

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 14, 2025 AT 4 P.M.
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE)

FESTAL EVENSONG

SUNG BY THE SAINT THOMAS CHOIR OF MEN AND BOYS



STC
200

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 Dr. Alison J. Turner

Associate for Children and 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

Associate Priest for Children and Family Ministry

STAFF

Richard Tanner, *Organist & 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*

SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

The Rev. Dr. Alison J. Turner, *Director of Transition*

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*

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

The Reverend Mark Brown, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Canon Victor Conrado, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Canon Anne Mallonee, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend David F. Mc Neeley, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Stephen Morris, *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

Kenneth Koen

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.



PRELUDE

Ecce Advenit Dominator Dominus
from 6 Antiennes pour le Temps de Noël, Op.48

Marcel Dupré
(1886-1971)

The People stand at the entry of the Choir and Ministers.

HYMN

VENI VENI EMMANUEL

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran-som cap-tive Is - ra - el,
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or-derest all things might - i - ly;
3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Si - nai's height
4 O come, thou Day-spring from on high, and cheer us by the draw - ing night;
5 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man - kind;
that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the son of God ap - pear.
to us the path of know - ledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
in an - cient times did give the law, in cloud, and ma - je - sty and awe.
dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and death's dark shad-ow put to flight.
bid thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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).

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Andrew Millington
(b. 1952)

The Officiant and Choir sing the opening responses.

- V. O Lord, open thou our lips.
R. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
- V. O God, make speed to save us.
R. O Lord, make haste to help us.
- V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
- V. Praise ye the Lord.
R. The Lord's Name be praised.

The People sit.

WELCOME



PSALM 12

Sung by the Choir

Anglican Chant (Charles Henry Wilton)

SALVUM ME FAC

HELP me, Lord, for there is not one godly man left :
for the faithful are minished from among the children of men.
They talk of vanity every one with his neighbour :
they do but flatter with their lips, and dissemble in their double heart.
The Lord shall root out all deceitful lips : and the tongue that speaketh proud things;
Which have said, With our tongue will we prevail :
we are they that ought to speak, who is lord over us?
Now for the comfortless trouble's sake of the needy :
and because of the deep sighing of the poor,
I will up, saith the Lord :
and will help every one from him that swelleth against him, and will set him at rest.
The words of the Lord are pure words :
even as the silver, which from the earth is tried, and purified seven times in the fire.
Thou shalt keep them, O Lord : thou shalt preserve him from this generation for ever.
The ungodly walk on every side : when they are exalted, the children of men are put to rebuke.
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.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 5:8-30

The People stand for the Office Hymn and Magnificat.



OFFICE HYMN

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
3 When this old world drew on toward night,
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,

1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
5 re - deem us for c - ter - nal day;
6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,

1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be

1 we pray you hear us when we call.
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
6 from age to age c - ter - nal - ly.

Creator of the stars of night, #60 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.
Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4;

MAGNIFICAT IN E-FLAT

The Second Service

Charles Wood
(1866-1926)

MY SOUL doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,



as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.
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 People sit.

SECOND LESSON

John 5:31-40

The People stand for the Nunc dimittis and the Creed.

NUNC DIMITTIS IN E-FLAT

The Second Service

Charles Wood

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation;
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
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 APOSTLES' CREED

I BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.



THE PRAYERS

Sung by the Choir

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

The People kneel.

Let us pray.

R. Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*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. Amen.*

V. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

R. And grant us thy salvation.

V. O Lord, save the State.

R. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

V. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

R. And make thy chosen people joyful.

V. O Lord, save thy people.

R. And bless thine inheritance.

V. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

R. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

V. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

R. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.*

THE COLLECT FOR ADVENT SUNDAY

ALmighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, 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 COLLECT FOR PEACE

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed:
Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give,
that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee,
we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The People sit.



ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Sung by the Choir

*Edward Woodall Naylor
(1967-1934)*

VOX dicentis: Clama: et dixi: Quid clamabo?
Omnis caro foenum,
et omnis gloria eius quasi flos agri.
Vere foenum est populus.
Exsiccaturum est foenum, et cecidit flos:
verbum autem Domini nostri manet in aeternum.

Super montem excelsum ascende tu, qui evangelizas Sion:
exalta in fortitudine vocem tuam, qui evangelizas Jerusalem:
exalta, noli timere.
Dic civitatibus Judae: Ecce Deus vester.

Ecce Dominus Deus in fortitudine veniet,
et brachium eius dominabitur:
ecce merces eius cum eo,
et opus illius coram illo.

Sicut pastor gregem suum pascet,
in brachio suo congregabit agnos,
et in sinu suo levabit,
foetas ipse portabit.

*A voice of one saying, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"
All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is as the flower of the field.
Truly the people is grass.
The grass has withered, and the flower has fallen;
but the word of our Lord stands forever.*

*Get you up a high mountain, Zion teller of good news;
lift up your voice in strength, Jerusalem teller of good news:
lift it up, fear not;
Say unto the cities of Judah: "Behold your God!"*

*Behold, the Lord God shall come with might,
and His arm shall rule;
Behold, His reward is with Him,
and His work before Him.*

*He shall feed His flock like a shepherd,
and shall gather the lambs in His arm,
and lift them to his bosom
and himself carry those that are with young.*

Isaiah 40:5-11



SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Alison J. Turner



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

HYMN

VENI REDEMPTOR GENTIUM

1 Re - deem - er of the na - tions, come;
2 From hu - man will you do not spring,
3 You came forth from the e - ter - nal God,
4 With God the Fa - ther you are one,
5 Your cra - dle shines with glo - ry's light;
6 All praise, O un - be - got - ten God,

1 re - veal your - self in vir - gin birth,
2 but from the Spi - rit of our God;
3 and you re - turned to that same source.
4 and one with us in hu - man flesh.
5 its splen - dor pierc - es all our gloom.
6 all praise to you, e - ter - nal Word,

1 the birth which a - ges all a - dore,
2 O Word of God, come; take our flesh
3 You suf - fered death and har - rowed hell,
4 Oh, fill our weak and dy - ing frame
5 Our faith re - flects those ra - diant beams;
6 all praise, life - giv - ing Spi - rit, praise,

1 a won - drous birth, be - fit - ting God.
2 and grow as child in Ma - ry's womb.
3 and reigned once more from God's high throne.
4 with god - ly strength which nev - er fails.
5 no night shall o - ver - come it now.
6 all glo - ry to our God Tri - une.



THE BLESSING

The Rector says

CHRIST the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, and scatter the darkness from before your path; and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE ADVENT PROSE

The People join in singing the antiphon after each verse.

Antiphon



BE not wroth very sore, O Lord,
neither remember iniquity forever:
thy holy cities are a wilderness,
Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:
our holy and our beautiful house,
where our fathers praised thee. *Antiphon*

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,
and we all do fade as a leaf:
and our iniquities, like the wind,
have taken us away:
thou hast hid thy face from us:
and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. *Antiphon*

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,
and my servant whom I have chosen:
that ye may know me and believe me:
I, even I, am the Lord,
and beside me there is no Saviour:
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. *Antiphon*

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people,
my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud
thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee:
For I am the Lord thy God,
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer. *Antiphon*



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 Mrs. Robert L. Dodge, Dr. Lewis Rutherford Morris, Harold V. Smith, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, and Parsons Trotter and pray for the repose of their souls.

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

WORSHIP & RECITALS THIS WEEK

* indicates livestreamed.

Today

5:15 p.m. Organ Recital

LA NATIVITÉ DU SEIGNEUR– Olivier Messiaen
(Nine Meditations on the Birth of Our Lord)

Richard Tanner, organ The Nancy B. and John B.
Hoffmann Organist and Director of Music

Monday 15th December – Friday 19th December

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers*

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist*

Wednesday 17th – O Sapientia

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong*

Followed by a short, said Mass.

Sung by the Choir of Men and Boys and the Choir of St.
Paul's, Harvard Square, Cambridge, MA.

Music by Millington, Moore, and MacMillan.

Thursday 18th

5:30 p.m. CONCERT: CHRISTMAS ON FIFTH*

Sung by the Choristers of the Choir of Men and Boys.

Friday 19th

3 p.m. Contemplative Prayer

Saturday 20th

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

Confessor: The Rector

12 p.m. CONCERT: CHRISTMAS ON FIFTH

Sung by the Choristers of the Choir of Men and Boys.

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers*

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist*

Next Sunday: December 21st

The Fourth Sunday of Advent – O Oriens

7:45 a.m. Said Mass

9 a.m. Sung Mass

Sung by the Noble Singers

followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish House

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist*

Sung by the Choir of Men and Boys

followed by Coffee Hour at the back of the Lady Chapel

Sermon by The Rector

4 p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*

Sung by the Choir of Men and Boys

Music by Ledger, Poston, Sheils, Flecha, Moore,

K. Briggs, Owens, Tanner, Darke, Rutter, Millington, and
Wilberg.

Parish Notices

Children and Family Ministries: 10am Children's Formation is available for children Pre-K - High School from 10-10:45am following the 9am Mass. The Children's area (near the icon of Saint Thomas) is available for families during all services, with quiet activities for young children. The Nursery also continues to be available for the sole use of babies and toddlers with their parents/caregivers, from 9am-1pm on Sundays in the Parish House, 3rd floor. To receive more information, contact childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org.

The Noble Singers, our children's parish choir for singers (ages 5-14+) sing in the 9am Mass. Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 4:15-5:15pm, and new singers are always welcome. No audition is necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of music! For more information, and to register your singer, contact JLane@saintthomaschurch.org.

Saint Thomas Choir School is home to the boy choristers of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. Since September 2025, the Choir School (grades 4-8) has partnered with Professional Children's School for the boys' academic education, while they continue to live and train at STCS in a close-knit, music-centered environment. They sing five weekly services at Saint Thomas Church and perform in the Concerts at Saint Thomas series. If you know a boy who loves to sing and may thrive in this unique setting, please contact Margaret White at mwhite@choirschool.org.

Concerts at Saint Thomas the Boys of the Saint Thomas Choir in their annual winter concert entitled *Christmas on Fifth* featuring traditional carols and contemporary Christmas favorites. Ring in the festive season with the boy choristers on December 18 at 5:30pm or December 20 at noon. Tickets for in person and livestream are available now at www.saintthomaschurch.org/music/concerts

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 오후 1:30에 본당에서 올리는 한국어 감사 성찬례에 여러분을 초대합니다. 오후 12:45에 2층 식당에서 브런치를 함께 나누니 조금 일찍 오셔서 친교도 나누세요. 아래 주소로 등록하시면 월요일 아침묵상글을 이메일로 받아볼 수 있습니다. <https://mailchi.mp/saintthomaschurch/korean>

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 Taizé 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.

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.

Explore the Beauty and History of Saint Thomas Church each Sunday following the 11am service with a guided tour. These tours offer a unique opportunity to delve into the rich history, sacred art, and exquisite architectural details of our landmark building. To take part, please meet the Tour Guide at the "Tour Guide - Meet Here" sign on the south side of the Narthex. All are warmly welcome.

Friday Bible Study occurs at 1pm on Zoom, currently focusing on the book of Ecclesiastes. To receive the zoom link, contact Fr. Brown at mbrown@saintthomaschurch.org

The Angelus Tree. We invite you to donate gifts for disadvantaged children and children who will spend Christmas Day in a municipal shelter this year. We also give gifts to children who are with their mothers in a shelter for those who are escaping domestic violence. Simply take a gift tag from the tree and bring your gift unwrapped before Christmas. If you prefer to make a donation and for us to shop for the gift, use the QR code:



Christmas Candles in Memory of Loved Ones: During Christmastide, the time between Christmas Day and New Year's Day, we will light an eight-day candle for your loved one(s), and place it before the Crèche of Saint Thomas Church. Each candle will be affixed with the name(s) you submit. The suggested donation for each eight-day candle is \$25. All of these names will be added to the prayer list during Christmastide.



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 per name. 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. You can also email your list to giving@saintthomaschurch.org. We cannot guarantee that any names received after December 8 will appear in print, but will be printed and placed on the altar for the Christmas services. The deadline is Monday, December 8 for names printed in the leaflets.



The Saint Thomas Community Outreach Program **Neighbor to Neighbor** provides coffee, tea, water, muffins, fresh fruit, yogurt and hot oatmeal to neighbors in need. The program serves guests between 9-10am every Saturday, with volunteers arriving at the Parish House on 53rd Street around 8:15am. Please note that there is a signup form for interested volunteers. If you are interested in knowing more about the program and getting involved, please register to be on the mailing list for this group using the QR code:



THE PILGRIMS' COURSE 2026

The Christian Faith for Newcomers

The **Pilgrims' Course** offers a warm and inviting introduction to the Christian faith and to how Saint Thomas lives out the Gospel in the Episcopal tradition through worship, love, and service to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Who is it for?

Designed especially *for those new to Saint Thomas*, this fifteen-week course pairs thoughtful talks with shared reflection and the chance to experience community over a light meal.

When?

Tuesdays, January to May
Beginning January 13, 2026
6:30 to 8:00 pm
In Person Only

Where?

Saint Thomas Church • Parish House, 1 W 53rd Street

What to Expect?

- A warm and friendly welcome
- Meaningful conversation and shared learning
- Clear, accessible introductions to Christian belief and practice

Register today and receive the full schedule and details!



