

# St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road † Berea, OH 44017



**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 30, 2025**

**10:00 AM Holy Eucharist – Rite II**

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

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

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**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**

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**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 30, 2025**

**HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II – 10:00am**

**PRELUDE:** Prelude on “Southwell”

*“Lord, Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin;  
From harmful passions set me free, and make me pure within  
Lord Jesus, think on me; then when the flood is passed,  
I may the eternal brightness see; and share thy joy at last.”*

**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.**

**OPENING HYMN:** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Hymn 686 *Nettleton*

**THE OPENING ACCLAMATION**

**Presider:** Bless the Lord who forgives all our sin.

**ALL:** His mercy endures for ever.

**Presider:** Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

**Presider 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.**

**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.

**People: Amen.**

*It is customary to make the Sign of the Cross here. The Sign of the Cross is suggested at places marked with a ✝*

**TRISAGION: S 102** *(sing three times through)*

**COLLECT OF THE DAY:**

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

**People: And also with you.**

**Presider:** Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**THE FIRST LESSON**

**Joshua 5:9-12**

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

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 32** *(read responsively)*

*Beati quorum*

1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

**2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

**4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

**6 I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

**8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

**10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."**

11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

**12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

**THE SECOND LESSON**

*2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

**Reader:** A reading from 2 Corinthians

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no

sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**SEQUENCE HYMN:** "Lord Jesus, Think on Me"  
*(Verse One, Two and Three before the Gospel, Verse Four after)*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**                      **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**                      **The Rev. Dawson Moorer**

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never

given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

**SEQUENCE HYMN REPRISE:** "Lord Jesus, Think on Me" *(Verse Four)*

**THE SERMON:** **The Rev. Dawson Moorer**

*There will be a period of silence held here.*

*When the Presider stands, please join 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 p. 385 - Form II)**

*Spoken and silent prayer as led by the Lay Leader.*

*Start off with singing once through the prayer response below and repeat as listed.*

**Sung Prayer Response:**

**Lay Leader:** “I ask for your prayers for God’s people throughout the world; for our Bishop Anne, for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church”

*Instrumental music in the silence or prayers offered out loud.*

**Lay Leader:** “I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.”

**Response - All:**

**There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for You to reveal Yourself to us  
There is a longing in our hearts for love, we only find in You, our God.**

**Lay Leader:** “I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble, including those on our Parish list.”

*Instrumental music in the silence or prayers offered out loud.*

**Lay Leader:** “I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of Him. Pray that they may find and be found by Him”

**Response - All:**

**There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for You to reveal Yourself to us  
There is a longing in our hearts for love, we only find in You, our God.**

**Lay Leader:** “I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

*Instrumental music in the silence or prayers offered out loud.*

**Lay Leader:** “I ask your prayers of thanksgiving”

**Lay Leader:** “Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.”

**Response - All:**

**There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for You to reveal Yourself to us  
There is a longing in our hearts for love, we only find in You, our God.**

*The **Presider** adds a concluding Collect after the response.*

## THE PEACE

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

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

*Be seated for the Offertory*

**OFFERTORY:** “Softly and Tenderly”

Will L. Thompson

(*LEVAS 101*)

# 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:

**THE SANCTUS:                    S 129**

*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, then then Chancel Personnel. The people are welcome to come to the rail then for Communion, or to tell the ushers if they will need to have communion brought to them.*

**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:*** Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments, may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. ***People:*** **AMEN**

**CLOSING HYMN:** "Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah" Hymn 690 *Cwm Rhondda*

**DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE:** Postlude on *Cwm Rhondda*

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**SERVING MARCH 30th:**

**Presider** *The Rev. Dawson Moorer*

**Chalice Bearer:** *Peggy Zambounis*

**Altar:** *Barb Pertz*

**Lay Reader:** *Sue Griffith*

**Bread Baker:** *Etta Scheu*

**Musicians:** *The Choir, Sue Griffith, and Kira Seaton*

**Flowers:** *Artificial arrangements are used during Lenten season*

**CALENDAR:**

<b>SUNDAY 3/30</b>	<b>10:00am LENT IV HOLY EUCHARIST-RITE II</b> <b>Father Dawson Moorer, Presider</b> Choir rehearsal before service.
<b>MONDAY 3/31</b>	<b>Alcoholics Anonymous- Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)</b>
<b>THURSDAY 4/3</b>	<b>AA/Bluebook: Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)</b>
<b>SUNDAY 4/6</b>	<b>10:00am LENT V HOLY EUCHARIST-RITE II</b> <b>Father Dawson Moorer, Presider</b> <b>BW Stinger Supper 5PM, BW Student Concert 6PM</b> Choir rehearsal before and after service.

**IN THE NEWS**

**ONE WEEK FROM THIS SUNDAY! ...** The next BW STINGER'S DINNER will be held on *Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm*. Deacon Barb Telfer and her culinary team will be serving supper to the Baldwin Wallace University Wrestling Team and other athletes. Helpers and attendees needed! To learn more about how you can support this Campus Ministry, watch the bulletin or contact Deacon Barb Telfer via email at [telferbit@hotmail.com](mailto:telferbit@hotmail.com), or call 216-225-8199 for more information.

***AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER...***

**BENEFIT CONCERT BY BALDWIN WALLACE CONSERVATORY STUDENTS**  
**ON SUNDAY, APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup> @ 6:00pm:**

BW students and faculty are organizing a concert to support Southern California wildfire victims. Proceeds will go to the **American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund**. Our 1893

Sanctuary will become a concert hall for the evening. More details on how to contribute to the Red Cross will follow. Have a BW Stinger meal, and stick around for some tunes!

**THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO ST. THOMAS.** Your contributions support the parish. Please remember to complete your pledge if you have made one. For those who have not pledged yet, you can use Tithely.com to set up regular contributions on a weekly, monthly, or annual basis.

**COME JOIN IN THE FUN!** The Saturday before Palm Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 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.

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

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

**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 anytime by email [ltbeatty@gmail.com](mailto:ltbeatty@gmail.com).

**THE RED DOOR CAFÉ IS** 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](mailto: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](mailto:ltbeatty@gmail.com) if you are interested.

### **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:** Rosalie Ferline

**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 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