

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 8, 2024



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church
Camden, Maine

8:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Children are always welcome in the church.

Please be sure your cell phone is inaudible.

Prelude

Opening Hymn 699 Jesus lover of my soul *Aberystwyth*

Acclamation Response: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen* page 323

The Collect for Purity page 323

Kyrie page 324

Collect, Readings and Gospel (*pages 3-4*)

Sermon The Rev. Paul Briggs

Nicene Creed page 326

Prayers of the People Form VI page 392

Blessings for Anniversaries and Birthdays

The Peace

Offertory Hymn 671 Amazing Grace *New Britain*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II page 340

The Lord's Prayer page 336

The Breaking of the Bread page 337

Prayer of Humble Access page 337

The Communion *This is God's table, all are welcome.*

Gluten-free wafers are available; ask the priest when you come to the altar rail.

You can request that Communion be brought to your pew by letting an usher know.

Communion Voluntary

Postcommunion Prayer

Dismissal Hymn 400 All Creatures of our God and King *Lasst uns erfreuen*

Dismissal Response: *Thanks be to God*

Postlude



10:00 am – Holy Baptism & Eucharist

*Children are always welcome in the church.
Please be sure your cell phone is inaudible.*

Prelude

Opening Hymn 699 Jesus lover of my soul *Aberystwyth*

Acclamation Response: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen* page 299

Collect and Readings *(pages 3-4)*

Sequence Hymn 53 Once he came in blessing *Gottes Sohn ist Kommen*

The Gospel *(page 4)*

Sermon The Rev. Paul Briggs

Presentation & Examination of the Candidate page 301

The Baptismal Covenant page 304

The Baptism

Blessings for Anniversaries and Birthdays

The Peace page 360

Offertory

Offertory Hymn 671 Amazing Grace *New Britain*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A page 361

Hymn 255 LEVAS *Sanctus*

The Lord's Prayer page 364

The Breaking of the Bread

The Communion *This is God's table, all are welcome.*

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You can request that Communion be brought to your pew by letting an usher know.

Communion Voluntary

Postcommunion Prayer page 365

Dismissal Hymn 400 All Creatures of our God and King *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

Dismissal Response: *Thanks be to God*

Postlude



The Collect

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favour is better than silver or gold.

The rich and the poor have this in common:
the LORD is the maker of them all.

Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,
and the rod of anger will fail.

Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.

Do not rob the poor because they are poor,
or crush the afflicted at the gate;

for the LORD pleads their cause
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

Psalm 125

1 Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, *
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.

2 The hills stand about Jerusalem; *
so does the LORD stand round about his people,
from this time forth for evermore.

3 The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the just, *
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.

4 Show your goodness, O LORD, to those who are good *
and to those who are true of heart.

5 As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
the LORD will lead them away with the evildoers; *
but peace be upon Israel.

The Second Reading

James 2:1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Gospel

Mark 7:24-37

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."



Welcome visitors and newcomers; we are glad you are here! If you would like more information about the community of St. Thomas, please speak to a greeter or a member of the clergy. To receive information by email, please fill out a blue card found in the pew and give to an usher or place in the offering plate.



The flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Jennifer Harold by her family.

Today we welcome into the household of God, **Miles Aiden Campbell**, through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Miles' Parents are Ian and Anna Ford, and his sister is Elle Campbell.

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Organist: Clarissa Brown

8:00 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: Pam Bardon

Readers: Pam Bardon, Terry Mello

Intercessor: Amy Frankel

Usher: Peggy Daniels

10 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: Benjy Lowry, Shelly Gallender

Readers: Benjy Lowry, Sue Foltz

Intercessor: Bill Freeman

Ushers: Cheryl Reif, Cheryl White

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People in our Prayers

Healing: Anna and her child Brody, Warren & Ginny Terrell, Ruth Tolman, Fr. Tom Pike, Edmund, Andrew, Helene, John, Phyllis, Michael, Bob, Sylvia, Matthew Jackson, Marlene, Percy, Joan Grey, Cathy, James, Jennifer Smith, Ken, Joseph, Kelli McGuire, Tony, Jo Panayotoff, Joyce S, Jan Schaefer, Christine & Paul M, Jason, Kristen, Jeanie, Cathie, Brian, Bob S., Jan Dolcater, Evie Bridges, Luke Morelli, Elizabeth and Gerard Gillespie, Leah, Tim Peters, Janice Boetsch, Lucy Ebbert, Shirley, Tiffany Andrews, Budge Walen, Chris, Sandy, Vicki Boetsch, Allison Davis, Catherine G, Annabel, Virginia, Pam Kaler, Margery, Nick, Stephanie

September Birthdays: Pam Bardon (4), Deborah Whittaker (7), Diane Purkey (12), Lucy Ebbert (17), Ruth Tolman (18), Evie Bridges (19), Tiffany Andrews (24)

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Trinity, Portland, St. Matthew, Lisbon Falls; and for those who advocate for the poor and the oppressed

This Week at St. Thomas'

Sunday, September 8:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Holy Baptism and Eucharist (*Coffee Hour Follows*)

4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

Tuesday, September 10:

6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, September 11:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Healing

11:00 a.m. Bible Study

Thursday, September 12:

5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, September 15:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (*Coffee Hour Follows*)

4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

A.A. meetings are held daily at 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

One Service at 9 a.m. Sunday, September 29 followed by conversation on bell tower repair.

Church Staff and Parish Officers

Kayla Clay, Parish Administrator

admin@stthomascamdenme.org

Office: 207-236-3680

The Rev. Paul Briggs, Interim Rector

interimrector@stthomascamdenme.org

(860) 384-9193

The Rev. Dr. Rosalee Glass, *Deacon Emeritus*

Clarissa Brown, *Organist & Choir Director*

Tony Coyne, *Sexton*

Elizabeth Moran, *Senior Warden*

Br. Donovan Bowley, BSG, *Junior Warden*

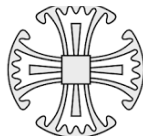
Terry Mello, *Treasurer*

Anne Rogers-Popejoy, *Vestry Clerk*

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St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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