

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 15, 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 409 The spacious firmament *Creation*

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 3-5*)

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 593 Lord, make us servants of your peace *Dickinson College*

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 page 339

Dismissal Hymn 597 O Day of Peace *Jerusalem*

Dismissal Response: *Thanks be to God*

Postlude



The Collect

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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 1:20-33

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: “How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD, would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices. For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.”

Psalm 19

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

The Second Reading

James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The Gospel

Mark 8:27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."



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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 by Ralph and Haunani Wallace to the Glory of God and in memory of Alberta Wallace.

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Paul Briggs
Organist: Clarissa Brown

8:00 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: Amy Frankel
Readers: Amy Frankel, Terry Mello
Intercessor: Pat Ayers
Usher: Carlos Mello

10 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: Bill Freeman, Jeff Conrad
Readers: Haunani Wallace, Sally Anne Williamson
Intercessor: Doc Wallace
Ushers: Ed Williamson, Mike Moore

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

Expecting a child: Avery and Derek Reed

Relocating to a new home: Millie Crocker

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: Good Shepherd, Rangeley, and for Christian Education and Sunday School programs

This Week at St. Thomas'

Sunday, September 15

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (*Coffee Hour Follows*)
4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

Wednesday, September 18

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Healing
11:00 a.m. Bible Study

Thursday, September 19

5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, September 22

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.

Church Staff and Parish Officers

Kayla Clay, Parish Administrator

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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*

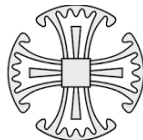
Terry Mello, *Treasurer*

Anne Rogers-Popejoy, *Vestry Clerk*

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(www.stthomascamden.org)*



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St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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