaba, Theresa Hartman, Hannah Jackson, Barb Pertz, and Michael Strama.

Treasurer: Bruce McLaughlin

Clerk: Julie Kalbrunner

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

Be seated for the Offertory

OFFERTORY: “The Lord is King, Enthroned in Might” *(from Psalms for All Seasons)*

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 everywhere 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 125** *(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 forever. **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 169

(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: “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones” Hymn 618 *Lasst uns erfreuen*

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: Postlude on *Lasst uns erfreuen*

SERVING TODAY:

Celebrant: The Rev. Dawson Moorer

Chalice Bearer: Joseph Allotta

Altar: Peggy Zambounis

Lay Reader: Carol Flowers

Bread Baker: Etta Scheu

Flowers: Linda Kinsey

Musicians: Sue Griffith, Kira Seaton, the Choir

CALENDAR:

SUNDAY 3/2	10:00am HOLY EUCHARIST-RITE II Father Dawson Moorer, Celebrant Formal Commissioning of the Vestry at Service Choir rehearsal before and after service.
SUNDAY 3/2	5:00pm BW Stinger’s Dinner Deacon Barb Telfer and crew will serve a meal to the BW Wrestling Team
MONDAY 3/3	Alcoholics Anonymous- Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
WEDNESDAY 3/5	ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - 7PM
THURSDAY 3/6	AA/Bluebook: Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
SUNDAY 3/9	10:00am HOLY EUCHARIST-RITE II

	Father Dawson Moorer, Celebrant Choir rehearsal before and after service.
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IN THE NEWS

BW STINGER'S DINNER TONIGHT, SUNDAY MARCH 2, 2025 @ 5:00 PM:

Deacon Barb Telfer and a team will be serving a Taco Bowl supper for the Baldwin Wallace University Wrestling Team. See the insert for volunteer positions available: we need chefs, paper products, table captains, etc. Don't miss this chance to meet the athletes!

To sign up for volunteer positions, see the sign-up sheet on the church office window, or contact Deacon Barb Telfer directly via email at telferbjt@hotmail.com or call 216-225-8199.



PLEASE

CONSIDER JOINING US FOR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE THIS WEEK, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5th AT 7PM IN THE 1893 SANCTUARY.

This service marks the start of the Lenten Season, and is a time for penitent reflection and reconnecting with the One who forgives all sins.

INTRODUCING THE RECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE:

Please congratulate and pray for our new Rector Search Committee. Many thanks to Mary Lee Stowell, Mary Canonico, Caitlyn Walker, Bruce McLaughlin, Linda Kinsey, and Scott Hartman for their commitment to this important work for our parish. The Search Committee will meet soon with Rev. Aaron Gerlach and Senior Warden Lorrie Beatty to begin their work. This Committee will be commissioned during a service in the coming weeks.

THE COLLEGE FOR CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

The time has arrived! Come one, come all to Year B of the College for Congregational Development at Bellwether Farm, August 10-15. This immersive learning experience includes opportunities to brainstorm around current issues we face in our faith communities while learning new lenses and strategies to tackle the work of faithful living together. We began learning these models at our diocesan gatherings this year and now we are putting them into practice in full force! In this two-year program, we welcome back returning students as well as new participants who begin this year in the Year B curriculum and complete Year A next

summer. [Registration is now open! Click here for more details.](#)

AS ALWAYS, Senior Warden Lorrie Beatty seeks input, feedback, and ideas to help St Thomas thrive. Communication between congregants, vestry members, and Father Dawson is crucial at this time of growth and change. An open dialog with clear and concise exchange of ideas, thoughtful planning, and a shared vision for the future of St. Thomas are important components of a successful rector search and a fulfilling parish life. Lorrie is available during the day at **216-215-7111** or by email ltbeatty@gmail.com.

THE RED DOOR CAFÉ IS BACK open for business for 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, we gather prayer requests.

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.

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 Lorrie Beatty by calling **216-215-7111** or e-mailing at ltbeatty@gmail.com if you are interested.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS! ON SUNDAY, APRIL 6th, WE ARE JOINING WITH BALDWIN-WALLACE CONSERVATORY STUDENTS FOR A SPECIAL EVENT. We have been asked to partner with B-W students by sponsoring a fund-raising concert to aid victims of the Southern California fires. At 6pm, our 1893 Sanctuary once again becomes a concert hall. More details to follow of how we can serve and enjoy these young people sharing their talents for a great cause.

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

"Do not be anxious about anything
but in every situation, by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God". Philippians 4:6-7

Caregivers: George D'Arras, Nancy Braford, and Tom Griffith

Missionary Service: Michelle Wood

Birthdays: Karen Walter, Laura Gaba, Deacon Barb Telfer

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 Shoenfelt, Clint Hist, Bill Hacker, Nellie Cooper, Clint Anderson, Alison Griffith, Jay Murillo, Thor Kerbusch, Sue Zimdars, Marilyn Thomas, Reva Telfer, Mary Brown, and Herbert Vazquez.

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

Pray for those: worldwide suffering from disease, 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.

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!

For March 2025:

Sue Zimdars (Amanda Bosley's mother): c/o Amanda Bosley, 1390 East Wallings Road,
Broadview Heights, OH 44147

John Staub: 14617 Caldwell Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44111