

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

Eustis, Florida

September 6, 2020

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 18



The Reverend Canon Ernie Bennett, Interim Priest-in-Charge

We Welcome You

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent;
for this is the House of God.

Before the service we speak to the Lord.

During the service we let the Lord speak to us.

After the service, we speak to one another.

“A traditional Episcopal Church where you can worship God with a sense of belonging.”

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God in Thanksgiving by Jeff and Margaret Emerson for the blessing on their marriage.

Outreach at St. Thomas: If you plan on donating to the Summer Harvest, please contact Nancy Conley, Outreach Chair. While monetary and in-kind donations are both welcome, keep in mind that the monetary donations can result in larger quantities of food.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Central Florida are carefully monitoring the Lake County Covid Statistics and doing everything possible to keep our parishioners safe. We will keep you apprised of any and all changes as they occur. If you have experienced any symptoms and/or been exposed to Covid 19, please take care of yourself and stay at home.

We are now livestreaming our Sunday service at 9:00am on Facebook. The Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/StThomasEustis/>. Please join us if you are unable to attend in person.

Please join Canon Ernie for the Thursday Healing Service at 10am in the sanctuary. This service is smaller and easier to social distance.

Lectors:

OT: Mimi Smith
NT: Jimmie Clark
POP: Janet Clarke

Ushers:

Bert Grace
Maggie Kaiser

Altar Guild:

Diane Mullen
Sally Hartenstein
Mary Shriner

Please bring your non-perishable food items to church on Sunday or drop them by the office during office hours.

(352) 357-4358

317 S. Mary Street Eustis, Florida 32726

email: stthomasec@earthlink.net

Services are livestreamed Sunday at 9am at

<https://www.facebook.com/StThomasEustis/>

website: www.stthomaseustis.com

Interim Priest-in-Charge

Deacon

Music Director

Audio Visual

Rev. Canon Ernie Bennett

Rev. Janet Clarke

Richard Mangiagli

Suzy Burlock

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two

The Word of God

Opening Hymn *(Please Stand)*

#174: At the Lambs High Feast, v. 1-2

*At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious King;
Who hath washed us in the tide flowing from his pierced side;
Praise we him, whose love divine gives his sacred Blood for wine,
Gives his Body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the priest.*

*Where the Paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, Paschal bread;
With sincerity and love eat we manna from above.*

The people standing, the Celebrant says:

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Celebrant says:

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 following hymn of praise is sung, all standing.

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

The Celebrant says to the people:

The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says 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 Lessons

The people sit.

A Reading (Lesson) from the Book of Exodus

Exodus 12:1-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 149

1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing his praise in the congregation of the
faithful.

2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *
let the children of Zion be joyful in
their King.

3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *
let them sing praise to him with timbrel
and harp.

4 For the LORD takes pleasure in his people*
and adorns the poor with victory. .

5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *
let them be joyful on their beds.

6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *
and a two-edged sword in their hand;

7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *
and punishment on the peoples;

8 To bind their kings in chains *
and their nobles with links of iron;

9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *
this is glory for all his faithful people.
Hallelujah!

A Reading (Lesson) from Paul's Letter to the Romans

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn (*Please Stand*)

#602 Jesu, Jesu. Fill us with your Love v 2-3

*Neighbors are rich and poor,
neighbors are black and white,
neighbors are nearby and far away. (Refrain)*

(Refrain) *Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.*

*These are the ones we should serve,
these are the ones we should love.
All are neighbors to us and you. (Refrain)*

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." "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."

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: The Rev. Canon Ernie Bennett, Interim Priest in Charge

All stand for

The Nicene Creed

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.

The Prayers of the People

Form III

All kneel.

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

We pray for those who are sick:

The Reverend Dr. Billy Wilson Rodgers
Jeff and Pam Ray, Leon Stricklen
Carole Warner, Evelyn Wright
Donna Pfister, Penny Pfister, David Easter, Kathy Easter, Pat Joyce, Margo Odom, School
Children and Teachers, those affected by the hurricanes.

(Please note: Intercessory prayer will be offered for 4 weeks for each person, then assuming a healing, they will be moved from the prayer list. If you would like someone added back onto the list, simply call the church office or drop their name in the collection plate. Thank you! This will keep our prayer list current.)

I ask for your intercessions in the diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Peter's Church, Lake Mary and St. Francis of Assisi Church, Lake Placid

I ask your thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries,

Birthdays: 06- Lauren Stricklen 06 Rob Wilhelm

Anniversary: 06- Jeff and Margaret Emerson

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant add a Collect.

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant says;

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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 Celebrant, stands and says:

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

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may safely greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

Offertory Hymn

Instrumental Music

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand for Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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.

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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are 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.*

The people stand or kneel while The Celebrant continues:

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant 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,

People and Celebrant:

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Then Celebrant may sing or say:

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

:The Celebrant says

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.

After Communion, the Celebrant says:

Let us pray.

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.

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, blooming meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.*

*Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.*

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words:

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: **Thanks be to God.**