

*St. Thomas Memorial Church  
The Second Sunday after Christmas  
The Holy Eucharist – Rite 2  
January 4, 2026*



*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**

**“Est Ist Ein Ros”**

**John Carter**

**Processional Hymn #110 “The snow lay on the ground”**

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.

**Gloria—Hymn #S-236**

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

Glory to you, for the radiance of your holy Name; we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

Glory to you, in the splendor of your temple; on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths; in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

Glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

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:**     Jeremiah 31:7-14

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

## **Psalm 84**

**The Second Lesson:** Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

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

## **Hymn #84 “Love came down at Christmas”**

### *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 2:13-15, 19-23

### *After the Gospel*

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

**Sermon**.....The Rev. Jeffrey D. Murph

## **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 I (Pg. 383, BCP)**

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord have mercy”. For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For our Bishops, especially Ketlen Solak, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For this town, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the good earth, which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those in our thoughts and for the sick, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially Charles Murph, and Natalie Earls, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those celebrating their birthdays this week, especially Darrell Powell, Kyria McClain, and Sheila England, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the ministries we support through Outreach, Shepherd’s Heart, the Eucharistic Ministry, and for all our missionaries at home and abroad, to Your honor and glory, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the Pittsburgh Diocese, especially the Disciplinary Board, the Committee on Constitution & Canons, Andrew Roman, and Stephen Bloomburg, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For all men and women in the armed forces, and we pray, as your Son taught us, for our enemies. Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

In the communion of St. Thomas and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our Lord.  
*To Thee, O Lord our God.*

(Concluding prayer read by the celebrant.)

### **The Confession** (Pg. 360, BCP)

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**

#### **The Peace**

Priest            The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People            *And also with you.*

### **Announcements**

#### **The Holy Communion**

##### **Offertory**

“What Child is This?”

Offered by Soloist Doug Brannock

##### **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-130—Holy, holy, holy Lord**

**Schubert**

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.

*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*                    *Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;*  
*People*                   *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

## **The Invitation**

### **Hymn S-164—Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)**

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us. Jesus bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

*(All baptized persons are welcome to receive the sacrament at our altar rail.)*

### **Communion Hymn #114 “’Twas in the moon of wintertime”**

### **Hymn #101 “Away in a Manger”**

*After Communion the Priest says*

Let us pray.

*Priest 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.

## **The Blessing**

### **Recessional Hymn #92 “On this day earth shall ring”**

## **The Dismissal**

Priest Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Postlude**

**“Angels We Have Heard On High”**

**Wilbur Held**

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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

\*\* Pledge envelopes are now available at the back of the church for 2026. If you do not see your name and would like a box, please speak with Laurel in the office and she will make arrangements to get you one.

\*\* The St. Thomas Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, Jan. 25 following the 10:30 service. Ministry leaders, please have your reports turned into the office by January 13. Parishioners with last names beginning with A-M, please bring a side dish, and those with last names beginning with N-Z, please bring a dessert.

\*\* Chalk and cards explaining how to chalk your door for Epiphany on January 6 are located at the back of the church. Please feel free to take one home with you today.

\*\* The four candidates for Vestry to be voted upon at the upcoming annual meeting are: Mitzi Fidler, LuAnn Hunter, Bill Lugar, and Richard Williams.

**Participants for this service:**

Acolytes: Rachel Almada, Elisabeth Fischer

First Lesson: James Fischer

Psalm: Pam Derby

Second Lesson: Elaine Chilcote

Leader, Prayers of the People: Lawrence Miguez  
Verger: Richard Williams  
Ushers: Lawrence Miguez, James Fischer  
Coffee Hour Hosts: Marsha & Brian Wissel

**Last week's attendance: 8:00: 22**  
**10:30: 42**

**Total Donations: \$3,881.00 (from Dec. 28 services)**

**Christmas Donations (from the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services as well as parishioner designations) \$4,152.00**