

SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

in the CITY OF NEW YORK

The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, Rector

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.

Please switch off all cellular telephones. Unauthorized recordings and the taking of photographs during worship at Saint Thomas Church are prohibited.

To contact us, email **welcome@SaintThomasChurch.org**.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 22, 2024

SUNG EUCHARIST – 9 a.m. Sung by The Noble Singers

The Ordinary of the Mass

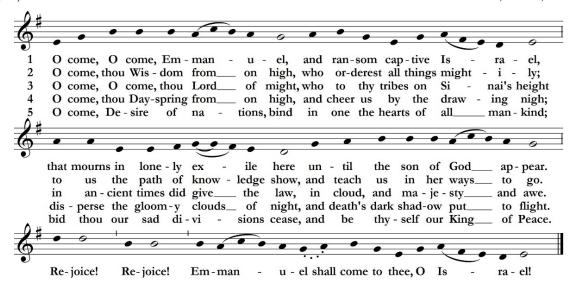
Missa Emmanuel

Maks Adach (b. 1993)

The People stand for the entry of the Ministers.

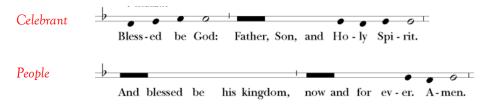
Opening Hymn

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL



O come, O come, 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).

The Penitential Order



The Celebrant welcomes the People. Then, the Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The People remain standing. Silence is kept.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Kyrie eleison



The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Silence is kept. The Celebrant says the Collect.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Lesson Micah 5:2-5a

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Magnificat VENI EMMANUEL

The Choir sings the refrain and all repeat.



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blest; The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit. Refrain

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever! *Refrain*

The People stand. The Choir sings the Alleluia and all repeat.



Choir I am the servant of the Lord. May his will for me be done.

The People repeat the Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel Luke 1:39-45

The Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

⚠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

People

Glo-ry to You, Lord Christ.

At the end The Gospel of the Lord.

People
Praise to You, Lord Christ.

The Homily Mo. Turner

The People stand.

The Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Celebrant Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.

People Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.

Celebrant Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved:

People O Lord God of hosts.

The candle is lit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

God of love, You sent Your Son, Jesus, to shine bright like the sun, lighting the way for all who walk in darkness. Let Your love shine like a light to all people, and may the light of Your love always shine in our hearts. Let Your love transform us and inspire us to love more deeply. **Amen**.

The Prayers of the People (Special Form)

The Leader says

As we pray to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we say with Mary: Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

People Holy is your name.

Your prophet of old foretold a day when a virgin would conceive and bear a son who would be called God-with-us. Help us to look forward to your deliverance and to seek the fullness of your kingdom. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

People Holy is your name.

Your angel declared to Mary that she was to be the mother of the Savior. Help every Christian person to be open to your word and obedient to your will. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

People Holy is your name.

Mary rejoiced with Elizabeth and sang your praise, 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.' Help us to live joyful lives that sing your praise. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

People Holy is your name.

Mary bore a son of David's line, a king whose reign would never end. Bless all the nations of the world with Christ's gift of peace. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

People Holy is your name.

The child Jesus grew in wisdom and stature in the home of Mary and Joseph.

Strengthen our homes and families, and keep under your protection all those whom we love. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

People Holy is your name.

At the foot of the cross of Christ stood his mother, and from the cross she received his lifeless body in her arms. Give comfort and healing to all who suffer and all who watch the suffering of those they love. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

People Holy is your name.

The apostle John saw a vision of a woman in heaven, robed with the sun.

Bring us with all those who have died in the faith of Christ to share the joy of heaven with Mary and all the saints.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

People Holy is your name.

Let us bring our own prayers to God in a moment of silence.

After the prayers, silence is kept, then the Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty and everlasting God, your handmaid Mary magnified your name and rejoiced in your saving love: trusting in that same love, we ask all these our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

The Peace

The Celebrant says

Look, the virgin is with child and shall bear a son, And shall name him Emmanuel, that is, God is with us.

Isaiah 7:14

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Greetings

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Anthem
Natalie Sleeth
(1930-1992)

Light one candle for hope, One bright candle for hope. He brings hope to everyone, He comes, he comes.

Light one candle for joy, One bright candle for joy. He brings joy to everyone, He comes, he comes. Light one candle for peace, One bright candle for peace. Every nation will find salvation In Bethlehem's baby boy.

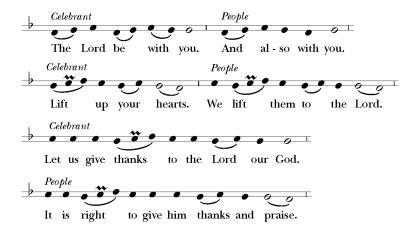
Light one candle for love, One bright candle for love. He brings love to everyone, He comes, he comes.



Please scan this QR code if you wish to give online from your mobile device or text Give to 855-938-2085.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

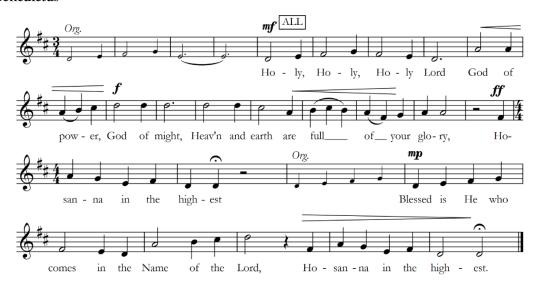


The Celebrant sings the Preface

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



The People remain standing or kneel. The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, St. Joseph her husband, St. John the Baptist, St. Thomas our Patron, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

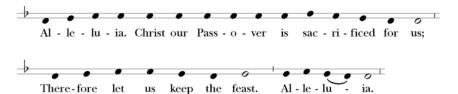
Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



Agnus Dei

People



The Invitation to Communion

The Celebrant says

Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

People

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

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.

Anthem

Basque Carol - arr. Richard Shephard (1949-2021)

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; All hail, said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady," Gloria!

"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee, thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady, Gloria!"

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, to me be as it pleaseth God, she said, my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name. Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say — Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

text trans. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

After Communion, silence is kept. The Celebrant says

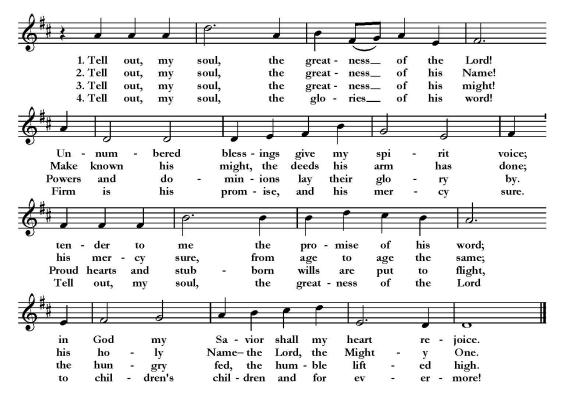
Let us pray.

The People stand.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn WOODLANDS



Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!, #438 from The Hymnal 1982 – Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926); based on The Song of Mary.

Music: Woodlands, Walter Greatorex (1877-1949).

The Blessing and Dismissal

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**.

Go in peace to prepare the way of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Living Room after the service.



Saint Thomas gives thanks for those who have given endowed funds to provide flowers to beautify the church in perpetuity. This week, we give thanks for the memory of *Margaret Crane Hurlbut*, and pray for the repose of her soul.

May the glory of the LORD endure for ever, may the LORD rejoice in his works. (Psalm 104:31)

CHRISTMAS AT SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

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Tuesday, December 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

4 p.m.

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Music of Dirksen, Farrington, Hampton, Leighton, Lloyd, Pott, Rutter, and Sweelinck

5:30 p.m.

VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS (Said at the High Altar)

10 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR ORGAN

10:30 p.m.

PROCESSION AND SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY (MIDNIGHT MASS) sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys with Saint Thomas Baroque Orchestra Music of Charpentier, Filsell, Hampton, Sweelinck, and Pott Sermon by The Rector

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Wednesday, December 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

9 a.m. SAID EUCHARIST at the High Altar

11 a.m.

PROCESSION AND SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Music of Farrington, Filsell, Pott, and Leighton Sermon by Fr. Gioia

UPCOMING SERVICES

The Church is open for Private Prayer and Visits to the Christmas Crèche Thursday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Shrine Prayers (Intercessions)

Thursday - Saturday at 12 p.m. Live audio stream and then on-demand.

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

The Daily Eucharist

Thursday - Saturday at 12:05 p.m. Live audio stream and then on-demand.

Thursday: Saint Stephen Friday: Saint John Saturday: Holy Innocents

Confessions, Spiritual Advice, and Healing Ministry

Saturday, December 28, 11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Confessor: The Rector

Sunday, December 29, 2024

7:45 a.m. Said Mass

9:00 a.m. Sung Mass

11:00 a.m. Solemn Eucharist sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir Sermon by Mo. Turner

ANNUAL APPEAL



We launched our 2025 Annual Appeal: Weaving a Rich Tapestry on October the 6th, which marked the close of our Bicentennial year. In his sermon, Father Turner preached: Remembrance; thanksgiving; new beginnings: It's what we have done this past year, and prepares us for the future. Remember – give thanks – look forward: It is the vision of Saint Thomas Church, to be a community of love and praise, and an oasis of prayer in the middle of New York, actively weaving a tapestry of divine proportions.

As we look ahead to the next century, we need your help. Make a pledge today!



PARISH NOTICES

The Book & Gift Store will be open in the Narthex today after the 11 a.m. service and after 4 p.m. Nine Lessons & Carols, and Christmas Eve December 24 from 12 p.m. until after the 4 p.m. Nine Lessons and Carols. Stop by and view our collection of Calendars, Mugs, Ornaments, Christmas cards, CDs, and books for Advent & Christmas.

Children and Family Ministries: Sunday School (3-9) and Faith Alive (10-14+) are on break until Sunday, January 5th. The Nursery continues to be available for the sole use of babies and toddlers with their parents/caregivers, from 9 am – 1 pm on Sundays in the Parish House, 3rd Floor. To receive our weekly newsletter or register your interest in attending any of our December events please contact Childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org.

The Noble Singers, our parish children's choir for singers ages 5-14+, under the direction of Mrs. Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell, is now on Christmas Break. The choir will continue to accept new choristers in the new year and weekly rehearsals will resume on January 9, 2025. We rehearse on Thursdays and Fridays from 4:15-5:15pm with choristers selecting one rehearsal to attend each week. The choir sings weekly at the 9am Sung Eucharist on Sundays during the program year. No audition is necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of music. For more information, and to register your singer, contact RKellerman@SaintThomasChurch.org.

Saint Thomas Church Tours are available on Sundays after the 11am 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.

Contemplative Prayer takes place on Fridays at 3pm in the Resurrection Chapel. You are welcome to join this sacred time of silent prayer and quiet praise in the presence of God. The service includes Taize Songs, Centering Prayer, and Lectio-Divina, and is led by Mo. Prisca Lee-Pae. For more information, please contact Mo. Lee-Pae at Pleepae@saintthomaschurch.org. Note: We will not meet on December 27.

You are cordially invited to the **Holy Eucharist in** the **Korean language** every second Sunday of the month at 1:30pm. It is preceded by brunch at 12:45pm in the Dining Room of the Parish House.

매달 둘째 주일 오후1:30에 본당에서 올리는 한국어 감사 성찬례에 여러분을 초대합니다. 오후12:45에 2층 식당에서 브런치를 함께 나누니 조금 일찍 오셔서 친교도 나누세요.

Friday Zoom Bible Study—Christ and Ekklesia: John's Wondrous Vision of Light. Led by Fr. Schultz Fridays at 1pm via Zoom. We have embarked on the Book of the Glory (John 13-21) in which we will witness Jesus' Passion and Resurrection. Bring your Bible, your questions, and yourself as, together, we deepen our relationship with God through scripture. Contact Fr. Schultz with any questions and for the Zoom link: Mschultz@saintthomaschurch.org. Note: We are on hiatus until January 10.

Saint Thomas Choir School exists to nurture and educate the boy choristers of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. Talented students in grades 3-8 come from the greater New York City area and beyond to sing, study, play, perform, and live together at the school. If you know a boy who loves to sing, encourage his family to contact Margaret White: Mwhite@choirschool.org.

The Saint Thomas Theological Education Program, rooted in Scripture, tradition, and spirituality, is for those who seek a deeper understanding of faith, worship and prayer. Lecturers are The Rev. Dr. Luigi Gioia, Theologian in Residence, and internationally renowned guest speakers committed to making theology accessible to non-specialists. Classes are held Sundays at 10am on the 5th Floor of the Parish House and are streamed online. For more info, contact Fr. Luigi Gioia: Lgioia@saintthomaschurch.org. Note: We are on hiatus until February 2.

PILGRIMS' COURSE 2025



It's not the destination, but the journey that matters

The Pilgrims' Course 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 are open to all and, each year, a number of parishioners attend to refresh their faith and support those who are new to the faith or to our community.

The first class will commence on Tuesday, January 14, 2025. A simple hot meal is available at 6:30pm, and the class runs from 7-8pm. Classes are hybrid, so if you cannot be present in-person, you can join us on-line.

To register please scan this code:



NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR
The Saint Thomas Community Outreach Program



On October 26th we launched Neighbor to Neighbor, a service program which provides coffee, tea, croissants, and fresh fruit to community members in need. The program serves guests between 9am and 10am every Saturday, with volunteers arriving at the cloisters of the church on 53rd Street around 8:30am. Please note there is a signup form for interested volunteers to ensure we do not have too many or too few present. If you are interested in getting involved, please register to the mailing list for this group using the QR code below.



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
The Reverend Preston Gonzalez-Grissom
Assistant Priest for Children and Family Ministry

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 email: admissions@choirschool.org
www.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 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