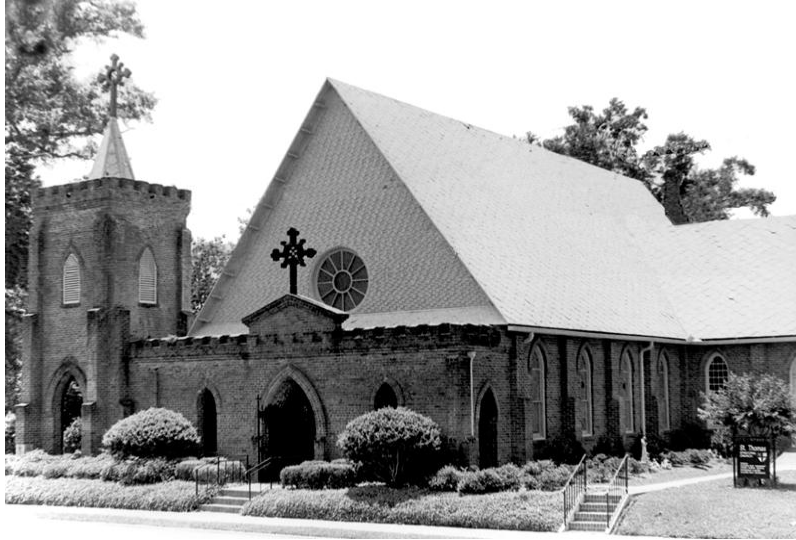


SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13th, 2026 10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II

www.stthomasgreenville.org



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

210 Church Street, Greenville, Alabama 36037

334.382.8914

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick, *Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast*

The Rev. Linda Suzanne Borgen, *Rector*

Dr. Elizabeth French, *Organist*

Dent Neilson, *Verger*

Sharon Carson, *Parish Administrator*

Julie Smith, *Nursery Nanny*

VESTRY

Carey Stallworth, *Senior Warden*,

Mints McGowin, *Junior Warden*,

Jean Hancock ('28), *Clerk*, Cemira Powell, *Treasurer*

Mary Dearing ('26), Amy Martin ('26),

Cleve Poole ('26), Nikki McFerrin ('28), Laura Watts ('27)

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

BCP – *The Book of Common Prayer*, H – *The Hymnal 1982*

S – *Service Music in The Hymnal*, A – *Alleluia III Songbook*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Opening Hymn

Rejoice ye pure in heart

H 556, V 1-3

Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing! Your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

With all the angel choirs, with all the saints of earth, pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, no blest mirth.

Your clear hosannas raise, and alleluias loud; while answering echoes upward float, like wreaths of incense cloud.

Refrain

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

The Opening Sentences

BCP 355

Leader Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People *And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen*

Song of Praise

(Gloria in Excelsis)

S 280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God.

You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

The Collect

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God, who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the arm of Israel. And so, the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the

night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So, Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus, the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So, the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 114

BCP 756

Officiant and People

- ¹ Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- ² Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.
- ³ The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.
- ⁴ The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.
- ⁵ What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?
- ⁶ You mountain, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?
- ⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob.
- ⁸ Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord

that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also, those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Rejoice ye pure in heart

H 556, V 4-6

Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go, from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe.

Still lift your standard high, still march in firm array, as warriors through the darkness toil, till dawn the golden days.

At last, the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest; the pilgrims find their Father's house, Jerusalem the blest.

Refrain

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason, the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So, the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But, that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience

with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So, may heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Linda Suzanne Borgen

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

All say together

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: 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.

The Prayers of the People

Form VI

BCP 392

The leaders and people pray responsively

In Peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For the community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

For [N. our presiding Bishop, and N. (N.) our Bishop(s); and for] all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgiving

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The people may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
In your compassion forgive us our sins,
Known and unknown,
Things done and left undone;
And so, uphold us by your Spirit
That we may live and serve you in newness of life,

To the honor and glory of your Name;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

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

Confession of Sin

All say together

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Absolution

BCP 360

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

The Priest says Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to Almighty God. *Ephesians 5:2*

(Offerings may be mailed, given to the church office, or given securely online at www.stthomasgreenville.org)

Offertory Anthem

Dr. Elizabeth French

Doxology

H 380, v 3

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creature here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant 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 because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant 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.

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant 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 forever. *AMEN.*

Sanctus

S 125

Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

Celebrant 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation [*Amen.*]

The Ministration of Communion

Communion Hymns

Choir and Congregation

Humbly I adore Thee

H 314

Humbly I adore thee, Verity unseen who thy glory hidest 'neath these shadows mean; lo, to thee surrendered, my whole heart is bowed, tranced as it beholds thee, shrined within the cloud.

Taste and touch and vision to discern thee fail; faith, that comes by hearing, pierces through the veil. I believe whate'er the Son of God hath told; what the Truth hath spoken, that for truth I hold.

O memorial wonderful of the Lord's own death; grant my spirit ever by thy life may live, to my taste thy sweetness never failing give.

Jesus, whom now hidden, I by faith behold, what my soul doth long for, that thy word foretold: face to face thy splendor, I at last shall see, in the glorious vision, blessed Lord, of thee.

God himself is with us

H 475

God himself is with us; let us all adore him, and with awe appear before him. God is here within us; souls in silence fear him, humbly, fervently draw near him. Now his own who have known God, in worship lowly, yield their spirits wholly.

Gladly, Lord, we offer thine to be forever, soul and life and each endeavor. Help us to surrender earth's deceitful treasures, pride of life, and sinful pleasures; thou alone shalt be known Lord of all our being, life's true way decreeing.

Thou pervadest all things; let thy radiant beauty light mine eyes to see my duty. As the tender flowers eagerly unfold them, to the sunlight calmly hold them, so let me quietly in thy rays imbue me; let thy light shine through me.

Come, abide within me; let my soul, like Mary, be thine earthly sanctuary. Come, indwelling Spirit, with transfiguring splendor; love and honor will I render. Where I go here below, let me bow before thee, know thee, and adore thee.

They'll Know we are Christians by Our Love

A 175

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord. And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand. And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

We will work with each other, we will work side by side. We will work with each other, we will walk side by side. And we will guard each others dignity and save each one's pride.

All praise to the Father from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.

Refrain

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Prayer for Lay Eucharistic Visitor

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation and our Lord Jesus Christ, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, so that those to whom you go share with us in this Holy Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People For we who are many are one body, because we all share one bread and one cup.

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP 366

After Communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

Celebrant blesses the congregation saying

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Recessional Hymn

All my hope in God is founded

H 665, V 1-4

All my hope in God is founded; he doth still my trust renew, me through change and chance he guideth, only good and only true. God unknown, he alone calls my heart to be his own.

Mortal pride and earthly glory, sword and crown betray our trust; though with care and toil we build them, tower and temple fall to dust. But God's power, hour by hour, is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness e'er endureth, deep his wisdom passing thought: splendor, light, and life attend him, beauty springeth out of nought. Evermore from his store new-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth the almighty Giver bounteous gifts on us bestow; his desire our soul delighteth, pleasure leads us where we go. Love doth stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his command.