St. Thomas Memorial Church
The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost:
Proper 28
The Holy Eucharist – Rite 2
November 15, 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 **"Sleepers Awake"** **J.S. Bach**
"Ode to Joy" **L.v. Beethoven**
(played by Parishioner Hiller Hardie, on classical guitar)

Processional Hymn #535 "Ye Servants of God" *(found in the blue hymnals located in the pews)*

THE WORD OF GOD

Starting on Pg. 355 of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)
Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

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 *("S" Music is located in the front portion of the blue hymnals)*
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.

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

The Collect of the Day
Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Reading of God's Word
The First Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
7 Be silent before the Lord GOD, for the day of the LORD is at hand! The LORD has prepared a
sacrifice; he has consecrated his guests. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with
lamps, and I will punish the people who settle like dregs in wine, those who say in their
hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." 13 Their wealth shall be
plundered and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit
them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. 14 The great day of
the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the
warrior cries aloud there. 15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a
day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick
darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the
lofty battlements. 17 I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the
blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like
dust and their flesh like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save
them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be
consumed, for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

Psalm 90:1-8, [9-11], 12
1 Lord, you have been our refuge *****
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, *****
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *****
"Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *****
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; *****
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *****

in the evening it is dried up and withered.

7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

[9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; *
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

10 The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; *
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

11 Who regards the power of your wrath? *
who rightly fears your indignation?]

12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
5 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have
anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will
come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden
destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there
will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to
surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not
of the night or of darkness. 6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep
awake and be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get
drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate
of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for
wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that
whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another
and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

Hymn #574 "Before thy Throne O God We Kneel"

Before the Gospel
Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property
to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to
his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off
and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the
two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went
off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master
of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the
five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to
me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done,
good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in
charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two
talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have
made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into
the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward,
saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and
gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the
ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave!
You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter?
27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would
have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to
the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will
have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken
away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be
weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

After the Gospel

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

Sermon… .....The Rev. Deacon Nicole Starr

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 IV (Pg. 389, BCP)
The Leader prays:
Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *(silence)*
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *(silence)*
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *(silence)*
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *(silence)*
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Gracious and loving God, you know the needs of St. Thomas better than we know them ourselves. Be present with us as we seek the priest whom you are calling to serve among us. Guide our Search Committee, Vestry, and parish with the wisdom of your Holy Spirit. Give us patience in waiting, humility in listening, courage in discerning, and trust in your timing.

Prepare the heart of the priest whom you are calling, and prepare our hearts to receive that person with faith, openness, and love. Keep us united in Christ during this time of transition. Help us to continue worshiping faithfully, caring for one another, serving our neighbors, and growing in the mission you have entrusted to this parish.
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are celebrating their birthdays this week, especially Maureen Farmer, Bruce Johnston, Richard Dietz, Bill Ferguson, Renee Romito, Christian Bucci, and Mary Nell Hurd.

We pray for our Outreach Ministries, Shepherd's Heart, and our Eucharistic ministry.

We pray for the Pittsburgh Diocese, especially Church of the Advent, Jeannette, and the Rev. Martin Wright.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *(Silence)*
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Joseph Hakas, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *(silence)*
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

(Concluding prayer read by the celebrant.)

The Confession (Pg. 360, BCP)

Deacon or Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Celebrant 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

The Absolution
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

The Holy Communion

Offertory

"Make Me a Servant" arr. D. Miller

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, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, 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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord — Hymnal #S130 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 page 362, BCP
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 many 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.
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Priest and People 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.*

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.

The Invitation
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.
(All baptized persons are welcome to receive the sacrament at our altar rail. Gluten free Host is available upon request.)

Communion Hymn #693 "Just As I Am Without One Plea"

Hymn "I Surrender All"

All to Jesus I surrender, All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him, In His presence daily live.
Chorus:
I surrender all, I surrender all.
All to Thee my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender, Humbly at His feet I bow;
Worldly pleasures all forsaken, Take me, Jesus, take me now.

All to Jesus I surrender, Make me, Savior wholly Thine;
Let me feel the Holy Spirit, Truly know that Thou art mine.

All to Jesus I surrender, Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power, Let Thy blessing fall on me.
J.W. Van de Venter/W. S. Weeden Used by Permission CCLI #940217

After Communion the Celebrant says
Let us pray. *(Please kneel.)*

Celebrant 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 #551 "Rise Up Ye Saints of God"

The Dismissal

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

Postlude **"Postlude in D Minor"** **Fr. Walczynski**

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Joseph Hakas, by Trudy Hakas. I miss you every day.

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. Canon James D. Shoucair, Interim Rector
The Rev. Deacon Nicole Starr, Curate
Mrs. Louise Lugar, Organist/Choir Director

St. Thomas' Vestry

Julie King	Paul Cammisa (NV)	Jonathan Dailey	Betti Rottschaefer (NV)
Sr. Warden	*Jr. Warden*	*Vestry Clerk*	*Treasurer*

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

UPCOMING / ONGOING EVENTS:

Sundays at 9:30 Adult Sunday School in the Guild Room
Tuesdays and Thursdays Evening Prayer from 6:30 - 7pm in the church
Tuesdays at 11 am Bible Study in the Guild Room
Wednesdays at 10 am Healing Service in the Thomas House Chapel
Wednesdays: 7 pm Choir Practice in the Choir Room (basement)

** The Thanksgiving Day service will be held at 10:30 am on Thursday, Nov. 26.

Participants for this service:

Acolytes: Rachel Almada, Elisabeth Fischer, Andrew Fischer
First Lesson: Sara Gildersleeve
Psalm: Elisabeth Fischer
Second Lesson: Julie King
Leader, Prayers of the People: Helen Askin
Verger: R.J. King
Ushers: Luke Krushinski, Darrell Powell
Coffee Hour Hostess: Barb Harger

Last week's attendance: 8:00: 38
10:30: 67

Total Donations: $4,072.00