SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

in the
CITY OF NEW YORK

One West Fifty-third Street
New York, New York 10019
Telephone: 212-757-7013
www.SaintThomasChurch.org

Welcome to Saint Thomas Church, a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New York.
Our mission is to worship, love and serve Our Lord Jesus Christ
through the Anglican tradition and our unique choral heritage.

The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT **DECEMBER 20, 2020**

SOLEMN EUCHARIST — 11 a.m.
sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

SETTING Missa de Beata Virgine *Francisco Guerrero* (1528-1599)

PRELUDE Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659 *Johann Sebastian Bach* (1685-1750)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

KYRIE Mass XVII *Plainsong (Tone 6)*
Sung by the Choir.

KYRIE eleison. *Lord, have mercy upon us.*
Christe eleison. *Christ, have mercy upon us.*
Kyrie eleison. *Lord, have mercy upon us.*

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Let us pray.

WE beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSON 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

The Lector concludes The Word of the Lord.
The People respond Thanks be to God.

PSALM 89:1-4, 20-27 *Sung by the Choir.* Plainsong *(Tone I¹)*

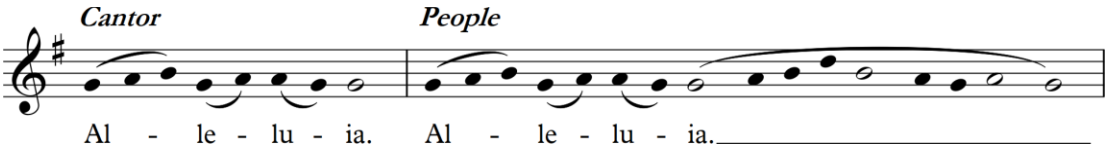
MY song shall be alway of the loving-kindness of the Lord;* with my mouth will I ever be shewing thy truth from one generation to another.
2 For I have said, Mercy shall be set up for ever;* thy truth shalt thou stablish in the heavens.
3 I have made a covenant with my chosen;* I have sworn unto David my servant:
4 Thy seed will I stablish for ever,* and set up thy throne from one generation to another.
20 Thou spakest sometime in visions unto thy saints, and saidst,* I have laid help upon one that is mighty, I have exalted one chosen out of the people.
21 I have found David my servant;* with my holy oil have I anointed him.
22 My hand shall hold him fast,* and my arm shall strengthen him.
23 The enemy shall not be able to do him violence;* the son of wickedness shall not hurt him.
24 I will smite down his foes before his face,* and plague them that hate him.
25 My truth also and my mercy shall be with him;* and in my Name shall his horn be exalted.
26 I will set his dominion also in the sea,* and his right hand in the floods.
27 He shall call me, Thou art my Father,* my God, and my strong salvation.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,* and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,* world without end. Amen.

THE EPISTLE Romans 16:25-27

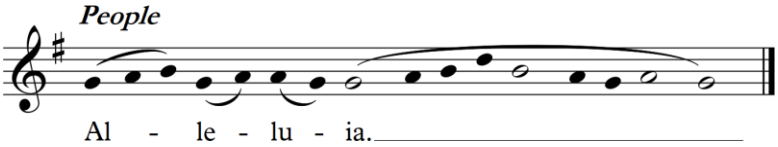
The Subdeacon concludes The Word of the Lord.
The People respond Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Plainsong *(Mode VI)*



Cantor Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God:
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.



THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 1:26-38

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

After the Gospel, the Deacon says

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

SERMON The Rev. Adam Spencer
Associate for Pastoral Care

THE NICENE CREED

The People stand. It is customary to bow at the underlined words.

I **BELIEVE** in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, <u>And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man:</u> And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection of the dead: And the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM I)

The People kneel.

After each petition,

Let us pray to the Lord.
People Lord, have mercy.

At the end of the Litany,

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.
People Lord, have mercy.

After the last petition

. . . let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.
People To thee, O Lord our God.

After a period of silence, the Celebrant concludes with this collect

W**E** beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that we who have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought unto the glory of his resurrection; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Celebrant and People

A**LMIGHTY** God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us; the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant says

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

The People stand. The Celebrant introduces the Peace with these words

IN the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And with thy spirit.

THE GREETINGS

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM *Sung by the Choir.* *William Cornysh* (d. 1502)

AVE Maria, mater Dei,
regina caeli, domina,
mundi imperatrix inferni,
miserere mei
et totius populi Christiani;
et ne permitas nos
mortaliter peccare;
sed tuam sanctissimam voluntatem
adimplere. Amen.

Hail Mary, mother of God,
Queen and Mistress of Heaven,
Empress of the world below,
have mercy on me
and on all Christian people;
and do not allow us
to commit mortal sins;
but help us to fulfill
your most holy will. Amen.

The Antiphonary

Responsory of the First Nocturn for the Second Sunday of Advent

Please make a gift to support our ministry in New York and on the web.
Text **Give** *to* **855-938-2085**
If you are present in church, you may leave an offering in the baskets as you leave.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant sings the Preface.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS *Sung by the Choir.*

SANCTUS, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra Gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.	*Holy, holy, holy,* *Lord God of Hosts.* *Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.* *Hosanna in the highest.*
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.	*Blessed is he that cometh* *in the name of the Lord.* *Hosanna in the highest.*

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The People kneel. The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

The People respond AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant says

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

Celebrant 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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

AGNUS DEI *Sung by the Choir.*

AGNUS Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.	*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,* *have mercy on us.*
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.	*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,* *grant us peace.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

BEHOLD the Lamb of God: behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

People Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof,
but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.
The Sacrament is distributed in one kind only in the Crossing.
Gluten free hosts are available from the priest standing on the RIGHT of the Celebrant.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION *(for those unable to receive Holy Communion)*

I **BELIEVE** in thee, O my Jesus, present in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar;
I love thee above all things, and I desire to receive thee into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive thee sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace thee, and I unite myself to thee as if thou wast already there.
Never permit me to be separated from thee!
O Lord Jesus Christ, let the sweet and consuming force of thy love absorb my whole soul, that I may die for the love of thee, who wast pleased to die for the love of me. Amen.

AT THE COMMUNION, MOTET *Sung by the Choir.* *Jacobus Handl* (1550-1591)

ECCE concipies: et paries filium,	*And, behold: thou shalt conceive in thy womb,*
et vocabis nomen ejus Jesum;	*and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.*
hic erit magnus,	*He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the*
et filius altissimi vocabitur.	*Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto him*
Super solium David et super regnum ejus	*the throne of his father David.*
sedebit et regnabit in domo Jacob in	*And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever;*
aeternam, et regni ejus non erit finis.	*and of his kingdom there shall be no end.*

Saint Luke 1:31-33

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *Said by all, kneeling*

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant says

MAY the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness
from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father,
the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to prepare the way of the Lord
People Thanks be to God.

The People stand as the Ministers depart.

VOLUNTARY Contrapunctus XI, from Die Kunst der Fuge, BWV 1080 *Johann Sebastian Bach*

PARISH NOTICES

Contributions for Christmas Flower Memorials are now being received in memory of departed loved ones. The names of the faithful departed in whose memory the church will be adorned will be listed in the Christmas service leaflet on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. In order to cover the cost of Christmas flowers, we suggest a minimum donation of $25. Please send your check, made payable to Saint Thomas Church, and a printed list of those in whose memory you are making your donation to the parish house receptionist. The deadline is **Sunday, December 20**.

This Christmas season, please join *Concerts at Saint Thomas* online for two special archival audio presentations. Our first offering of **Handel's *Messiah*** features the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys with New York Baroque Incorporated. The second concert features The Boys of the Saint Thomas Choir's performance of **Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*** from 2019. Both of these archival audio presentations are now available On-demand through Christmas. While we cannot be together in person for these annual events, we hope you will enjoy listening to them this Christmas. To listen, visit www.saintthomaschurch.org/music/concerts.

We are pleased to announce that The Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boy's newest CD, entitled **'The Music of Gerre Hancock'** is now available to our valued Parishioners and Friends of Music. We are offering this special pre-release of our newest CD for $15 each plus tax and shipping, or take advantage of our discount pricing of 2 for $25.00 or 3 for $30. Order yours today by emailing Bookstore@SaintThomasChurch.org and be sure to include the following: full name, address, phone number, CD order request. We will call you at the phone number provided to process your payment.

The Bookstore and Gift Shop is selling an inscribed Saint Thomas Church, 3-Ply Face Mask for $8 plus tax and shipping where applicable. The mask may be purchased by sending an email to the Bookstore@SaintThomasChurch.org. Please be sure to include your full name, address, telephone number and mask request. We will contact you at the number provided to process your payment.

Coffee Hour
We continue to host our Virtual Coffee Hour which will use the ZOOM platform to host a virtual meeting at 12:45 p.m. Contact Fr. Moretz at **MMoretz@SaintThomasChurch.org** to learn more and receive login credentials.

Children and Families' Gatherings
Sunday Zoom! continues today at 10 a.m. with a virtual Christmas Pageant and Celebration with readings, solos and prayers led by children and young people of Saint Thomas Church. If you know a family that would like to receive our regular newsletter or to obtain login information for either the Sunday Zoom! or Faith Alive, contact **Mother Turner** at **ATurner@SaintThomasChurch.org**.

Friday Online Bible Study will not meet on Friday, December 25 or January 1. It will resume on January 8. For more information, contact Fr. Bennett at **Bennett@SaintThomasChurch.org**.

The Church is open Monday through Thursday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(Face coverings, hand sanitization, health screening, and 6 ft. distancing required for entry. Contact tracing is mandatory to attend Mass)

Shrine Prayers (Intercessions) and Holy Eucharist
Monday – Wednesday and Saturday at 12 p.m.
Live audio stream webcast continues, and then on-demand.

Please send your requests for prayers
via the website **click here**
or emailed to: **prayer@saintthomaschurch.org**

Confessions, Spiritual Advice and Healing Ministry
(Resurrection Chapel: The Rector)
Saturday from 11 to 11:45 a.m. in the Church
(need to wear a mask; chairs will be placed at an appropriate distance)

Young Adult Group Discussion then Compline:
Monday evenings
(see email group or Facebook page for details)

Evening Prayer and Meditation will not meet on December 24 or 31. It will resume on January 7.

✠ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
Christmas Eve

12 p.m. Vigil Eucharist of Christmas (Rite II) (High Altar)
Celebrant,* Fr. Mark Brown, *Honorary Assistant

(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)
Register by following this link.

6 p.m. Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity
sung by the Boys of the Choir
***Celebrant,* The Rector**
***Preacher,* Fr. Moretz**

(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)
Register by following this link.

✠ FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25
Christmas Day

10 a.m. Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity
sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir
***Celebrant and Preacher,* The Rector**

(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)
Register by following this link.

12 p.m. Said Eucharist of the Nativity (Rite II) (High Altar)
***Celebrant,* Fr. Adam Spencer**

(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)
Register by following this link.

✠ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27
The First Sunday after Christmas Day

9 a.m. Said Eucharist (Rite II) (High Altar)
***Celebrant,* Fr. Spencer**
***Preacher,* Sr. Promise**

(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)
Register by following this link.

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist
sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir
(with video livestream, and, thereafter, on-demand)
***Preacher,* The Rector**

(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)
Register by following this link.