

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I

January 4, 2026, 7:45 AM

Welcome to St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church! This service follows the order found in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), located in the pews. Please don't hesitate to ask an usher or a neighbor for assistance. You are invited to participate fully in all aspects of our worship service!

THE WORD OF GOD

The People stand as the Celebrant and other Ministers enter the Chancel.

The Opening Acclamation & Collect for Purity

BCP p. 323

The Gloria

BCP p. 324

The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 162

O God, who didst wonderfully create, and yet more wonderfully restore, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:7-14

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Psalm: 84:1-8

BCP pgs. 707-708

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house

and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.

- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

The Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Gospel

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

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

People *Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Joseph S. Whitehurst

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 326

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Intercessor: Lord in your mercy;

People: Hear our prayer.

Silence

The Confession & Absolution

BCP p. 330

The Peace

BCP p. 332

The Ministers and People greet one another with signs of peace. The Celebrant then recites the offertory sentence.

The Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II

BCP p. 340

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 336

The Breaking of the Bread & Fraction Anthem

BCP p. 337

The Prayer of Humble Access

BCP p. 337

The Invitation & Communion of the People

BCP p. 338

The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 339

The Announcements

The Blessing

BCP pgs. 339-340

The Celebrant blesses the people.

The Dismissal

The Deacon dismisses the People, who respond by saying

Thanks be to God.

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.

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.





~ Serving Today ~

Celebrant & Preacher	The Reverend Joseph S. Whitehurst
Deacon	The Reverend Deacon Adelle G. Dennis
Eucharistic Minister	Jay Jones
Lector	Worth Swearingen
Usher	Kim Sidey
Altar Guild	Kathie Fowler
Flower Guild	Jo Ann Crystal
Sound	Carl Jacobs
Vestry Member of the Day	Marianne Swearingen

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 Dr. Frank Sawyer, Head of Mead Hall School

Denise Kinard, Finance and Facilities Administrator

Sondra Boyer, Parish Administrator

Don Dupée, Director of Music & Organist

Jay Jones, Rector's Assistant for Ministry

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VESTRY

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