

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 18, 2025 10:00 a.m.
An Order for the
Administration of Communion
Under Special Circumstances
www.stthomasgreenville.org^w



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
210 Church Street, Greenville, Alabama 36037
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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

Opening Hymn *In the cross of Christ I glory* H 441

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

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

First Reading: Acts 11:1-18 Insert

Now the Apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So, when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, “Why did you go to the uncircumcised men and eat with them?” Then Peter began to explain it to step by step,

saying, “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely, I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not make distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

Psalm 148

Insert & BCP 805

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; *

praise him in the heights.

² Praise him, all you angels of his; *

praise him, all his host.

³ Praise him, sun and moon; *

praise him, all you shining stars.

⁴ Praise him, heaven of heavens, *

and you waters above the heavens.

⁵ Let them praise the Name of the Lord; *

for he commanded, and they were created.

⁶ He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
 he gave them a law which shall not pass away.
⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth, *
 you sea-monsters and all deeps;
⁸ Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
 tempestuous wind, doing his will;
⁹ Mountains and all hills, *
 fruit trees and all cedars;
¹⁰ Wild beasts and all cattle, *
 creeping things and winged birds;
¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
 princes and all rulers of the world;
¹² Young men and maidens, *
 old and young together.
¹³ Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
 for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and
 heaven.
¹⁴ He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his
 loyal servants, *
 the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
 Hallelujah.

Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

Insert

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away; and the sea was no more. And I saw a holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also, he said, "write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the

end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

Sequence Hymn

Blessed Jesus, at thy word

H 440

Then, all standing,

BCP 357

a Worship Leader, Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

Leader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to John.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Gospel John 13:31-35

Insert

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

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 395

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and forever. *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

Offertory Sentence BCP 376

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 CMS

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 14th 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

I Love to Tell the Story

A 76

Spirit of the Living God

A 152

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus

A 79

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

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 365

After Communion, the Leader says

Let us pray.

Leader and People

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.

Recessional Hymn *O Zion haste, thy mission high fulfilling* H 539

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*

Cemira Powell, *Lay Assist*

Lori Neilson, *Lay Reader*

Nick Hartley, *AV*

Susan Andrews, *Lay Eucharistic Visitor*

Mints McGowin, *Usher*

Fay, Cissi, Lucy, *Altar Guild*



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