Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 3, 2023

Photo: Robert Ingenito

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Seekers, Searchers, and Doubters welcome
168 West Boston Post Road
Mamaroneck, New York 10543
www.saintthomasmmrk.org
office@saintthomasmmrk.org (914) 698-0300
Thank you for choosing to worship with us today
At St. Thomas we celebrate Holy Eucharist Sunday at 10:00 AM with music.
This service bulletin is printed according to the Book of Common Prayer.
We joyfully welcome Children to worship with us! They can color, wander, make
some noise, and pray in whatever fashion they see fit. There is a special “pray-
ground” nook in the middle of the church. Families are welcome to sit there or
borrow one of the books or other materials.
Sunday School from preschool to 8th grade is held most Sundays September
through May.
The bathrooms are located downstairs—walk down the right aisle towards the
front to the door with the exit sign. From there take the steps down to the
basement. At the bottom of the stairs, turn right.
We hope you feel welcome, will choose to visit us again, and consider becoming
part of our faith community. If you are interested in learning more, you can fill out
a connection card or take a welcome package home.

Blessings from God, love, peace, and hope.
From the Clergy, Vestry, Staff and People of St. Thomas
The Rev. Tami Burks, Priest
rev.tami.burks@gmail.com
The Rev. Lainie Murrell, Deacon
Kristen Scheyder, Senior Warden
Josh Korzon, Junior Warden
Gerilyn Brewer, Caroline Jaram, Melodee Morrison,
Sue Perciasepe, and Mike Spoonauer, Vestry Members

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

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<tr>
<th>Zoom Tech/Usher</th>
<th>Reader</th>
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<tr>
<td>Maria Thomas</td>
<td>Barbara Chin</td>
<td>Greg Cherry</td>
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<td>AV Tech</td>
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<td>Derick Ramirez</td>
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<td>Mary Ford, Shahin Heshmat</td>
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<td>Chalice Bearers</td>
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<td>Greg Cherry</td>
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You can always reach out to:
vestry@saintthomasmmrk.org
office@saintthomasmmrk.org

Staff: David Bilotti, Property Manager
Barbara Gessler, Parish Admin
Matthew Sheens, Music Director
PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN 401 - 1,2,4,5 The God of Abraham praise (stand as able)

Priest       Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People      And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Priest
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.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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

Priest       The Lord be with you.
People      And also with you.
Priest       Let us pray.

Passionate Lord, walking to Golgotha, in the midst of our confusion: free us from our
images of you which keep you enthroned in idle power, apart from the pain and sin of
the world; lead us to embrace the scandal of the cross and let our violence die that
greater life might rise; through Jesus Christ, who took the form of a slave. Amen.
A READING FROM THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS 12:9-21
Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

PSALM 26:1-8 (said responsively by verse)
1 Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity; *
   I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
2 Test me, O Lord, and try me; *
   examine my heart and my mind.
3 For your love is before my eyes; *
   I have walked faithfully with you.
4 I have not sat with the worthless, *
   nor do I consort with the deceitful.
5 I have hated the company of evildoers; *
   I will not sit down with the wicked.
6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, *
   that I may go in procession round your altar,
7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
   and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
8 Lord, I love the house in which you dwell *
   and the place where your glory abides.

THE GRADUAL HYMN 513 Like the murmur of the dove's song
(v 1, 2, before, 3 after Gospel)

THE GOSPEL MATTHEW 16:21-28

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on
the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “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 will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON The Rev. Tami Burks

Following the sermon, please remain seated for a moment of reflection.

THE NICENE CREED (stand as able)

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor
With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray, saying: Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

We pray for the spiritual peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls.
Silence
Lord in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

We pray for the church. We pray especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Andy, Matt, Allen, and Mary, our bishops, Tami, our priest, Lainie, our deacon, and for all of God’s people.
Silence
Lord in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

We pray for unity, for true justice, for equity, and for peace in the world.
Silence
Lord in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

We pray for our president and other leaders of this nation, for the leaders of all nations, and for all in authority, that they would make right choices and work for good and not harm.
Silence
Lord in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

We pray for the good Earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it.
Silence
Lord in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.
We pray for the oppressed and the marginalized, for the unemployed and the unhoused, for the refugees and asylum seekers, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them.

_Silence_

_Lord in your mercy:_

_Hear our prayer._


At this time, please add the names of those for whom you wish prayers, either silently or aloud.

_Silence_

_Lord in your mercy:_

_Hear our prayer._

We pray for all who have died, and we give thanks for all the saints and good souls who have gone before us.

At this time, please add the names of those we love and remember but see no more, either silently or aloud.

_Silence_

_Lord in your mercy:_

_Hear our prayer._

_Priest_

God of steadfast love and mercy, hear our prayers, and receive the secret yearnings of our hearts. Grant our petitions in ways that are best for us and for those whom we pray, and deepen within us an awareness of your mercy and a willingness to follow Christ, in whose name we pray. _Amen._

_Priest_

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

_Priest and People_

_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.

Priest
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BLESSINGS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (stand as able)

Priest The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Priest Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Priest
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in 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:

SANCTUS

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.
Priest

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, 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.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord 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 he 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. 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. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through 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 for ever. AMEN.

Priest

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All

- 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
*The Priest breaks the consecrated Bread, and a period of silence is kept.*

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

Priest Come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more.
You who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for a long
time. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who feel you have failed. Come. It
is Christ who bids us to meet him here, and all are welcome.

All are welcome and encouraged to receive Communion. If you would like to receive the bread, open your hands. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest. If you would also like to receive the wine either sip from the chalice, or give the person holding the chalice the wafer and they will intinct it (touch it to the wine) and hand it back to you. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and we will bring communion to you. If you wish to receive a gluten free wafer let the priest know when you come forward.

COMMUNION HYMN 439 What wondrous love is this

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
*After Communion, the Priest says*

Let us pray.

All Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ’s Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING
Do not be dismayed by the brokenness of the world. All things break. And all things can be mended. Not with time, as they say, but with intention. So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally. The broken world waits in darkness for the light that is you. And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier be with you this day and always. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 450 - 1,2,3,4,6 All hail the power of Jesus' Name (stand as able)

DISMISSAL
Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE
The liturgy has ended. The service now begins.

Help us decide when to offer a mid-week worship service and/or bible studies, discussion groups, book discussions, special events

If you are interested in participating in mid-week worship, bible study, discussion groups, etc. in the fall, please take a brief survey to let us know when you would be available to participate. Look for the link to the survey in our Wednesday email “Weekly Highlights”, or fill out the form in the back of the church. Thank you!
Sunday, September 10: Baptism, Backpack Blessing for Students and Teachers of all ages, Return of Choir. Special Coffee Hour afterwards.

**Please look for the sign-up to bring food in the back of the church!**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

We are looking forward to Sunday school classes beginning on Sunday, September 17 -- please register your children on our website or fill out a form that you can find in the back of the church. Even if you’ve registered them in the past, please take a moment and do it again to make sure we have updated information about grade, school, allergies, etc. If you have any questions about our Sunday school program, please contact Tami at (914) 584-1418, and she