

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road † Berea, OH 44017



First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 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

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First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II – 10:00AM

PRELUDE: The Glory of These Forty Days,

(Erhalt uns, Herr, Hymn 143)

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 have committed 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.**

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

Presider: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People: His mercy endures for ever.

THE GREAT LITANY:

To be sung standing.

Please refer to the small booklet you received as you came in.

COLLECT OF THE DAY:

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Reader: A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us."

When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.

So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 91:1-2, 9-16 *(read responsively)*

Qui habitat

1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, abides under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 He shall say to the LORD, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust."

9 Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,

10 There shall no evil happen to you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.

12 They shall bear you in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.

14 Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my Name.

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 10:8b-13

Reader: A reading from Romans

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

SEQUENCE HYMN: "Forty Days and Forty Nights" Hymn 150 *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*
(*Verses One through Three before the Gospel, Verses Four and Five after*)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

Deacon Barb Telfer

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and

'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

SEQUENCE HYMN REPRISE: "Forty Days & Forty Nights" Hymn 150 *Aus der Tiefe*
(Verses Four and Five)

THE SERMON:

The Rev. Dawson Moorer

THE CONFESSION OF SIN:

The Presider says:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. Minister and 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.

Presider:

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*

OFFERTORY HYMN: "On Eagle's Wings" Michael Joncas

Verse One: *You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in His shadow for life
Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"*

Refrain: *And He will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand*

Verse Two: *The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield.*

Refrain: *And He will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand*

Verse Three: *For to His angels He's given a command, to guard you in all of your ways
Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone*

Refrain: *And He will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand
And hold you, hold you in the palm of His hand*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing.

Presider: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord 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.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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:

Presider and People

THE SANCTUS: S 129

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Presider continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Presider continues:

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Presider:

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE FRACTION ANTHEM: S 163

Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation:

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Presider receives the Sacrament in both kinds

COMMUNION HYMN: "Just as I Am" Hymn 693 *Woodworth*
(Verses One as solo, and Two, Four, Five, in between.
Verse Six following the Commissioning of Home Communion)

Presider: Let us pray.

All: *Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE:

Presider: Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in Your strength so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of Your loving providence; through Christ our Lord, *People:* **AMEN**

CLOSING HYMN: "If Thou But Trust in God" Hymn 635 *Wer nur den lieben Gott*

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: Postlude on "Wer nur den lieben Gott"

SERVING MARCH 9TH:

Presider *The Rev. Dawson Moorer*

Chalice Bearer: *Deacon Barb Telfer*

Altar: *Lorrie Beatty*

Lay Reader: *Michael Strama*

Bread Baker: *Etta Scheu*

Flowers: *No flowers during Lent*

Musicians: *Sue Griffith, Kira Seaton, the Choir*

CALENDAR:

SUNDAY 3/9	10:00am LENT I HOLY EUCHARIST-RITE II Father Dawson Moorer, Presider Choir rehearsal before and after service.
MONDAY 3/10	Alcoholics Anonymous- Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
THURSDAY 3/13	S.T.A.R. 12:15 PM DANCE CONCERT AA/Bluebook: Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
SUNDAY 3/16	10:00am LENT II HOLY EUCHARIST-RITE II Father Dawson Moorer, Presider Choir rehearsal before and after service.

IN THE NEWS

THE NEXT S.T.A.R. CONCERT IS MARCH 13th at 12:15 pm. The Elegance Ballroom and Latin Dance Studio will put on a dance concert you want to see! Remember to call and make reservations with Julie Kalbrunner at 440-220-2494 or call the church office at 440-234-5241 and leave a message. Space is limited.

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. You may also copy this URL into any internet browser window:

<https://www.dohio.org/calendar/2025/08/10/college-for-congregational-development>

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.

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 AT 6:00 PM WE ARE JOINING WITH BALDWIN WALLACE CONSERVATORY STUDENTS FOR A SPECIAL EVENT. We are partnering with BW students to sponsor a concert benefiting Southern California wild fire victims, with proceeds going to the **International Red Cross**. Our 1893 Sanctuary will transform into a concert hall for the evening. More details on how we can contribute and enjoy this event will follow.

AND JUST IN CASE YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T MISS DINNER ... The BW STINGER'S will have an April dinner before the concert! Sunday, April 6th at 5:00 PM. Deacon Barb Telfer and a team will once again be serving supper for the Baldwin Wallace University Wrestling Team and other athletes. Look for more news about how you can join in!. For now, contact Deacon Barb Telfer directly via email at telferbjt@hotmail.com, or call 216-225-8199 for more information.

COME JOIN IN THE FUN! The Saturday before Palm Sunday, April 12th, is *Faith, Fun and Fellowship Day* at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Medina, 317 E. Liberty Street. Folks from St. Thomas will join their brother parish in Medina for a day of games, food, and a bit of history with the theme of **"Easter Around the World"**. Our time will be 10am to 12pm.

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: Shane Wilson, Megan Cook, Mark Furlong

Anniversaries: Jo-Ann and Antony Hoty

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, Marilyn Thomas, Reva Telfer, Mary Brown, and Herbert Vazquez.

Recovering: John Staub, Dennis Braford, Gerald Gown, 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

Lent and Holy Week at St. Thomas Church - 2025

Ash Wednesday, March 5, Service at 7pm in the 1893 Sanctuary
Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

Lent I – Sunday, March 9, service at 10:00am
“Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness”

Lent II – Sunday, March 16 service at 10:00am
“Gather in Jerusalem and Cast out Demons”

Lent III– Sunday, March 23, service at 10:00am
“Repent or Perish”

Lent IV – Sunday, March 30, service at 10:00am
“The Prodigal Son”

Lent V – Sunday, April 6, service at 10:00am
“Mary Anoints Jesus”



Faith, Fun and Fellowship, Apr 12: “Easter Around the World”
10am – 12pm at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Medina

Palm Sunday, April 13 – April 13th – “Liturgy of the Palms”

Holy Thursday, Apr 17:

Agape Supper at 6:00 pm, all are welcome!

Service at 7:00 pm, including foot-washing and Last Supper”

Good Friday, Apr. 18:

Crosswalk at noon: Meeting at United Methodist Church for this walk through
part of Berea carrying the Cross

Veneration of the Cross at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Easter Morning: 10:00 am Service in the 1893 Sanctuary