

# St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road      †      Berea, OH 44017



**Second Sunday of Easter**

**Morning Prayer – Rite II**

**10:00 AM      April 12, 2026      Officiant:**

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

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

**Barbara Telfer, Deacon: TelferBJT@hotmail.com**

**Kira Seaton, Minister of Music: scuola.musica@sbcglobal.net**

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Berea, Ohio**

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

**Email: churchoffice@stthomaschurch-berea.org**

St. Thomas  
Website

Give to St.  
Thomas



Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

## Morning Prayer - Rite II

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRAYER FOR ST. THOMAS

*All:*

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.

*Please rise if you are able.*

OPENING HYMN: "This Joyful Eastertide, Hymnal 192 *Vreuchten*  
(All verses)

#### OPENING SENTENCE

*Officiant:*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57

## THE INVITATORY & PSALTER

*Officiant:* O Lord, open our lips.

*People:* And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

*Officiant and People:*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**Christ our Passover** *Pascha nostrum*

1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; **\* therefore let us keep the feast,**  
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, **\* but with the unleavened**  
**bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.**

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; **\* death no longer has**  
**dominion over him.**

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; **\* but the life he lives, he lives to**  
**God.**

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, **\* and alive to God in Jesus Christ our**  
**Lord. Alleluia.**

Christ has been raised from the dead, **\* the first fruits of those who have fallen**  
**asleep.**

For since by a man came death, **\* by a man has come also the resurrection of the**  
**dead.**

For as in Adam all die, **\* so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.**

**Psalm 16**

*Conserva me, Domine*

*Lay Reader*

1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; **\* I have said to the Lord, "You are**  
**my Lord, my good above all other."**

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \* **upon those who are noble among the people.**

3 But those who run after other gods \* **shall have their troubles multiplied.**

4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, \* **nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**

5 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; \* **it is you who uphold my lot.**

6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \* **indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**

7 I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; \* **my heart teaches me, night after night.**

8 I have set the Lord always before me; \* **because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.**

9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \* **my body also shall rest in hope.**

10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, \* **nor let your holy one see the Pit.**

11 You will show me the path of life; \* **in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

*All:* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **THE LESSONS**

### **A READING FROM ACTS**

*Lay Reader*

Acts 2:14a,22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan

and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord

*All:* **Thanks be to God**

9 **The First Song of Isaiah** *Ecce, Deus*  
Isaiah 12:2-6

*Lay Reader*

Surely, it is God who saves me; **\* I will trust in him and not be afraid.**  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, **\* and he will be my Savior.**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing **\* from the springs of salvation.**  
And on that day you shall say, **\* Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;**  
Make his deeds known among the peoples; **\* see that they remember that his**  
**Name is exalted.**

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, **\* and this is known in all**  
**the world.**

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, **\* for the great one in the midst of**  
**you is the Holy One of Israel.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: **\***  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*Please stand, if you are able.*

GRADUAL HYMN: "O Sons and Daughters" Hymn 203 *O filii et filiae*  
(All verses)

### **A READING FROM JOHN**

*Officiant:* A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John      John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be

with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord

*All:* **Thanks be to God**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON** by *The Rev. Dawson Moorer*

*Read by Mary Lee Stowell*

*Please stand, if you are able, for the Dignus es, Apostle's Creed and Prayers.*

**18 A Song to the Lamb** *Dignus es*

Revelation 4:11; 5:9-10, 13

Splendor and honor and kingly power **\* are yours by right, O Lord our God,**

For you created everything that is, **\* and by your will they were created and have their being;**

And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, **\* for with your blood you have redeemed for God,**

From every family, language, people, and nation, **\* a kingdom of priests to serve our God.**

And so, to him who sits upon the throne, **\* and to Christ the Lamb,**

Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, **\* for ever and for evermore.**

**THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

*Officiant and People:*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS

*Officiant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Officiant:* Let us pray.

*Officiant and People:*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. **Amen.**

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**R. And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**R. Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**R. For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

**R. Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

### *Officiant:*

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS

### *Officiant:*

O God, You make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of Your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of You, that the week to come may be spent in Your favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## MISSION PRAYER

### *Officiant:*

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit, that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

## A COLLECT FOR PEACE

### *Officiant and People:*

**O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" Hymn 691 *Olivet*  
(All Verses)

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*Officiant and People:*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and  
glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

#### **A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM**

*Officiant:*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

*Officiant:* Let us bless the Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia

*People:* **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**CLOSING HYMN:** "Good Christians All Rejoice and Sing" Hymn 205 *Gelobt sei Gott*  
(Verses 1, 3, and 4)

#### **CLOSING SENTENCE**

(Ephesians 3:20, 21)

*Officiant:*

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

*Officiant:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord     *All:* **Thanks be to God**

**Serving on April 12th:**

**Officiant:** Mary Lee Stowell

**Altar:** Etta Scheu

**Lay Reader:** Joe Allotta

**Flowers:** Easter Lilies

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

**WEEKLY CALENDAR:**

SUNDAY	04/12	Second Sunday of Easter Morning Prayer-Rite II Worship 10:00am Officiant:
MONDAY	04/13	Alcoholics Anonymous in Harkess Hall, 7-9pm
TUESDAY	04/14	Alcoholics Anonymous in Harkess Hall, 7-9pm
THURSDAY	04/16	AA/Bluebook in Harkess Hall, 8pm
SUNDAY	04/19	Third Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist – Rite II 10:00 am Presider: Rev. Robert Israel

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FR. DAWSON MOORER’S EMAIL AND TEXT MESSAGE APP UPDATE**

If you received a text message or email from Fr. Dawson recently that asked you to send money or purchase gift cards...**DELETE THE MESSAGES.** Fr. Dawson’s accounts have been hacked. **Do not respond to the messages, do not engage with the senders. The messages are not from Fr. Dawson. DELETE THE MESSAGES. THEY ARE SCAMS.**

**ECW MEETING SUNDAY APRIL 12 AFTER WORSHIP**

Topics for the include the annual May 1 & 2 Plant Sale, and other summer activities.

**ECW GAME NIGHT~APRIL 17!**

Game night starts at 6 pm with a potluck supper featuring pork BBQ. Please sign up on the church office window, noting your group size and side or dessert. Bring any games you like—board, card, or others—for all ages. For volunteering or questions, contact Anita Cooper.

**PARISHIONER & VESTRY MEMBER MIKE STRAMA**

Mike is the Stage Manager for Strongsville Community Theatre’s upcoming production of the musical “Tuck Everlasting” running April 17-26 in the Little Theater at Strongsville High School. Call the Box Office for ticket information: (440) 879-8817

### **WE'RE UPDATING THE FUR BABIES BULLETIN BOARD**

If you have a pet not already included or a new pet to include, please give pictures to Anita Cooper or leave them in the office. Also, include your pet's name and age.

### **GO FUND ME FOR THOR'S MEMORIAL**

Very good friends of Thor's owner and Dad, Bill Kerbusch, have started a Go Fund Me account to help offset the cost of the memorial monument to Thor that will guard the St. Thomas courtyard in the coming months. Here is a link to the site where you can donate; click on the link if you are reading this in the E-Pistle or type the full URL address into any internet browser window beginning with "https...": The fundraiser link is <https://www.gofundme.com/f/memorial-monument-for-thor-the-therapy-dog>

### **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:** Sending a card can lift someone's spirits during illness, grief, or tough times. To join this ministry, see the last page of the bulletin for a list of people who could use some encouragement.

### **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.

### **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.

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

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

**Missionary Service:** Michelle Wood

**Birthdays:** Carole Flowers, Carole Pozek, Debra Eschenanauer

**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:** Heather Flowers, Kevin Flowers, 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, Linda Miller, Jacob, Kate Stocker Holly, Harold Roberts, Mary Lou, Marcie Hist, Sue Zimdars, and Anne Statz.

**Recovering:** Alison Griffith, Dennis Braford, Gerald Gownern, Carole Strama, Carole Pozek, Spencer Griffith, Sue Griffith, Rick Finklestein, John Staub, Lorrie Beatty, Mike Leonardo, and Kira Seaton.

**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 April Card sending:**

*Carole Flowers*, (took a fall, broke her arm) 13602 St. James Ave, Cleveland, OH 44135

*We'll have a new address soon for David Zambounis, so you may congratulate him on his graduation from Boot Camp.*