

**THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**May 25, 2025 10:00 a.m.**  
**An Order for the**  
**Administration of Communion**  
**Under Special Circumstances**  
[www.stthomasgreenville.org](http://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**

Tammi Edwards ('25), Cleve Poole ('26), *Senior Wardens*,  
Carey Stallworth ('27), *Junior Warden*, Laura Watts ('27), *Clerk*,  
Cemira Powell, *Treasurer*, Mary Dearing ('26), Ann Garrett ('25),  
Amy Martin ('26), Mints McGowin ('27)

## COMMUNION UNDER SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES: RITE TWO

*BCP – The Book of Common Prayer, H – The Hymnal 1982  
S – Service Music in The Hymnal, A – Alleluia III Songbook*

### Prelude

**Opening Hymn**     *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*     H 390

Dear friends in Christ, we have come together in the presence of God to offer praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive the Word of God, to bring before God the needs of the world and to ask for the forgiveness of our sins. Today, the bread and wine for our Communion were consecrated as part of an earlier Eucharistic celebration. For centuries, the church has reserved consecrated elements in order to include those unable, because of infirmity or distance, to be present at Eucharist, and also to include worshiping communities on occasions when no priest is available to preside.

**The Opening Acclamation**     BCP 355

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

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

The Collect     Insert

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love toward you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
*Amen.*

### The Lessons

**First Reading: Acts 16:9-15**     Insert

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had

called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who was gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

## **Psalm 67**

Insert & BCP 675

- <sup>1</sup> May God be merciful to us and bless us, \*  
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
- <sup>2</sup> Let your ways be known upon the earth, \*  
your saving health among all nations.
- <sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
let all the peoples praise you.
- <sup>4</sup> Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \*  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the  
nations upon the earth.
- <sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
let all the peoples praise you.
- <sup>6</sup> The earth has brought forth her increase; \*  
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
- <sup>7</sup> May God give us his blessing, \*  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.  
princes and all rulers of the world;

## **Second Reading: Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5**

Insert

In the Spirit of the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city of Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the

city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practice abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. Amen

<b>Sequence Hymn</b>	<i>Praise to the living God</i>	H 372
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<i>Then, all standing,</i>	BCP 357
<i>a Worship Leader, Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying</i>	

Leader	The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
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People	<i>Glory to you, Lord Christ.</i>
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<b>Gospel:</b>	<b>John 14:23-29</b>	Insert
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Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), “those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. I have said these to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I don not give to you as

the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

Leader            The Gospel of the Lord.

People            Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **Homily**

Tammi Edwards

## **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.

## Prayers of the People Form IV

BCP 388

Deacon or other leader

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

## **Leader     Concluding Collect**

BCP 394

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do you will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

## **The Confession of Sin**

BCP 360

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

*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.

## **The Absolution**

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

**Leader**   The peace of the Lord be always with you.

BCP 360

*People   And also with you.*

## **The Announcements**

*The Leader says*

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

**Offertory Anthem**

**The Presentation**

*Doxology*

*H 380 v 3*

*All stand. The leader stands in an appointed place near the altar but that is not behind the altar and says:*

Sisters and brothers, on the 21st day of May, in the year of Our Lord, 2025, the people of St. Mary's, Andalusia, gathered as the Body of Christ to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. A portion of the Sacred Bread and Precious Blood was reserved from that Eucharist, and has been reverently kept for us that we may this day join with those who gathered then, in communion with God and all Christians of every place and every time, to share in this foretaste of the Heavenly Banquet.

**Leader** Sisters and brothers, the cup of blessing that was blessed

*People is the Communion of the Blood of Christ.*

**Leader** For we were all baptized into one Spirit and one body.

*People And are all made to drink of one Cup.*

**Leader** The Bread that was broken

*People is the Communion of the Body of Christ.*

**Leader** Because there is One Bread.

*People* We who are many are one body, for we all share in the One Bread.

*All together* All Mighty Father, whose dear Son on the night before He suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, Who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life: and Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.



## The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

**Leader:** So, with all who are gathered together today,  
everywhere throughout the world, and with the great procession  
of your Saints, we pray to you as our Savior has taught us,

*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.

**Leader** The gifts of God for the people of God.

*Administration of Communion*

*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.*]

## Communion Hymns

*Lord of the Dance* A 111

*This is my Father's World* A 176

*Father, I Adore You* A 92

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds following the people.*

## Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 366

After Communion, the Leader says  
Let us pray.

## *Leader and People*

Almighty and everliving 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 your 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 for ever. Amen.

Recessional Hymn      *God of grace and God of glory*      H 594

Dismissal

**Leader**      Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

## **Worship Leaders Today**

Tammi Edwards, *Lay Worship Leader*

Jim McGowin, *Lay Assist*

Cleve Poole, *Lay Reader*

Clay Powell, *AV*

Jim McGowin, *Lay Eucharistic Visitor*

Dent Neilson, *Usher*

Mary, Staci, Charlotte, Ramona, *Altar Guild*



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