



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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Prayers and Readings for The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

The Collect of the Day

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1 John 3:16-24 (NRSV)

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

John 10:11-18 (NRSV)

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Readings taken from The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible © 1989 by The Division of Christian Education of The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., used by permission.

St. Thomas Parish Prayer List

Adrian, Anne, Cyrus, Dave, Dianne, Elizabeth, Gloria, Greer, Hannah, Jane, Jayne, Jerry, John, Lizann, Lynne, Pax, Peggy, Penny, Susan, Tim, Tom, the Bahl family, the Gaede family, and our shut-in parishioners and their care-givers; those serving our community and nation, including Tony, Will, Steven, Harrison, Matt, Becky, Jeff, Jennifer, Steve, Phillip and Perrin; as well as all those affected by natural disasters and human tragedies, the first responders and the aid and relief efforts that continue around the world, everyone affected by the Coronavirus.

The flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Rick and Ellie Block in celebration of Sudie Geier's 98th birthday.

Our [YouTube](#) Channel can be found through our website or simply on [YouTube](#) directly:
[St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Terrace Park, Ohio](#)

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