

**St.**  
**Thaddeus**  
**Episcopal Church**



**Holy Eucharist: Rite II**  
**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**April 28, 2024**  
**7:45 AM**

**Loving God ♦ Serving Others ♦ Living Our Faith**

## **Welcome to St. Thaddeus**

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today! This service is but a small part of the continual prayer and praise offered to God by Christians at every hour and in every part of the world. At times, it may feel as if you are dropping in on a conversation already in progress between God and God's people, which continues unto the ages. Don't be surprised or disturbed if there are some things that you don't understand right away—and don't be embarrassed to ask for help. We pray that this service invites you into the ongoing stream of prayer and praise that unites us all—on Earth and in Heaven—as one Body of Christ.

We invite all baptized Christians to receive the Holy Eucharist at the altar. If you desire for communion to be brought to you in your seat by one of the ministers, please inform an usher.

*Please enter the church quietly in order not to disturb those who are in prayer, and take care to silence all noise-making devices. Children are especially encouraged and welcome to participate in all aspects of worship! "Holy wiggles" are a sure and certain sign of life and joy!*

## **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

*People* *The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

## **THE GLORIA**

**BCP p. 356**

## **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*

## **FIRST READING**

**ACTS 8:26-40**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news

about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

### **PSALM 22:24-30**

- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship  
him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*  
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

## SECOND READING

1<sup>ST</sup> JOHN 4:7-21

A Reading from the first letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

*Reader*                      The Word of the Lord

*People*                        *Thanks be to God.*

## THE GOSPEL

JOHN 15:1-8

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

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been

cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

*Priest*            The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**SERMON                            THE REVEREND DR. MARSHALL A. JOLLY**

*All stand, as you are able.*

**NICENE CREED**

**BCP p. 358**

*Eucharistic Prayer D is among the most ancient liturgies of the Church, adapted from the Liturgy of Saint Basil in the 4th century. So central was that community's understanding of Christ's presence in the Eucharistic feast that the Prayers and Intercessions of the gathered community were inserted into the Eucharistic Prayer, as though those in worship were literally speaking to Christ himself, present in the Eucharist. During this season, our Prayers of the People are included in the Eucharistic Prayer.*

**PEACE**

*Celebrant*        The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*            And also with you.

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

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*The Celebrant gives an offertory sentence.*

*Representatives of the congregation bring the People's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Deacon or Celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

**GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER D BCP. p. 372**

**SURSUM CORDA**

*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.

*The Celebrant continues*

**SANCTUS**

**BCP p. 373**

*The Celebrant continues*

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

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**BCP p.336**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*A period of silence is kept.*

**FRACTION: CHRIST OUR PASSOVER**

*Celebrant* 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.

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BCP p. 366**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The Celebrant and People pray together after which the Celebrant pronounces the blessing.*

## **BLESSING**

## **DISMISSAL**

*Priest* Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

*Thank you for worshipping with us today! If you are worshipping with us for the first time: Welcome, we're glad you're here and hope to see you again. Please take a moment to sign our guest register located in the Narthex (foyer) so that we can make this welcome a more personal one. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you'll consider making it here with us at St. Thaddeus. Again, thank you for worshipping with us today; may you find here the peace, comfort, and love of God to carry you through your week.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FIRST SATURDAY IS NEXT SATURDAY!:** Saturday, May 4, we will celebrate Cuatro de Mayo. We are celebrating all things for the start of May - Cinco de Mayo as well as The Kentucky Derby. Join us for tacos and all the fixins along with dessert. Tea and lemonade will be provided, but feel free to bring your own Derby or Cinco de Mayo beverages. We will have the race on for all to view and have activities for the kids. Please sign-up using the link provided in the Monday Morning email dated 4/22 or 4/29.

**A.C.T.S.:** Area Churches Together Serving is requesting *peanut butter & jelly for the month of May*. Items may be left in the red wagon in the Narthex or left in the church office. They will be delivered to ACTS at the end of the month.



**CALLING ALL ACOLYTES:** Please plan to attend one of two upcoming acolyte trainings at St. Thaddeus! The first will be held after the 11:15 service on Sunday, May 5 and the second will be held between the 9 and 11:15 services on Sunday, May 12. Please contact Fr. Joseph with any questions.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** to Marianne Swearingen, Ellison Weist, Will Gibbs, and Gibert Kennedy who were elected by the Vestry to represent St. Thaddeus as delegates to the 102nd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina, and to Susan Stribling, Ray Buchholz, and Ed Schneider who were elected as alternate delegates. Thank you for offering yourselves in the Lord's service!

**CHILDCARE:** Free childcare is available in the nursery in the Cornish Building Sunday mornings 8:45am-12:30pm for infants and small children (6 weeks to 6 years old).

**SAVE THE DATE - APRIL 26, 2025:** Although it is a year away, we are too excited to wait to tell you we are resuming the St. Thaddeus Home and Garden Tour. Originating in the 1960s, the tour is a well-loved tradition of both St. Thaddeus and the surrounding community. The 2020 tour was canceled due to COVID-19 but we are ready to pull out all the stops to make the 2025 tour the absolute best! A planning committee is being formed and will kick off in August 2024. If you are interested in joining the leadership team, contact me at [lyddiehansen068@gmail.com](mailto:lyddiehansen068@gmail.com) or call me at 803-645-5548. Not only will we have a lot of fun, the proceeds from the tour will go to local charities.

**EVENSONG SERVICE:** Please join us for an Evensong commemorating the Ascension of Our Lord, to be held on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 6 pm in the Church.

**PARISH CLEANUP DAY:** Please mark your calendars for Parish Clean Up Day on Saturday, May 18, 2024. Look for details in next week's email and bulletin.

**SOUP KITCHEN:** The Soup Kitchen fed the following people last week. My Father's House: 15 ~ Shut Ins: 10 ~ Tri Development: 20 ~ Soup Kitchen Meals: 102 ~Total: 147 ~ Menu: Chicken Ramen bake, salad, fruit, strawberry/lemon cake and PB&J sandwiches.

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Please note all announcements for the Sunday bulletin must be turned in by 9:00am on Wednesday morning to ensure the rector can review announcements and the bulletin can be compiled. Thank you for your help with this.

**Are you new to the area or visiting our church for the first time and want to know more about St. Thaddeus? Then scan the QR code below and see our website and complete our newcomer form.**



**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS**

10 am Rector's Forum: "Ethics After Easter" meets in the Chapel of the Holy Apostles

Drop In Class starts at 10:15am – 11am and meets in the Small Parlor in the Stevenson-McClelland Bldg. We are currently reading

*"Inspired"* by Rachel Held Evans

Led by Kathie Fowler

Adult Sunday School Class starts at 10:15am - 11am and meets in the Large Parlor (cafeteria) in the Stevenson-McClelland Bldg.

Led by Gibert Kennedy

The Wednesday Bible Study Group meets from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm in the Nursery sitting room of the Cornish Bldg.

Led by Burt Tiffany



~ Serving Today ~

**Celebrant & Preacher**

**The Reverend Dr. Marshall A. Jolly**

**Eucharistic Minister**

**Stephanie Ludwick**

**Lector**

**Kathie Fowler**

**Usher**

**Duke Sudlow**

**Altar Guild**

**Terry Dennis**

**Sound**

**George King**

# Saint Thaddeus Episcopal Church

*Founded 1842*



**Loving God ♦ Serving Others ♦ Living Our Faith**  
*A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina*

**The Right Reverend Daniel P. Richards, Bishop**  
**The Reverend Dr. Marshall A. Jolly, Rector**  
**The Reverend Joseph S. Whitehurst, Associate Rector**  
**The Reverend Deacon Jane Hostetter, Deacon**  
**The Reverend Dr. Frank Sawyer, Head of Mead Hall School**  
**Denise Kinard, Finance and Facilities Administrator**  
**Sondra Boyer, Parish Administrator**  
**Don Dupée, Director of Music & Organist**

125 Pendleton Street, SW  
Aiken, South Carolina 29801  
stthad@stthaddeus.org ♦ www.stthaddeus.org  
(803) 648-5497

## **VESTRY**

Marianne Swearingen, *Sr. Warden*; Larry Wyont, *Jr. Warden*; Larry Melzer, *Treasurer*;  
Susan Stribling, *Clerk*; Ray Buchholz; Susan Elder; Will Gibbs; Jennifer Huff; Susanna King;  
J. R. Ludwick; Barbara McKnight; Ellison Weist; Morgan Whiteside