

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road ✝ Berea, OH 44017



Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist – Rite II

The Rt. Reverend Anne Jolly, Bishop

Presider: Reverend Dawson Moorer

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

Parish Office Phone: (440) 234-5241

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Prayer Requests: prayerlist@stthomaschurch-berea.org

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

PRELUDE: Prelude on “*Austria*”

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: “Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken” Hymn 522 *Austria*

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

Presider: 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 Presider 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

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated for the Readings

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 9:36-43

Reader: A reading from the book of Acts

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay."

So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up.

Then, calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 7:9-17

Reader: A Reading from Revelations

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SEQUENCE HYMN: “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” Hymn 645 *St. Columba*
(Verses One, Two and Five before the Gospel, Verse 6 after)

President: The Holy Gospel according to Luke
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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

Please be seated.

Please stand if you are able.

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

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*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 Presider adds a concluding Collect, then All: Amen.

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

Be seated , and join in the singing of the Offertory

OFFERTORY: “”My Faith Looks up to Thee” Hymn 691 *Olivet*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer D

The people remain standing. The Presider, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says:

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks unto our God.

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds:

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

THE SANCTUS

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Then the Presider continues:

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Presider is to hold it, or 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.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Presider and People:

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Presider continues:

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember all who minister in your Church, especially Bishop Anne. Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth. Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. Thomas and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

People: 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.

FRACTION ANTHEM

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COMMUNION HYMN: “Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus” Hymn 336 *Werde munter*
(Verse One sung as a solo, and then, with interludes, join in to sing Verse Two. If Home communion is being given out, stop after verse Two and sing Verse Three after the distribution.)

After Communion, the Presider says: Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer:

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.

THE EASTER BLESSING

Presider: May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us His children through the resurrection of His Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of His blessing.

People: AMEN.

Presider: May God, who, through the water of baptism has raised us from sin
into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever.

People: AMEN.

Presider: May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin,
into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemed, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

People: AMEN.

Presider: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People: AMEN.

CLOSING HYMN: “Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us” Hymn 708 *Sicilian Mariners*

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: Postlude on “*Sicilian Mariners*”

SERVING ON MAY 11TH:

Presider: *The Rev. Dawson Moore*

Altar: *Laura Gaba*

Bread Baker: *Lorrie Beatty*

Chalice Bearer: *Deacon Barb Telfer*

Lay Reader: *Mike Strama*

Flowers: *Linda Kinsey*

Musicians: *Sue Griffith, and Kira Seaton*

CALENDAR:

SUNDAY 5/11	10:00am HOLY EUCHARIST-RITE II Father Dawson Moorer, Presider Choir rehearsal after service.
MONDAY 5/12	Alcoholics Anonymous- Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
TUESDAY 5/13	Alcoholics Anonymous- Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
THURSDAY 5/15	AA/Blue Book: Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
SATURDAY, 5/17	VESTRY RETREAT – 9:00am – 4pm Harkess Hall and the Sanctuary
SUNDAY 5/18	10:00am HOLY EUCHARIST-RITE II Father Dawson Moorer, Presider Commissioning of the Search Committee Parish Meeting #1 plus lunch Choir rehearsal before service

IN THE NEWS

UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS: Please mark your calendars. On the following Sundays of **May 18, June 8, and June 22**, there will be Parish Meetings that include lunch. ECW will provide the main dish and beverages. There are sign-up sheets on the office window for side dishes and desserts. The Search Committee for our new priest will help host the meetings, with each meeting having a unique topic.

FORMAL COMMISSIONING OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE will take place during worship service on Sunday, May 18, 2025. The first of three Parish Meetings complete with lunch will follow services on those days. The Search Committee includes Chair Mary Canonico, Mary Lee Stowell, Scott Hartman, Linda Kinsey, Caitlyn Walker, and Bruce McLaughlin.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP:

The combined Youth Groups from St. Thomas and St. Paul's will be heading to Pennsylvania in July. Please consider adding an extra donation to the Offertory Collection to help cover the \$325 per youth. Shalyn, Aubrey, Taylor, and Jordan from St. Thomas will going, accompanied by Youth Group leader Roanne Lisi.

GIVING TO ST. THOMAS has never been easier point your cell phone's camera to the QR code. Click on the link that appears on your camera screens to access Tithely.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 phone **216-215-7111** or email at ltbeatty@gmail.com if you are interested.

THE BREAD BAKERS are looking for bakers to join their team of volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Peggy Zambounis at 440-336-1682.

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.

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.

HAVE YOU SEEN MUSICIAN-TYPE PEOPLE LURKING AROUND THE BUILDING?

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

First, there is the The Tri-C Chorale, which has been rehearsing on an occasional basis in our Sanctuary, preparing for their trip to sing in the Dublin International Choral Festival in June. In exchange for the rehearsal space, we will hear members, and maybe the whole group, sing in worship sometime this summer.

And then there are those woodwind players! A quintet, (and sometimes a sextet), can also be found in our Sanctuary making a beautiful noise! With their stands and their cases, and reeds and all the other equipment, these talented folks are “making a joyful noise” and we hope that they might also play in worship sometime down the road.

If you see these folks, welcome them!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 23-27, 9:30 - 12:15

170 Seminary St., Berea

Hosted by:

***The United Methodist Church of
Berea, Christ United Church,
& St. Paul's Lutheran Church***

REGISTER NOW



A House
Build
Benefiting
Habitat
for
Humanity



JULY 18-19, 2025

Cut Day Friday, 6-8 pm (adults only)
Build Day Saturday, 8-2 pm (all ages)

170 Seminary St., Berea 44017
More info: cantczak@umcb.org



ALL AGES & SKILLS
WELCOME!



THE UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF BEREA

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: Janet Bell, Patrick Brown, Dana Braford

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: Bill Kerbusch, H. Pat, Heather Flowers, Carol Flowers, Kevin Flowers, Brenna, Dan Skjei, Phyllis Hall, Tammy Pletcher, Bev Smith, 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 Jim Blanca

Recovering: John Staub, Dennis Braford, Gerald Gown, Carole Strama, Polly Burns, Shelley Campbell and Carole Pozek.

Pray for those worldwide: who are 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! Please let us know if there is someone to whom you would like us to send cards or lift up in prayer.

For May 2025:

Jim Blanca – 5838 Acacia Rose Ct. Richmond, TX 77404 (recent heart by-pass surgery)

Heather Flowers – 13602 St. James Ave. Cleveland, OH 44135 (continuing treatment)