

# St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road † Berea, OH 44017



**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

**March 1, 2026**

**10:00 AM Holy Eucharist – Rite II**

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

**Presider: Reverend Dawson Moorer**

**Barbara Telfer, Deacon: [TelferBJT@hotmail.com](mailto:TelferBJT@hotmail.com)**

**Kira Seaton, Minister of Music: [scuola.musica@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scuola.musica@sbcglobal.net)**

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**

**Parish Office Phone: (440) 234-5241**

**Email and Prayer Requests: [churchoffice@stthomaschurch-berea.org](mailto:churchoffice@stthomaschurch-berea.org)**

St. Thomas  
Website

Give to St.  
Thomas

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II – 10:00AM

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRAYER FOR ST. THOMAS

*All:* Prayer for St. Thomas

Loving God, we come to you with hopeful hearts, seeking your guidance during this time of transition, as we search for our next rector. We especially lift up our search committee; grant them clarity and wisdom in their endeavors. May they, along with the entire congregation, know your presence throughout this journey. We thank you for the many blessings in our lives and for the leadership that has guided us over the years.

God, we ask for a future priest with deep love for your people and the wisdom to prepare us for your ministries. May we be attuned to your voice in our deliberations. Grant us the courage to respond and act as you lead us. Let us be united in wisdom, compassion, and joy as we strive to fulfill your purpose.

We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## The Word of God

**PRELUDE:** Etude on “*Crucifer*”

**OPENING HYMN:** “Lift High the Cross”

Hymn 473 *Crucifer*

### 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.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**THE FIRST LESSON**

**GENESIS 12:1-4a**

*Reader:* A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

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

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills;

**From where is my help to come?**

2 My help comes from the LORD,

**The maker of heaven and earth.**

3 He will not let your foot be moved,

**And he who watches over you will not fall asleep.**

4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel

**Shall neither slumber nor sleep;**

5 The LORD himself watches over you;

**The LORD is your shade at your right hand,**

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day,

**Nor the moon by night.**

7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil;

**It is he who shall keep you safe.**

8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in,

**From this time forth for evermore.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

## ROMANS 4:1-5, 13-17

*Reader:* A reading from Romans

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

**SEQUENCE HYMN:** "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" Hymn 691 *Olivet*  
(*Verses One and Two before the Gospel reading, Verse Three after*)

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**JOHN 3:1-17**

*The Rev. Dawson Moorer*

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

*Presider:* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

**SEQUENCE HYMN REPRISE: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”** Hymn 691 *Olivet*  
*(Verse Three after the Gospel)*

**THE SERMON:**

*The Rev. Dawson Moorer*

**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 (Form II-BCP)**

*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 Response:**

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

*Reader:* 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.*

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

*People:* **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.**

*Reader:* 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.*

*Reader:* 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.

*People:* **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.**

*Reader:* I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

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

*Reader:* I ask your prayers of thanksgiving

*Reader:* 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.

*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 ends with a concluding Collect after the response.*

## THE PEACE

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

*People:* And also with you.

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** “Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth” lyrics by Jean Janzen  
*Text based on the writings of Julian of Norwich, (1342 – 1413)*

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## The Great Thanksgiving - 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 up 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:** “Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured” Hymn 313

*-Jesus, meine Zuversicht*

*The musicians will perform an extended introduction, after which we will collectively sing Verses One, Two and Three. Verse Four will be sung after the Eucharistic Visitors are given their elements to share.*

*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 forever in the protection of Your loving providence; through Christ our Lord.

*People:* **AMEN**

**CLOSING HYMN:** “How Firm a Foundation” Hymn 636 *Foundation*

**DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE:** Recessional on “*Foundation*”

**SERVING ON MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>**

*Presider: The Rev. Dawson Moorer*

*Chalice Bearer: Julie Kalbrunner*

*Lay Reader: Tim Gilles*

*Altar: Julie Kalbrunner*

*Bread Baker: Marlene Carlsen*

*Musicians: Kira Seaton, James Kulma, and Sue Griffith*

<b>WEEKLY CALENDAR</b>	
<b>SUNDAY 3/1</b>	<b>10:00 am Holy Eucharist-Rite II</b> <b>Second Sunday in Lent ~ Fr. Dawson Moorer Presider</b>
<b>MONDAY 3/2</b>	Alcoholics Anonymous- Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
<b>TUESDAY 3/3</b>	Alcoholics Anonymous- Harkess Hall, (7-9pm) Healing Service 6 pm -A Spiritual Journey through Lent 7 pm
<b>THURSDAY 3/5</b>	Al-Anon- Harkess Hall (7-9pm)
<b>SUNDAY 3/8</b>	<b>10:00 am Holy Eucharist-Rite II</b> <b>Third Sunday in Lent~Fr. Dawson Moorer Presider</b>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **COLLEGE FOR CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT; REGISTER NOW!**

Click [here](#) to learn more about the College for Congregational Development at our Diocese Retreat Center, *Bellwether Farm*, taking place **August 2-7**. Prepare to be immersed in a collaborative learning environment where we strategize how to grow into the faith communities God has gathered to love the world together. Price is \$850/person. Talk to Senior Warden Lorrie Beatty if you're interested in attending CCD. It's important there be least two to three of us from St. Thomas at CCD. The Church will help with the tuition and partial scholarships from the Diocese are available, but we must register early.

### **HEALING SERVICE TUESDAY @ 6:00 PM:**

Every Tuesday evening at 6:00 pm, Father Dawson Moorer presides over an expressive worship service that includes the Word of God, a Litany of Healing, Anointing, and Holy Communion.

### **COLUMBARIUM EXPANSION IS HAPPENING!**

One block of four niches is sold, and another block of four niches is pending sold. Are you interested in purchasing a niche for yourself and/or your loved ones? We must purchase niches in blocks of four. The approximate all-inclusive cost of one niche is currently less than \$600.00. If you'd like to know more about obtaining a niche(s), please call the church office at 440-234-5241 or send an email to [churchoffice@stthomaschurch-berea.org](mailto:churchoffice@stthomaschurch-berea.org). Be sure to include your name, phone number, and a good time to reach you.

### **ADULT FORMATION TUESDAY @ 7 PM**

*Hosanna! A Spiritual Journey* through Holy Week. Exploring scripture that describes Jesus' last week in Jerusalem, beginning with the earliest sacred texts illustrating events of that week in Paul's epistles, and continuing through the account in all four Gospels. The study looks at Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, accounts of the Last Supper, and of Jesus' crucifixion, death, and resurrection. Book fee is \$22. Call the Church Office ASAP to reserve a book now! (440) 234-5241



### **GIVING TO ST. THOMAS**

Point your cell phone camera at this QR code then click on the link that appears on your camera screens to access Tithely.com. Giving is safe & easy.

**SEND PRAYER REQUESTS OR NOTEWORTHY ITEMS TO SHARE:**

Email information to [churchoffice@stthomaschurch-berea.org](mailto:churchoffice@stthomaschurch-berea.org). Deadline for submission is Wednesday night for inclusion in the weekly E-Pistle and Sunday Bulletin. Don't use email? Please reach out by phone; call the Church Office (440) 234-5241. When leaving a message speak slowly and clearly. Thank you!

**CARD-SENDING:** There is nothing like receiving a card in the mail when you or a loved one is under the weather, mourning, or in need of encouragement. If you are interested in this valuable ministry, please see the last page of this bulletin for information about those we have designated as folks who could benefit from a little Postal Cheer.

**A WONDERFUL CONCERT OPPORTUNITY:** Parma Symphony will be performing their March 8<sup>th</sup> concert at 3pm at Valley Forge High School, 9999 Independence Blvd. in Parma Heights. Programming will include Beethoven's *Eighth Symphony*, Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*, (complete with cannon!), Saint Saen's *Carnival of the Animals*, "Simple Song" from Bernstein's *Mass*, and a Duke Ellington Medley – should be a delightful and varied concert. Kira Seaton has free tickets to the concert dedicated to families, e-mail her!

The St. Thomas chapter of **EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN** (ECW) has planned a trip to Miss Hickory's Teahouse, Mill Hollow Lane in Strongsville for Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 11am. Reservations are required – please see or call Anita Cooper if you are interested.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. THOMAS:**

**COMMUNION BREAD BAKER:** This is a great service for the whole church, done with a little prayer right in your own home. If you are interested, please contact Peggy Zambounis at 440-336-1682.

**LAY READERS NEEDED:** Do you enjoy reading out loud? If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact Carl Scheu at (440) 292-7189 or email [thrud62@yahoo.com](mailto:thrud62@yahoo.com).  
Training provided.

**CHURCH OFFICE VOLUNTEER:** Consider spending two hours in the office on Thursday or Friday morning (10a-12p or 11a-1p). Duties include answering the phone, taking messages, and light office duties. Training provided. For more information, contact

Julie Kalbrunner at 440-220-2494.



**Saint Thomas  
Episcopal Church**

50 E. Bagley Rd Berea  
440-234-5241

# HOLY WEEK

## *Services*

*Come and join us as we celebrate the  
resurrection and the joy of new life in Christ.*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time/Location</b>
<b>Sunday, March 29</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	10:00 am - Ogilvy Chapel
<b>Monday, March 30</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	7:00 pm - Ogilvy Chapel
<b>Tuesday, March 31</b>	<b>Healing Service</b>	7:00 pm - Ogilvy Chapel
<b>Thursday, April 2</b>	<b>Agape Meal/ Maundy Thursday Service</b>	6:00 pm Harkess Hall/ 7:00 pm Ogilvy Chapel
<b>Friday, April 3</b>	<b>Crosswalk</b>	12:00 pm - behind BW Chapel
<b>Friday, April 3</b>	<b>Good Friday Service</b>	7:00 pm - Ogilvy Chapel
<b>Saturday, April 4</b>	<b>Great Easter Vigil</b>	7:00 pm - Ogilvy Chapel
<b>Sunday, April 5</b>	<b>Easter Sunday Service</b>	10:00 am - Ogilvy Chapel



[https://stthomaschurch-  
bera.org/](https://stthomaschurch-berea.org/)



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

**Caregivers:** George D'Arras, and Nancy Braford

**Missionary Service:** Michelle Wood

**Birthdays:** Karen Walter, Laura Gaba

*We would like to honor your birthday or anniversary. Contact the Church Office to update your information.*

**Military Service:** David Brabson, Ryan Dawson, Robby Hartman, Annmarie Miller, Eli Modesitt, John Toolis, Blake Schwartz, Jimmy Loder, Caleb Jones, Maria Estrada, and David Zambounis.

**Sick and Suffering:** George Butz, Heather Flowers, Kevin Flowers, Brenna, Dan Skjei, Phyllis Hall, Tammy Pletcher, Bev Smith, Sara Perry, Evelyn & Churchill Ward, Alma Stoica, Sandy Shoenfelt, Clint Hist, Bill Hacker, Nellie Cooper, Clint Anderson, Jay Murillo, Marilyn Thomas, Reva Telfer, Neil McConnell, Linda Miller, Jacob, Kate Stocker Holly, Anita Cooper, Mary Lou, Marcie Hist, Ben Wancheck, Shelley Campbell, John Staub, Sue Zimdars, and Anne Statz.

**Recovering:** Alison Griffith, Dennis Braford, Gerald Gown, Carole Strama, Carole Pozek, Spencer Griffith, Sue Griffith, Rick Finklestein, and Mike Leonardo.

**Pray for those worldwide:** who suffer from disease, natural disasters, extreme heat or lack of clean water, pray for the victims of gun violence everywhere.

**For peace among the nations:** Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **Special Intentions, Prayer Requests, & Blessings:**

Each month we will list names of select members or friends of our church who would benefit from receiving notes or cards by mail to brighten their day, or we will set special intentions to pray for. To nominate someone for a card or request special intentions or prayers, please email: [churchoffice@stthomaschurch-berea.org](mailto:churchoffice@stthomaschurch-berea.org).

### **For March Card sending:**

**ADDING ANOTHER CARD/LETTER** opportunity to our list, through the end of March: *David Zambounis* is in Army Basic Training in Missouri – send him a greeting and well-wishes!!

**PFC Zambounis, David**  
D CO 3-10TH IN REGT  
495 Iowa Avenue, Unit #45  
Fort Leonard Wood, MO. 65473