

*St. Thomas Memorial Church
The Second Sunday of Advent
The Holy Eucharist – Rite 2
December 7, 2025*



BEFORE WORSHIP: Please remember that many use the time before the first hymn quietly to pray and to prepare themselves for worship. If you need to speak to someone when you come into church then please do so in soft voices so as not to disturb those around you who may be praying.

Prelude “Come, O Precious Ransom” Hugo Gehrke

The Lighting of the Advent Candle– The Fischer family (James, Jessica, Thomas, Matthew, Elisabeth, and Andrew)

Processional Hymn #59 “Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding”

Starting on Pg. 355 of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

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

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

Prayer for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Canticle: Hymn #S-186 “The Song of Mary” - Magnificat

Priest The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Priest Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

The Reading of God’s Word

The First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

The Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Hymn #65 "Prepare the way, O Zion"

Before the Gospel

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

After the Gospel

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon...The Rev. Guy W. Brown

The Nicene Creed (Pg. 358, BCP)

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 worshipped 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 (Pg. 387, BCP)

The Leader prays:

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.

We pray for those who are celebrating their birthdays this week, especially John Shearer, Carolyn Cedilote, Louise Baker, and Al Moore.

We pray for our Outreach Ministries, Shepherd's Heart, and our Eucharistic ministry.

We pray for the Pittsburgh Diocese, especially St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Highland Park, and the Reverend Sara Irwin.

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.

(Concluding prayer read by the celebrant.)

The Confession (Pg. 360, BCP)

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ

Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Absolution

The Peace

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory

“The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns” by Austin Lovelace

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;

Praise him above ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Offering of Bread, Wine and Alms

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B (Pg. 367, BCP)

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing.....Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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:

Hymnal S-114

Willan

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues (Pg. 368 BCP)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation... ..In Him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us... ..“Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine.....“Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
Celebrant and People
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine...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.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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

Priest	<i>Alleluia.</i> Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People	Therefore let us keep the feast. <i>Alleluia.</i>

Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Invitation

Hymn S-158—O Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

Willan

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.
(*All baptized persons are welcome to receive the sacrament at our altar rail.*)

Communion Hymn #597 “O day of peace that dimly shines”

Hymn “My Lord, he is a’coming soon”

My Lord He is a-comin’ soon, prepare ye the way of the Lord

Get everything ready for that day, prepare ye the way of the Lord.

1. If you're asleep, it's time to wake up; awake, O sleeper, arise.
If you're in the dark, it's time to be lit; awake, O sleeper, arise!

2. Come, Lord Jesus, come into my heart; prepare ye the way of the King.
He is coming, he's coming soon; prepare the way of the King!

3. John the Baptist now calls to us; "Repent and change your ways.
The true Messiah is coming soon, He is the hope of the world!"

My Lord He is a-comin' soon, prepare ye the way of the Lord
Get everything ready for that day, prepare ye the way of the Lord.
Prepare ye the way of the, prepare ye the way of the Lord.
Song words used by Permission CCLI #940217

After Communion the Priest says
Let us pray.

Priest 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 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 for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn #73 "The King shall come when morning dawns"

The Dismissal

Priest Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude "The King Shall Come" Theodore Beck

Christmas Services

<u>Sunday, Dec. 21:</u>	7:00 pm Longest Night of the Year Service
<u>Wed. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve:</u>	4:30 pm Christmas Eve service with Children's Pageant 9:10 pm Christmas Eve service with Choral Presentation (service starting at 9:30)
<u>Thurs. Dec. 25 Christmas Day:</u>	10:30 am Holy Eucharist
<u>Sunday, Dec. 28:</u>	8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I (following normal schedule) 10:30 am Lessons and Carols and Holy Eucharist Rite II

We welcome you to join us!

SAINT THOMAS MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Email: sttomoakmont@gmail.com

The Rev. Jeffrey D. Murph, Rector

The Rev. Daniel J. Isadore, Associate Rector

The Rev. Guy W. Brown, Assistant Priest

Mrs. Louise Lugar, Organist/Choir Director

St. Thomas' Vestry

Matt Derby
Sr. Warden

Paul Cammisa
Jr. Warden

Jonathan Dailey
Vestry Clerk

Betti Rottschaefer
Treasurer

Shahnaz Alam-Denlinger, Kristin Brown,
James Fischer, Julie King, Theresa McClain

UPCOMING / ONGOING EVENTS:

Monday—Thursday 9 am Morning Prayer in the Thomas House Chapel

Tuesdays at 11 am Bible Study in the Guild Room

Wednesdays at 10 am Healing Eucharist Service in the Thomas House Chapel

Wednesdays at 7 pm Choir Practice in the Choir Room (basement)

Sundays at 9:30 Adult Sunday School in the Guild Room

**** Fr. Murph will start a teenage confirmation class today following the 10:30 service for those interested in being confirmed during Bishop Solak's annual visit to St. Thomas on June 7, 2026. Anyone interested is invited to speak with Fr. Murph**

**** Philip A. Pew is back for his annual Christmas food drive. Please bring your non-perishable food items to Philip's pew at the back of the church. All items will be taken to the Rosedale Food Bank prior to Christmas.**

**** CALLING ALL CHILDREN!! Children (especially the young ones) are needed to participate in the annual Christmas Pageant, which takes place during the 4:30 pm Christmas Eve service. Please speak with Jessica Fischer in person or at 412-491-7628 / JLFischer316@gmail.com.**

**** The annual Oakmont Carol Walk will be held on Sunday, Dec. 14 starting at 6 pm at St. Thomas. The program will conclude at the Methodist Church with the cookie reception following. All are welcome!**

**** The Longest Night of the Year Service will be held on Dec. 21 at 7 pm. All are welcome to attend this beautiful, calm service.**

Participants for this service:

Acolytes: Chase Eber, TBD

First Lesson: Pam Derby

Psalm: Chase Eber

Second Lesson: Elaine Chilcote

Leader, Prayers of the People: Jon Dailey

Verger: Theresa McClain

Ushers: Darrell Powell, Jon Dailey

Coffee Hour Hostess: Meloni Murph

Last week's attendance: 8:00 32

10:30 50

Total Donations: \$3,601.00