

*St. Thomas Memorial Church
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
The Holy Eucharist – Rite 2
April 26, 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

“Breslau”

Michael Higgins

Processional Hymn #646 “The King of love my shepherd is”

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

Priest Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

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: Acts 2:42-47

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25

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

Hymn #478 “Jesus, our mighty Lord”

Before the Gospel

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.
The Holy Gospel: John 10:1-10

After the Gospel

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

Sermon.....The Rev. Daniel J. Isadore

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 II (Pg. 385, BCP)

I ask your prayers for God’s people throughout the world; for our Bishops, for this gathering;

and for all ministers and people.
Pray for the Church. (*Silence*)

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace. (*Silence*)

I ask your prayers for the President and the Congress and our government. I ask your prayers for our enemies that all our hearts may be transformed. (*Silence*)

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble. (*Silence*)

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him. (*Silence*)

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died. (*Silence*)

I ask your prayers for the ministries we support through Outreach, Shepherd's Heart and the Eucharistic ministry, and for all our missionaries at home and abroad, to Your honor and glory, (*Silence*)

I ask your prayers for the Pittsburgh Diocese, especially retired clergy, including the Reverends Patricia Carnahan, Nancy Chalfant-Walker, Jean Chess, and Arthur Dilg. (*Silence*)

I ask your prayers for all the men and women in the armed forces. (*Silence*)

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present. (*Silence*)

I ask your thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthdays this week, especially D.J. Hayes, Brenigan McClelland, Phyllis Kurzawa, Sam Mysels, Darla Stilley, and Alexander Fusaro. (*Silence*)

I ask your thanksgiving for those celebrating their anniversaries this week, especially Jim & Tracy Fitzroy, and Mark & Katie Mazzaresse.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored, especially the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Thomas and all the saints. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. (*Silence*)

(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

“Lord, Here Am I” by John Ness Beck

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 A (Pg. 361, 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

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself;...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...”Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Priest and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Priest continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving... All this we ask for 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.

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 “Before your throne of God above”

Before the throne of God above I have a strong, a perfect plea;

A great high priest whose name is Love who ever lives and pleads for me

My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on His heart

I know that while in heaven He stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart,

No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,

Upward I look, and see Him there who made an end to all my sin;

Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;

For God, the Just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,

To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! The risen Lamb! My perfect spotless Righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace;
One with himself, I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood,
My life is hidden with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ my Savior and my God.

One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God, with Christ my Savior and my God.
Bancroft/Cook 1997 Sovereign Grace Worship CCLI #940217

Hymn “How deep the Father’s love for us”

How deep the Father’s love for us, How vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son, to make a wretch his treasure?
How great the pain of searing loss? The Father turns his face away,
as wounds which mar the chosen One, Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross, my sin upon his shoulders,
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice, call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there, until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom,
but I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom.
By Stuart Townend ©1995 Kingsway Thankyou Music Used by Permission CCLI #940217

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 #199 “Come ye faithful, raise the strain”

The Dismissal

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

Postlude

“Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word”

Thomas Walmisley

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for
our niece Amelia Bieranoski, by Matt and Pam Derby.

We at St. Thomas, members of the Body of Christ, are called by God to Grow;
Spiritually, in Parish Life, in Community Life, and as a Congregation.

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

Julie King
Sr. Warden

Paul Cammisa (NV)
Jr. Warden

Jonathan Dailey
Vestry Clerk

Betti Rottschaefer (NV)
Treasurer

Shahnaz Alam-Denlinger, Kristin Brown, Mitzi Fidler,
James Fischer, LuAnn Brink Hunter, Bill Lugar, Richard Williams
NV = Non-voting member

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 TOPIC: Newcomers / Basic
Christianity

** A total of \$268 was received in Mite Box Donations. The Vestry has determined that this money will be donated to Liberia Medicals, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides clinical screening, primary care and educational awareness of and for diabetes and hypertension in Liberia, West Africa. This is an organization that vestry member Richard Williams is familiar with—a full article will be included in the May issue of the Thomas Tract.

Participants for this service:

Acolytes: Lauren Brown, TBD

First Lesson: Elaine Chilcote

Psalm: Lauren Brown

Second Lesson: Jon Dailey

Leader, Prayers of the People: Kristin Brown

Verger: Richard Williams

Ushers: Dave Eber, Jon Dailey

Coffee Hour Hostess: Kyria McClain

Last week's attendance: 8:00: 18

10:30: 47

Total Donations: \$972.00