



Window: The Baptism of Jesus

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

The Order of Worship for Epiphany 2

January 19, 2025 † 8:30 AM

Welcome

Please stand as comfortable at the ringing of the bell.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity *unison*

BCP 355

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 *unison*

BCP 356

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP 215

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Collect for Feast Day of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Almighty God, by the hand of Moses your servant you led your people out of slavery, and made them free at last: Grant that your Church, following the example of your prophet Martin Luther King, may resist oppression in the name of your love, and may secure for all your children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Please be seated for the reading of the scriptures.

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 36:5-10 *responsively, by half-verse.*

BCP 632

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, *
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- 6 Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; *
you save both man and beast, O Lord.
- 7 How priceless is your love, O God! *
your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
- 8 They feast upon the abundance of your house; *
you give them drink from the river of your de-lights.
- 9 For with you is the well of life, *
and in your light we see light.
- 10 Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you, *
and your favor to those who are true of heart.

A Reading from First Letter to the Church at Corinth

Corinthians 12:1-11

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel *standing as comfortable*

John 2:1-11

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Nicene Creed *unison*

BCP 358

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 worshiped 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

Let us worship the Savior with joy as we offer our prayers, saying hear our prayer.

At the birth of Jesus, Magi traveled from distant lands. We pray for the welfare of the world, for peace in places of conflict, and for the renewal of the Earth.

God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

At his baptism, Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit. We pray for the Church, anointed with that same Spirit, that we may practice repentance, proclaim the gospel, and walk in love.

God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

After his baptism, Jesus gathered a community of disciples. We pray for the health, safety, and wellbeing of this community as we navigate the challenges before us. God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

In his preaching, Jesus declared that the Kingdom of God has come near. We pray for our Nation and for our leaders as a new administration takes office that we may end division, enact justice, and respect the dignity of every human being.

God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

In his ministry, Jesus healed the sick and comforted the distressed. We pray for all who are sick, anxious, or troubled, especially Thomas parishioners Carlene, Marie, Charlene and Randy, Mandy and Mike & family, Frank, Kristie, Roger, Arthur, Bernie, Elissa, Charlotte, Becca, and Cindy; our homebound members John, Ramón and Maria, Carol, Bill, and William; friends of the parish Linda, Gaynor and Jimmy; and for all who care for them.

God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus comforted those who grieved and raised the dead to life. We pray for all who grieve and for those who have died, especially Judy in this week of the one-year anniversary of her death, Murray, Judy, Rick and John.

God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The disciples rejoiced to see Jesus transfigured before them. We rejoice in the many blessings of this life, especially your presence with us.

God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, and help us shine with the light of Christ through the power of the Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

BCP 360

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 Peace

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offering

St. Thomas is grateful for your gifts.

You may mail a check to 2100 Hilton Avenue, Columbus, GA 31906, donate online at our website (<https://www.stthomascolumnbus.org/give/>), or use your mobile device by texting **STTCOLUMBUS** to **73256**.

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Kneeling or standing

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember Christ's death, We proclaim Christ's resurrection, We await Christ's coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer *unison*

BCP 364

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

BCP 364

All Christians are joyfully invited to share in communion. You do not have to be a member of St. Thomas or an Episcopalian in order to receive. Come forward down the center aisle when invited by the ushers. Go to the farthest end of the altar rail and stand or kneel. Hold out one hand to receive the bread and then dip the bread in the cup or drink from the cup. If you prefer not to share a common cup, hold out two hands to receive the bread and wine together. If you prefer not to receive either the bread or the cup, cross your arms across your chest. If you need a gluten-free wafer, let the server know. If you prefer to receive communion at your pew, let the usher know.

Prayer for the Human Family *unison*

BCP 815

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing *standing as comfortable*

Holy eternal Majesty, Holy incarnate Word, Holy abiding Spirit, Bless you for evermore. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

In our prayers

St. Thomas parishioners: Carlene Pawlowicz, Marie Massey, Charlene & Randy Moore, Mandy & Mike Flynn & family, Frank Feagle, Kristie Ridgeway, Roger Redden, Arthur Frost, Bernie Sutter, Elissa Wagner, Charlotte Mills, Becca Nicolson, Cindy Godwin

Homebound members: John Studstill, Ramón & Maria Capo, Carol Kennon, Bill Pauli, William South

Friends of the parish: Linda Wilson (*Florence Wakoko*), Gaynor (*Jenny Holder*), Jimmy Hatfield (*Amy Hatfield*)

Those with continuing concerns: Gene Wells, Frank & Pam Feagle, Carlene Pawlowicz, Ralph Wimberly, Jessica McComb, April Jacobs, Jana Speer, Debbie & Max Anderson, Korie MacDougall, Nicole Ceccato, Neal Fenter, Ellen Free, Steve Scott, Bernie Sutter, Raymond Campbell, Art France, Angela Tulloh (*Louise Tulloh*)

Soldiers & families at Ft. Moore and St. Thomas members & friends who are deployed:
Dan Wilcox, Krk Malit

Those celebrating birthdays: Wyatt Perkins 1/19, Ben McKnight 1/19, Rebecca Mitchell 1/20, Tom Fortson 1/20, Dick Tompson 1/21, Brantley Ford 1/22, Libby Meeks 1/23, Tristan Dempsey 1/24, MacKenzie Patterson 1/24, Neal Fenter 1/25, Catherine Leigh 1/25, Tom Capo 1/25, Elizabeth Lyashevskiy 1/25

Those celebrating anniversaries: Deborah & Steve Tucker 1/24

Those who have died: Judy Harding 1/22/24, Murray Craig 4/4/24, Judy Gunter 4/6/24, Rick McKnight 7/30/24, John Partin 11/22/24

Announcements

For more information about the ministries of St. Thomas, pick up our latest *Seasons* newsletter or visit our website at www.StThomasColumbus.org.

Sundays

Coffee Time: 8:45-10:15. Homemade and packaged snacks are available in the parish hall.

Formation for all ages: 9:30-10:15am

Children PreK - 4th grade meet in the Children's Center

Tween and Teens meet in the Youth Room.

Adults: TheoEd Talks and Welcome Classes

TheoEd Talks, similar to TEDtalks, invite faith leaders to share the talk of their lives.

January 19 - Instead of a TheoEd talk, we will read and discuss a sermon from Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 26 - Annual Meeting

February 2 - Scott Mitchell: Fringe Dwellings

February 9 - Rev. Reginald Wayne Sharpe, Jr.

February 16 - Cole Arthur Riley: The Silence of God

February 23 - Bishop Wright will lead a forum and discussion at 9:30 in the parish hall.

St. Thomas Welcome Classes in All Saints Hall

January 19 - Welcome to Worship I: The Church Year and how we celebrate it at St. Thomas.

January 26 - Our Annual Parish Meeting is this morning. Join us to learn about plans for the coming year.

February 2 - Welcome to Worship II: An overview of our Sunday service.

February 9 - Welcome to the Episcopal Church: A quick trip through 500 years of church history that explains much of why we believe and act the way we do today

February 16 - Welcome to Ministry and Life Together: How to get involved in learning and service

Contemplative, Healing Worship *Third Sundays at 5:30 in the Chapel, January 19*

Come for quiet. Come to pray. Come for chanting and music and light. Come for healing prayer and anointing. The Rev. Taylor Burton-Edwards, Pastor of St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Columbus and husband of Rev. Grace, will lead this service in the interim while we search for a new Associate Rector. Note that the service will not be offered in February due to the Evensong and Dedication of the Organ Console and Chambers.

Wednesdays

Winter Schedule

5:30 to 6 - Eucharist in the Chapel

5:30 to 6:15 - Dinner served on the buffet.

6:00 - Playground open for children who have finished dinner.

6:30 to 7:30 - Formation time for everyone. Children in the Children's Center. Youth in the Youth Room or outside. Adults in the library, plus other spaces when Journey Groups begin.

6:30 to 8:15 - Choir rehearsal in the Nave

Wednesday Night Menus

Wednesday Dinner is served buffet style - on the buffet! Donations are welcome but not required. To help offset costs, you may donate cash or with a credit card on site or pay ahead of time on the website. Reservations are helpful to help us plan, but feel free to show up whenever you are available. All menus will have gluten free and vegan options. Let us know you're coming at StThomasColumbus.org/wednesday-dinner/

Wednesday Adult Formation in *January 6:30-7:30pm in the Library*

Join us on Wednesday evenings to learn from the ministry of The Honorable John Lewis. Before he served in Congress, before the March on Washington, before he crossed the Edmund Pettus 16 Bridge, John Lewis went to seminary and planned to become a pastor. His faith fueled his public ministry. Using his book *Across that Bridge* we will reflect together on legacy and vision.

News for this week

Women's Lectionary Bible Study *Thursdays, 10 to 11 am*

All women are invited to join Rev. Cindy Cox Garrard in the library or by Zoom from 10 to 11 am on Thursdays to study the lectionary readings for the coming week. A handout for the week's study is emailed to each participant. Contact the church office to be added to the mailing list.

Micah: Words of Judgment, Words of Hope Jewish and Christian Understandings

6 pm, Wednesdays starting January 15 at St. Matthew

Rabbi Beth Schwartz and The Rev. Taylor W Burton Edwards lead this informative study together. Hosted by St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church in Luther Hall (4026 Macon Road). For more information contact the church office for contact info for Rabbi Beth or Rev. Taylor. January 22: Micah 2, January 29: Micah 3, February 5: Micah 6, February 12: Micah 4-5, February 19: Micah 7

Episcokid Adventures *Saturday, January 25, 11:30 - 1 pm, The Columbus Museum*

During this special, interactive guided tour, the students will explore art using their five senses. Drop off at 11:30 am in front of the museum, and pick up at 1 pm also in front of the museum. The tour can accommodate 25-30 students, and a sign-up form will be sent out soon, so please keep an eye out for it. Additionally, Ms. Shayla needs two chaperones for the trip. Please let her know by January 20 if you'd like to help. If you have any questions or need more information, don't hesitate to reach out. I look forward to an exciting and engaging experience for the Episcokids!

YACT Socials

Young Adults Connecting Together (YACT) is a fellowship group for 21-40ish year olds. We get together monthly for an activity or outing in the Columbus area to build community and get to know the city. For more information about the group or any of our upcoming socials, please contact Taylor Mack. ***January - Columbus River Dragons Hockey Game - January 24 at 7:30 pm***

St. Thomas Annual Meeting *January 26 at 9:30am in All Saints Hall*

Join us on January 26 in the Parish Hall at 9:30 for this important gathering. Our Vestry approved online participation this year via Zoom. Pre-registration is required to participate online. Look for instructions for participating online next week. The parish Annual Report (a long version and a short version) will be sent by email the week prior to the Annual Meeting.

Feast of the Presentation *Sunday, February 2*

We will bless altar candles at both services. In addition we invite you to bring candles from home to be blessed and take the light of Christ home with you.

Al-Anon Group

The Serenity Seekers Al-Anon 12-step recovery meeting is now open to parishioners and others seeking support from the effects of growing up or currently being in relationship with an alcoholic. This free, anonymous (first names only) group meets in the parlor at Trinity from 11:30am-12:30pm every Tuesday. Just tap on the door on 1st Avenue and someone will open. All of us know or have known an alcoholic and all are welcome! For more information on Al-Anon: www.al-anon.org.

Altar Flowers

The giving of Altar Flowers on Sunday is a wonderful way to celebrate a special occasion or remember our loved ones. In addition to enhancing the beauty of worship, the name(s) of those being honored or remembered and the name(s) of the donor will be listed in the Sunday bulletin. A contribution of \$75 is requested for altar flowers prepared by the Flower Guild, or you may order flowers from a professional florist if you prefer. Sign up online or contact the church office for the schedule. More info at stthomascolumbus.org/altar-flowers/

QR Code for signups! Use the QR code to find a list of current signups at St. Thomas. New to QR codes? Open the camera on your smartphone (or a QR reader), point at the black and white code box, when prompted push the link that shows up on your screen.



Vestry Members

Susan Connery, Michael Dempsey, Louse Tulloh (Jr. Warden), David Brandenburgh (Sr. Warden), Garrett Vance, Brian Walker, Norm Easterbrook, Jessica Ezzell, Sue O'Dell

St. Thomas Staff

Administrative Assistant: Lupe Ortiz-Sanchez; *Director of Children and Family Ministries:* Shayla Holloway; *Director of Music:* Debbie Anderson; *Director of Parish Administration:* Patty Slembariski; *Director of Parish & Community Engagement:* Meg Olive-Allison; *Director of Youth & Young Adults:* Taylor Mack; *Organist:* Robin Ericksen; *Kitchen Manager & Sexton:* Seth Burgamy; *Livestream Technician:* Nick Williams; *Maintenance & Cleaning:* Frances Woolfolk; *Nursery:* Riley Mullen, Evie Smith, Dorothy Uwanawich, Jenneken Varnum; *Sexton Assistant:* Morgan Camp

St. Thomas Clergy

Rector : Grace Burton-Edwards; *Associate Rector for Mission:* Darius Sudayi