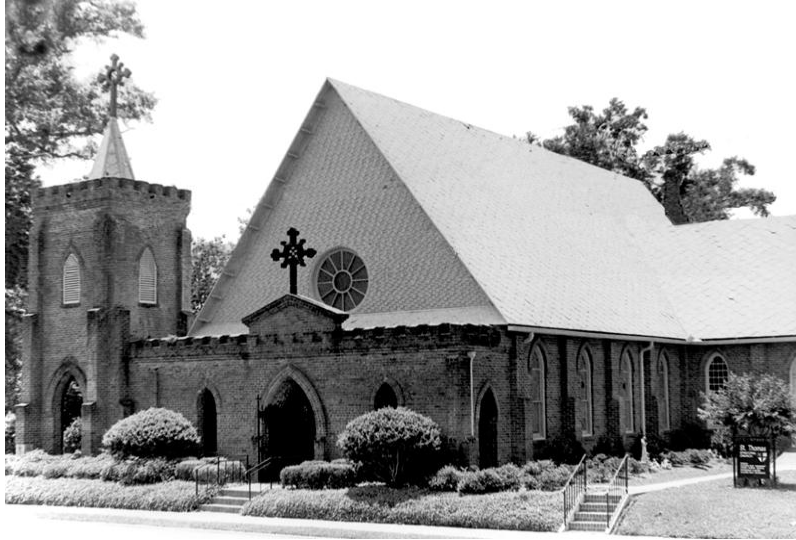


NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26th, 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, *Vergar*

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

Prelude

Dr. Elizabeth French

The Opening Hymn

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee

H 376

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love; hearts unfold like flowers before thee, praising thee, their sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away; giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All the works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, blooming meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our Brother: all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

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, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Genesis 29:15-28

Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah’s eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so, he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” So, Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So, Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But, in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for servings me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

BCP 738

Officiant and People

- ¹ Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- ² Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- ³ Glory in his holy Name; *
let the heart of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- ⁴ Search for the Lord and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
- ⁵ Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,
- ⁶ O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- ⁷ He is the Lord our God; *
his judgement prevail in all the world.
- ⁸ He has always been mindful of his covenant, *
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
- ⁹ The covenant he made with Abraham, *
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- ¹⁰ Which he established as a statute for Jacob, *
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- ¹¹ Saying, “To you will I give the land of Canaan *
to be your allotted inheritance.”
- ⁴⁵ Hallelujah

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those who, he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those who he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed interceded for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor heights, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

In the cross of Christ I glory

H 441, V 1-3

In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time; all the light if sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life is o'er take me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy, never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way, from the cross the radiance streaming adds new luster to the day.

Gospel Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Another parable Jesus put before the crowds: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy goes and sell all that he has and buys

that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So, it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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

Nothing But The Blood

A 122

*What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

*For my pardon this I see. Nothing but the blood Of Jesus. For my cleansing, this my plea.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

*Nothing can for sin atone, nothing but the blood of Jesus. Naught is all my righteousness.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

*This is all my hope and peace. Nothing but the blood of Jesus. This is all my righteousness.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

*Now by this I'll overcome. Nothing but the blood of Jesus. Now by this I'll reach my home.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

*Glory! Glory! This I sing. Nothing but the blood of Jesus. All my praise for this I bring.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

Refrain

*O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow; no other fount I know, nothing but the blood
of Jesus.*

Bless the Lord my soul, and bless God's holy name. Bless the Lord my soul, who leads me into life.

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.

Dismissal

BCP 366

Recessional Hymn

Jerusalem, my happy home

H 620

Jerusalem, my happy home, when shall I come to thee? When shall my sorrows have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?

Thy saints are crowned with glory great; they see God face to face; they triumph still, they still rejoice in that most happy place.

There David stands with harp in hand as master of the choir; ten thousand times would one be blest who might this music hear.

Our Lady sings Magnificat with tune surpassing sweet, and blessed martyrs' harmony doth ring in every street.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, God grant that I may see thine endless joy, and of the same partaker ever be!

Postlude

Dr. Elizabeth French