SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

in the CITY OF NEW YORK



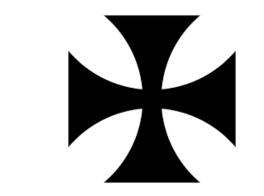
One West Fifty-third Street
New York, New York 10019
Telephone: 212-757-7013
www.SaintThomasChurch.org
The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, Rector

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023 AT 4 P.M. THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE ADVENT PROCESSION

SUNG BY THE SAINT THOMAS CHOIR OF MEN AND BOYS





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.

contact us: welcome@saintthomaschurch.org

Please do not take photographs or videos, or make recordings during the service.

ASSISTING CLERGY

The Reverend Matthew Moretz
Vicar and Chief Operating Officer
The Reverend Alison J. Turner
Associate for Children & Family Ministry and School Chaplain
The Reverend Mark Schultz
Associate for Pastoral Care
The Reverend Prisca Lee-Pae
Associate for Pan-Asian Ministry
The Reverend Dr. Luigi Gioia
Theologian in Residence

STAFF

Dr. Jeremy Filsell, Organist and Director of Music
Nicolas Haigh, Associate Organist

Maks Adach, Associate for Musical Studies and Assistant Organist
Bruce Smith, Chief Advancement Officer
Adam MacDonald, Director of Development

Blake Martin, Director of Communications and Digital Production
Lizette Hernandez, Executive Assistant to the Rector
David Bryan, Head Verger

SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

Christopher Seeley, Head of School 202 West 58th Street, New York, NY 10019 Telephone: 212-247-3311 www.ChoirSchool.org email: admissions@choirschool.org

HONORARY CLERGY

The Reverend Andrew C. Mead, OBE, DD, Rector Emeritus
The Right Reverend Andrew R. St. John, DD, Bishop in Residence
The Reverend Mark Brown, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Gina Gore, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Canon Anne Mallonee, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Stephen Morris, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend David F. Mc Neeley, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Thomas F. Pike, Honorary Assistant

THE LAY MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Lloyd G. Stanford, Warden Karen Duncan Christopher M. Haley, Clerk Darren Littlejohn Winnie Kung Gregory Zaffiro, Warden Samyel Lee John G. Oghia Benita Potters Inge Reist Karl C. Saunders, Treasurer

You may contact the Wardens using this address: Wardens@SaintThomasChurch.org.



ORDER OF SERVICE

The People remain seated and silent as the lighting is reduced. The People stand at the entry of the Choir and Ministers.

From the High Altar, the Choir sings

ANTHEM When all is dark Terence Charlston
(b. 1961)

WHEN all is dark and as the night, when of your love I have no sight, when in despair I pray for light.

When, Lord, for sin I cannot see, I pray that evil shall not be, you only Lord can set me Lord, when belief is weak in me, And when my hope begins to flee, when I am poor in charity, Come close to me, O Lord, come close to me. When earthly life is near its end, and watching angels shall descend. Show mercy Lord, and comfort lend, Come close to me O Lord, come close to me.

Geoffrey Laycock (1927-1986)

READING

Genesis 1:1-5 Let there be light

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

During the following hymn, the Choir moves to the back of the nave. The Choir sings verses one and two.





6. All praise, eternal Son, to thee, Whose advent sets thy people free, Whom with the Father we adore, And spirit blessed, for evermore.



THE BIDDING

The People turn to face the narthex. The Officiant says

EARLY Beloved, as we enter, eager and expectant, into this solemn season of Advent, looking forward to the birth of the Christ child, let us renew in ourselves that vision of God's perfect kingdom which is the end of all our strivings and the consummation of God's loving purposes for us.

In sorrow and penitence we confess our failures and shortcomings, and seek pardon for those sins which frustrate his redemptive purposes and hinder the advent of his reign of love.

So in prayer, praise, and song do we give voice to the hope set forth in the Scriptures, that his kingdom shall come; and as we prepare for that day to dawn upon us from on high, so we commend ourselves and the whole human family to his keeping.

May he guide us into the way of peace, give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, and kindle in us the fire of his love.

People Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

COLLECT

The Officiant says

Let us pray.

LMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, A and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The People sit.

ANTHEM

Drop down dew, O heavens

Robert Twynham (1930-2011)

ROP down dew, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down the just one. Let the earth be opened and bud forth a savior.

On that day the mountains shall drop down sweetness,

and the hills shall flow with milk and honey. Alleluia.

All you who thirst, come to the waters. Seek the Lord while he may be found. Alleluia.

Behold the Lord shall come, and all his saints with him.

And there shall be a great light on that day. Alleluia.

Isaiah 45:8; Joel 3:18; Isaiah 55:1, 6; Zechariah 14:5



READING

Genesis 1:26-27 God creates humankind in his own image

THEN God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

The Choir sings

ANTHEM

Remember, O thou Man

Jeremy Filsell (b. 1964)

Remember, O thou man thy time is spent: Remember, O thou man, how thou cam'st to me then, and I did what I can, therefore repent.

Remember God's goodness, O thou man, and promise made: Remember God's goodness, how his only son he sent, our sins for to redress, be not afraid.

The angels all did sing, O thou man, on Sion hill, The angels all did sing praise to our heavenly King, and peace to man living, with right goodwill.

In Bethlehem was he born, O thou man, for mankind dear: In Bethlehem was he born, for us that were forlorn, and therefore took no scorn, our sins to bear.

Thomas Ravenscroft (1592-1633)

READING

Genesis 3:1-7
The Fall

Now the serpent was more subtle than any other wild creature that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die." But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons.



ANTHEM Adam lay ybounden

Richard Webster (b. 1952)

A DAM lay ybounden, bounden in a bond; four thousand winter thought he not too long. And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, as clerkes finden written in their book.

Ne had the apple take been, the apple taken been, ne had never our lady a been heav'ne queen. Blessed be the time that apple taken was, therefore we moun singen "Deo gracias."

Anon. 15th century

READING

Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7

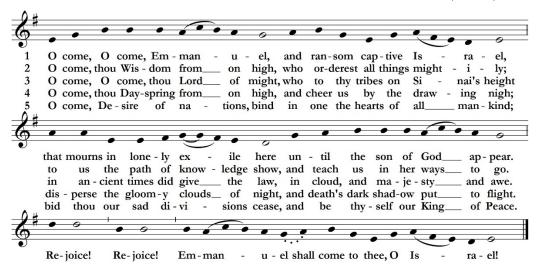
A light shines on those who dwell in darkness

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. Thou hast multiplied the nation, thou hast increased its joy; they rejoice before thee as with joy at the harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The People stand. The Choir processes to the crossing.

HYMN

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL



Ocome, Ocome, Emmanuel, #56 from The Hymnal 1982 – Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: Veni, veni, Emmanuel, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).



READING

Isaiah 7:10-15

A young woman shall bear a Son and name him Emmanuel

AGAIN the LORD spoke to Ahaz, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Imman'u-el. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good."

ANTHEM Vigilate William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

VIGILATE, nescitis enim quando dominus domus veniat, sero, an media nocte, an gallicantu, an mane.

Vigilate ergo, ne cum venerit repente, inveniat vos dormientes.

Quod autem dico vobis, omnibus dico: vigilate.

Watch ye therefore: for you know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.

And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

Mark 13:35-37

COLLECT

The Officiant says

Let us pray.

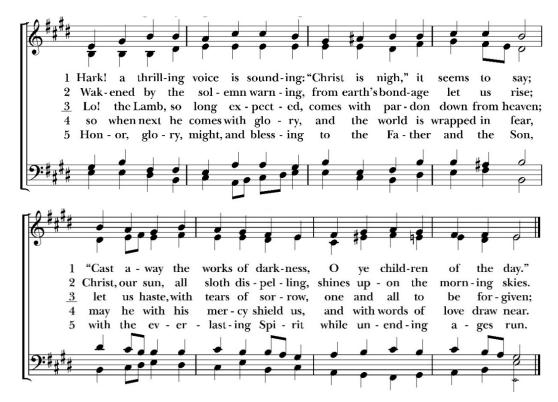
The People stand.

MERCIFUL God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



HYMN MERTON

During this hymn, the Choir moves to the chancel.



Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding, #59 from The Hymnal 1982 – Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.;tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, alt. Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

The People sit.

READING

Isaiah 60:1-5a The glory of the Lord will appear over you

ARISE, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes round about, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far, and your daughters shall be carried in the arms. Then you shall see and be radiant, your heart shall thrill and rejoice.



ANTHEM Christus Maris Francis Shaw
(b. 1942)

E ARTH was still an empty waste and darkness hung over the deep; but already, over the waters, brooded the spirit of God.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters, the God of glory thunders the Lord on the immensity of waters. The voice of the Lord is mighty; the voice of the Lord, full of splendour.

A deepening darkness covers the earth. Mountainous waves eclipse the stars.

The Star of the Sea shall give birth to the Christ.

A woman clothed with the sun, standing on the moon, the twelve stars on her head for a crown.

A boy child in her womb, she cries out as she suffers the great pangs of birth.

In the night the dragon waits on the jetsam shore, deathly jaws are open wide. In the night Christ moves over the swaying waters, see the dawn, how still the waters.

Christ on the morning tide.

Michael Ffinch (b. 1934-1999)

COLLECT

The Officiant says

Let us pray.

The People stand for the carol and the Gospel Reading.

STIR up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**



GOSPEL PROCESSION

ANTHEM O Come, O Dayspring Joel Martinson
(b. 1960)

COME, O Dayspring, from on high and cheer us by your drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night; and death's dark shadow put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of humankind; O bid our sad divisions cease, and be for us our King of peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

9th Century Latin Hymn, tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:26-38

The Angel Gabriel announces the birth of Jesus

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.



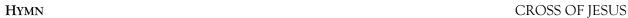
In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How shall this be, since I have no husband?" And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.

For with God nothing will be impossible." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.









Come, thou long-expected Jesus, #3 from The New English Hymnal — Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788).

Music: Cross of Jesus, John Stainer (1840-1901).

The People sit.

READING

Galatians 4:1-7
It is time to awake from sleep

The heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So through God you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then an heir.

ANTHEM A Spotless Rose Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

A SPOTLESS rose is blowing, sprung from a tender root, of ancient seers' foreshowing, of Jesse promised fruit; its fairest bud unfolds to light amid the cold, cold winter, and in the dark midnight.

The rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said, is from its sweet root springing in Mary, purest maid; through God's great love and might the blessed babe she bare us in a cold, cold winter's night.

Anonymous 14th century



COLLECT

Let us pray.

The People stand

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.

HYMN WACHET AUF

During the singing of this hymn, the clergy move to the sanctuary, and the offering shall be taken.



Wake, O wake! with tidings thrilling, #16 from The New English Hymnal — Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608), tr. F. C. Burkitt (1864-1935).

Music: Wachet auf, melody by Philipp Nicolai; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).



READING

Revelation 22:12-17, 20 Surely I am coming soon

BEHOLD, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense, to repay every one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and fornicators and murderers and idolaters, and every one who loves and practices falsehood. "I Jesus have sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright morning star." The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let him who hears say, "Come." And let him who is thirsty come, let him who desires take the water of life without price. He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

THE BLESSING

CHRIST 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 amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

HYMN HELMSLEY





VOLUNTARY Le Monde dans l'attente du Saveur from Symphonie-Passion Op. 23

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)



The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following: Arthur Trumbull Hill, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Hamilton Kissam, and Linda Griffith Vorsanger

WORSHIP THIS WEEK

* indicates livestreamed.

Today

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Sermon by The Rector

4 p.m. An Advent Procession*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Monday - Saturday

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers and Holy Eucharist*

Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Said Mass

In the Chantry Chapel

Note: There will be no 5:30 p.m. Mass on Tuesday or Thursday due to the Messiah concerts.

Friday

3 p.m. Contemplative Prayer

In the Resurrection Chapel

Saturday

11-11:45 a.m. Confessions, Spiritual Advice, Ministry of Healing in the Resurrection Chapel

Confessor: Fr. Schultz

Next Sunday: December 10, The Second Sunday of Advent

7:45 a.m. Said Mass

9 a.m. Sung Mass

followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish House

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Sermon by Mo. Turner

4 p.m. Solemn Evensong*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Sermon by Fr. Moretz

5:30 p.m. Organ Recital

Maks Adach, Associate for Musical Studies and Assistant Organist