

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, MARCH 26, 2023 AT 11 A.M.
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
The Beginning of Passiontide

SOLEMN EUCHARIST
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

Recording and Photography during the service is not permitted.

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

Associate for Adult Education & Formation and Theologian in Residence

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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*

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SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

Christopher Seeley, *Head of School*

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HONORARY CLERGY

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The Right Reverend Andrew R. St. John, DD, *Bishop in Residence*

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The Reverend Gina Gore, *Honorary Assistant*

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John G. Oghia

Benita Potters

Inge Reist

Karl C. Saunders, *Treasurer*

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

PRELUDE

Pastourelle

Fela Sowande
(1905-1987)*The People stand at the entry of the Choir and Ministers.*

HYMN

NETTLETON



1. Come, Thou fount of ev - ery bless-ing, Tune my heart to sing thy
2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by thy help I'm
3. O, to grace how great a debt - or, Dai - ly I'm con - strained to



1. grace; Streams of mer - cy nev - er ceas-ing, Call for songs of loud-est
2. come; And I hope, by thy good pleas-ure, Sure - ly to ar - rive at
3. be; Let that grace, Lord, like a fet - ter, Bind my wan-d'ring heart to



1. praise. Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a -
2. home. Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, Wan-d'ring from the fold of
3. Thee. Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel — it, Prone to leave the God I



1. bove. Praise the mount, O fix me on it. Mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
2. God. He, to save my soul from dan-ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
3. love. Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, Seal it from thy courts a - bove.

Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790). Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. Carl Haywood (b. 1949) from *Songs of Praise*. Harm. Copyright © 1992, Carl Haywood.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.
People His mercy endureth for ever.

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 ELEISON

Sung by the Choir

KYRIE Eleison.
Kyrie Eleison.
Kyrie Eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Christe Eleison.
Christe Eleison.
Christe Eleison.

*Christ, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.*

Kyrie Eleison.
Kyrie Eleison.
Kyrie Eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

ALMIGHTY God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men:
Grant unto thy people that they may love the thing which thou commandest,
and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LESSON

Ezekiel 37:1-14

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

PSALM 130

Sung by the Choir

Anglican Chant (*Davies*)

DE PROFUNDIS

OUT of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord : Lord, hear my voice.
O let thine ears consider well : the voice of my complaint.
If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss : O Lord, who may abide it?
For there is mercy with thee : therefore shalt thou be feared.
I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him : in his word is my trust.
My soul fleeth unto the Lord : before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.
O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy : and with him is plenteous redemption.
And he shall redeem Israel : from all his sins.
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 8:6-11

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

The People stand.

Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.

Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain

the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
 bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 11:1-45

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John.

People

Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord.

After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rector

A period of silent reflection may follow the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED

John Merbecke
(1505-1585)

I be-lieve in one God the Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, Ma-ker of hea-ven and earth,
And of all things vi - si - ble and in - vi - si - ble: And in one Lord Je - sus Christ,
the on - ly be - got - ten Son of God, Be - got - ten of his Fa - ther be - fore all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, Ve - ry God of ve - ry God, Be - got - ten, not made,
Be - ing of one sub - stance with the Fa - ther By whom all things were made:
Who for us men, and for our sal - va - tion came down from hea - ven,
And was in - car - nate by the Ho - ly Ghost of the Vir - gin Ma - ry, And was made man,
And was cru - ci - fied al - so for us un - der Pon - ti - us Pi - late. He suf - fer - ed and was bur - i - ed,
And the third day he rose a - gain ac - cord - ing to the Scrip - tures, And as - cend - ed in - to hea - ven,
And sit - teth on the right hand of the Fa - ther. And he shall come a - gain with glo - ry
to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose king - dom shall have no end.
And I be lieve in the Ho - ly Ghost, the Lord, The giv - er of life, Who pro ceed eth from the Fa - ther
and the Son, Who with the Fa - ther and the Son to - geth - er is wor - ship - ped and glo - ri - fied,
who spake by the Pro - phets. And I be - lieve One Ho - ly Ca - tho - lick and A - po - sto - lick Church.
I ac - know - ledge one Bap - tism for the re - mis - sion of sins. And I
look for the Re - sur - rec - tion of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. A - men.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader says

Let us pray.

The People kneel.

Gracious and Eternal God, with churches throughout the Diocese of New York this day, we approach the throne of thy heavenly grace with humility and awe, beseeching forgiveness for the sin of slavery and its lasting effects. We bring before thy sovereign majesty our prayers, our tears, our repentance, trusting in thy love and mercy for all thy children.

Lord, hear our prayer,

People **and let our cry come unto thee.**

We pray for thy Church, that Beloved Community into which thou art even now transforming us by thy grace. Grant that we may love all thy people as thou dost love us. Grant that we may serve thee, each other, and the world thou hast made as instruments of thy love, peace, justice, truth, integrity and transformation.

Lord, hear our prayer,

People **and let our cry come unto thee.**

We pray for all the parishes of the Diocese of New York; inspire us, O God, to discern the paths of justice, righteousness, and truth, and give us grace to walk with thee in this way.

Hear us as we pray for this parish, its mission, and its needs.

Lord, hear our prayer,

People **and let our cry come unto thee.**

We pray for all those who are in pain and trouble, for all that suffer from injustice and oppression of any kind. Especially at this time, we remember the pain and suffering of enslaved people and their descendants, the pain and suffering of abolitionists and their descendants, and the cruel indifference of the enslavers. We pray that we, their descendants, may persist in the pursuit of compassion, justice, truth, and love in thy Holy Name.

Lord, hear our prayer,

People **and let our cry come unto thee.**

We pray for our nation and for all that are in authority. Turn our hearts from greed and selfishness. Help us to use both our power and our prosperity to thy glory, and give us grace to uphold those founding principles that affirm that all are created equal, endowed by thee, their Creator, with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Lord, hear our prayer,

People **and let our cry come unto thee.**

Gracious and Eternal God, we bring before thy righteous and awe-ful majesty those who have been stripped of dignity, and dehumanized in this world through poverty, homelessness, hunger, deprivation, and every insensitivity. Help us in all our actions, led by the movement and power of the Holy Spirit, to see in all human beings, and most especially the marginalized, thine own image, and give us grace and power to repair throughout the world what our neglect hath broken.

Lord, hear our prayer,

People **and let our cry come unto thee.**

Mercifully lead us, we pray, to do justice, and to embrace kindness and compassion in our communities. Give us grace to make no peace with oppression. Deliver us, we beseech thee, from the fear and willful ignorance that prevent us from doing what is right. Help us to act decisively, to listen intently, to speak out responsibly, and to become involved in the concerns and needs of others, all for thy love's sake.

Lord, hear our prayer,

People **and let our cry come unto thee.**

We pray for those who have died, especially for the souls of those who have suffered injustice, oppression, fear, horror or loneliness. May they be changed from glory to glory in the peace of God which passeth all understanding.

Lord, hear our prayer,

People **and let our cry come unto thee.**

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

O GOD, thou hast made us in thine own image and redeemed us through Jesus thy Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish thy purposes on earth; that, in thy good time, all nations and races may serve thee in harmony around thy heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Celebrant and People

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us: But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders; Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults, restore thou them that are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord: And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. **Amen.**

The Celebrant says

THE Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace. (*Ephesians 2:13-14*)

Celebrant 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

Nico Muhly
(b. 1981)

SIMEINI *chachotam al libecha*
Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm
simeini chachotam al z'roecha
for love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love
kei azah camavet ahavah
neither can the floods drown it.

Song of Solomon 8:6a, 7a

HYMN

SOLID ROCK

1. My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus' blood and
2. When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on His un -
3. His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood, Sup - port me in the
4. When He shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in

1. right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, But
2. chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale, My
3. whelm - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, he
4. Him be found; Dressed in His right - eous - ness a - lone, Fault -

1. whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
2. an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the so - lid Rock, I stand, All
3. then is all my hope and stay.
4. less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff is for the Celebrant, and the second is for the People. The third staff is for the Celebrant, and the fourth is for the People. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Celebrant *People*
The_ Lord be_ with_ you. And_ with thy_ spi - rit.

Celebrant *People*
Lift_ up_ your_ hearts._ We lift_ them up un - to_ the Lord._

Celebrant
Let us give_ thanks un - to_ our Lord_ God.

People
It is meet_ and right so_ to do._

The Celebrant continues

IT is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Who dost bid thy faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

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 People remain standing or kneel.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes

By whom, and with whom, and in 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

<i>Celebrant</i>	Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
<i>People</i>	Therefore let us keep the feast.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Celebrant and People

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

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

<i>People</i>	Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof, but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.
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The People remain kneeling until the bell rings.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.
The Sacrament is distributed at the Crossing. Intinction (dipping the host in the chalice) is not permitted.
You are welcome to receive in one kind only. Gluten free hosts are available - please ask the priest.*

AGNUS DEI

Sung by the Choir

AGNUS Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.*

ANTHEM

Sung by the Choir

*David Hurd
(b. 1950)*

O SACRED head, sore wounded, defiled and put to scorn;
O kingly head, surrounded with mocking crown of thorn;
what sorrow mars thy grandeur? Can death thy bloom deflower?
O countenance whose splendor the hosts of heaven adore!

Thy beauty, long desired, hath vanished from our sight;
Thy power is all expired, and quenched the light of light.
Ah me! for whom thou diest, hide not so far thy grace
Show me, O Love most highest, the brightness of thy face.

In thy most bitter passion my heart to share doth cry;
With thee for my salvation upon the cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus moved to stand thy cross beneath,
To mourn thee, well-beloved, yet thank thee for thy death.

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
For this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever! And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never, outlive my love for thee.

My days are few, O fail not, with thine immortal power,
To hold me that I quail not in death's most fearful hour:
That I may fight befriended, and see in my last strife
To me thine arms extended upon the cross of life.

Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676)

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People kneel and silence is kept.

Celebrant and People

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 SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

The Deacon says

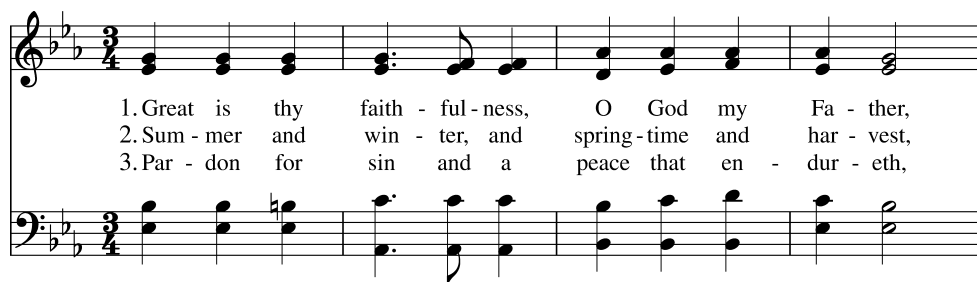
Bow down before the Lord.

The Celebrant says

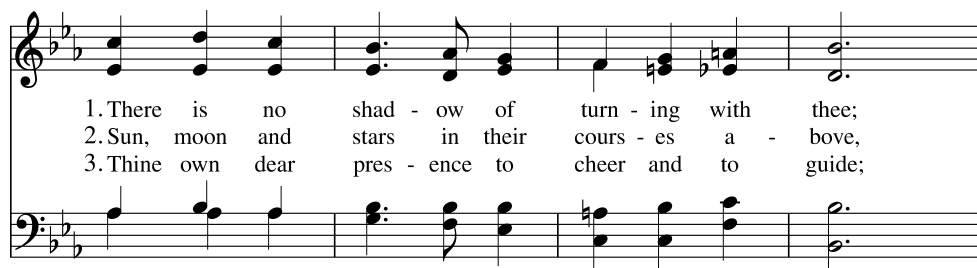
LOOK with compassion, O Lord, upon these thy people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know thee more fully, and to serve thee with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN

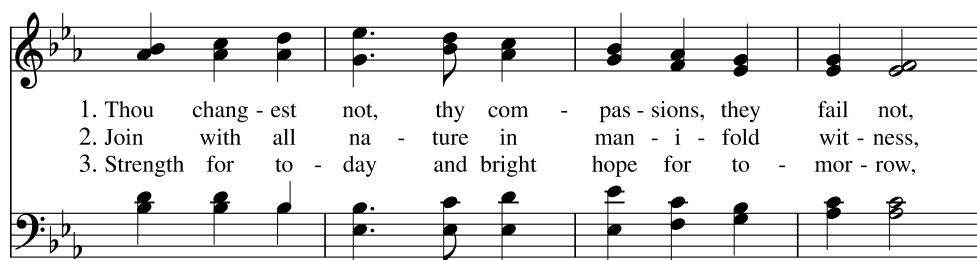
FAITHFULNESS



1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,
2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



1. There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee;
2. Sun, moon and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
3. Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



1. Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not,
2. Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness,
3. Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



1. As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
2. To thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.
3. Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed,

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960). Music: William M. Runyan (1870-1957). Copyright © 1923. Renewal 1951 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Obangiji

Fela Sowande

Please join us for Coffee Hour in Andrew Hall after the service.

HOLY WEEK POSTCARD NOW AVAILABLE WITH THE FULL SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP AND CONCERTS. PLEASE SEE AN USHER UPON EXITING.

EASTER FLOWERS

Contributions are now being received for Easter Flowers 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 Easter service leaflet. In order to cover the cost of the flowers, we suggest a minimum donation of \$25. Please go to our website (www.saintthomaschurch.org/give) or please send your check, made payable to Saint Thomas Church, and a printed list of those in whose memory you are making your donation. **Deadline for submission is Sunday, April 2.**



The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following:
Margaret Crane Hurlbut, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Munsell, Elizabeth van Bokkelen Nichols, and Timothy S. Rothermel

WORSHIP THIS WEEK

* indicates livestreamed.

Today

4 p.m. Solemn Evensong*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Sunday Evensong Sermon Series on The Beatitudes: "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy."

Sermon by The Rev. Zachary Thompson,
Vicar, St. James' Madison Avenue

Monday – Tuesday, Thursday – Saturday

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers and Holy Eucharist*

Wednesday

12 p.m. The Way of the Cross and Holy Eucharist*

Friday

8 a.m. The Holy Eucharist

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place between the 8 a.m. and Noon services on Friday mornings throughout Lent.

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. Gioia

Next Sunday: April 2, Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

7:45 a.m. Said Mass

9 a.m. The Litany of the Palms and Sung Mass

sung by the Noble Singers

especially suitable for Children and Families

followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish House

11 a.m. The Liturgy of the Palms and Solemn Eucharist of the Passion*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Sermon by The Rev. Elaine Farmer

4 p.m. Solemn Evensong*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Sunday Evensong Sermon Series on The Beatitudes: "Blessed are the Pure in heart, for they shall see God."

Sermon by The Rector

PARISH NOTICES

The Pilgrims' Course continues Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Parish House. A hot meal is provided at 6:30 p.m. This annual educational and fellowship series explores the Christian Faith as the Episcopal Church has received it, and as Saint Thomas expresses it through its mission to worship, love, and serve our Lord Jesus Christ through the Anglican Tradition and our unique choral heritage. Classes open to all and particularly suited to those who wish to be baptized, confirmed, or become members. Each year, a number of parishioners attend to refresh their faith and support those new to the faith or to our community. This week's topic will be "They Recognized Him in the Breaking of the Bread: The Eucharist at the Heart of Our Common Life." To discover more, please visit: saintthomaschurch.org/rector/the-pilgrims-course

Saint Thomas Church Tours are available on Sundays after the 11 a.m. service. It is a great way to experience and learn about the church. If you are interested, please meet the Tour Guide on the south side of the Narthex near the "Tour Guide – Meet Here" sign.

The **Bookstore and Giftshop** is open Sunday following the 11 a.m. Mass until 3 p.m. Please access the shop via the Parish House entrance round the corner at 1 West 53rd Street. New in stock: Fr. Luigi Gioia books, "Saint Benedict's Wisdom", "Say it to God: In Search of Prayer: The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2018", "Touched by God: The way to contemplative prayer", and many books for Lent and Easter, devotional items, and beautiful gifts.

Weekly Bible Study on Fridays at 1 p.m. Fr. Schultz leads a series of sessions that will serve as a deep dive into the Gospel of John. Join us as we continue our exploration of the Book of Signs (John 1:18 through chapter 12). For more information, please contact Fr. Schultz at MSchultz@SaintThomasChurch.org.

Saint Thomas Choir School is accepting applications from boys currently in grades 2-5 for admission to the 2023-2024 academic year. The school exists to nurture and educate the approximately 30 boy choristers of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. Talented boys come from Michigan to Texas, and Massachusetts to Virginia, and even Manhattan. If you know a boy who loves to sing, encourage his family to contact Ruth Cobb, rcobb@choirschool.org.

Concerts at Saint Thomas welcomes the Choir of New College Oxford on tour with a 2-Concert event. On **Thursday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m.**, the choir presents a program featuring music of Howells, Elgar, and Bairstow. [Visit our website](#) to secure your in-person or livestream ticket, as this is a ticketed event.

And on **Saturday, April 1 at 3 p.m.** the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys joins forces with the Choir of New College Oxford for an afternoon of choral masterpieces. Tickets for this concert are free with a suggested donation of \$20 per ticket. [Reserve your in-person or livestream ticket](#) for this exciting choral event.

Children and Families: In Sunday School after the 9 a.m. Mass this week, we will continue our LENTEN JOURNEY and readers for Palm Sunday will practice their script with Ms. Lewis. Join us for our Palm Sunday Procession at 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. next **Sunday, April 2**. At 10 am there will be a HOLY WEEK focused Family Feast with our annual Palm Cross making workshop and 9 + Bible Study. On **Good Friday, April 7** all are welcome to join us for our *Way of the Cross: The Way of Love* liturgy and activities for children and their families, starting at 10:15 a.m. Throughout Holy week and Easter Day children will join their families for Mass. Parents of young children may access the nursery during these services. Please note there is no Sunday school on **April 16**. We resume with a child focused Easter celebration on **April 23** at the 9 a.m. Mass. **Sign up** for our weekly newsletter, with details of programs and activities for 2023: Childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org.

The Noble Singers, our children's parish choir for singers ages 5-12, under the Direction of Mrs. Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell, sings at the 9 a.m. Mass on Sundays during the program year. We welcome new singers at any time! No audition is necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of music. For more information, and to register your singer, contact RKellerman@SaintThomasChurch.org.

Easter Giving Opportunity: With Easter and the season of renewal comes our annual Easter Basket project for St. Ann's Episcopal Church and Safe Horizon's Shelter, which serves survivors of domestic abuse. There are a number of ways you can help! You can drop off Easter candy and small gifts for Easter Baskets in reception during regular business hours; and/or donate an Easter outfit using our online giving portal or by contacting Linda Morfi at lmorfi@saintthomaschurch.org or 212-757-7013 x416. The deadline for gifts is Palm Sunday. Baskets will be assembled and delivered during Holy Week, and we welcome your assistance with the fun job and filling the baskets and preparing them for the children!

Annual Appeal: Please make a pledge via the QR code below or email giving@saintthomaschurch.org. Every pledge makes a difference.

