

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 21, 2025 AT 11 A.M.
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SOLEMN EUCHARIST
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

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Karen Duncan

Christopher M. Haley, *Clerk*

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Gregory Zaffiro, *Warden*

Samuel Lee

John G. Oghia

Benita Potters

Inge Reist

Karl C. Saunders, *Treasurer*

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



THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS

Missa Bel' amfitrit' altera

Orlande de Lassus
(c. 1532-1594)

PRELUDE

Kyrie, Gott Vater in Ewigkeit, BWV 669

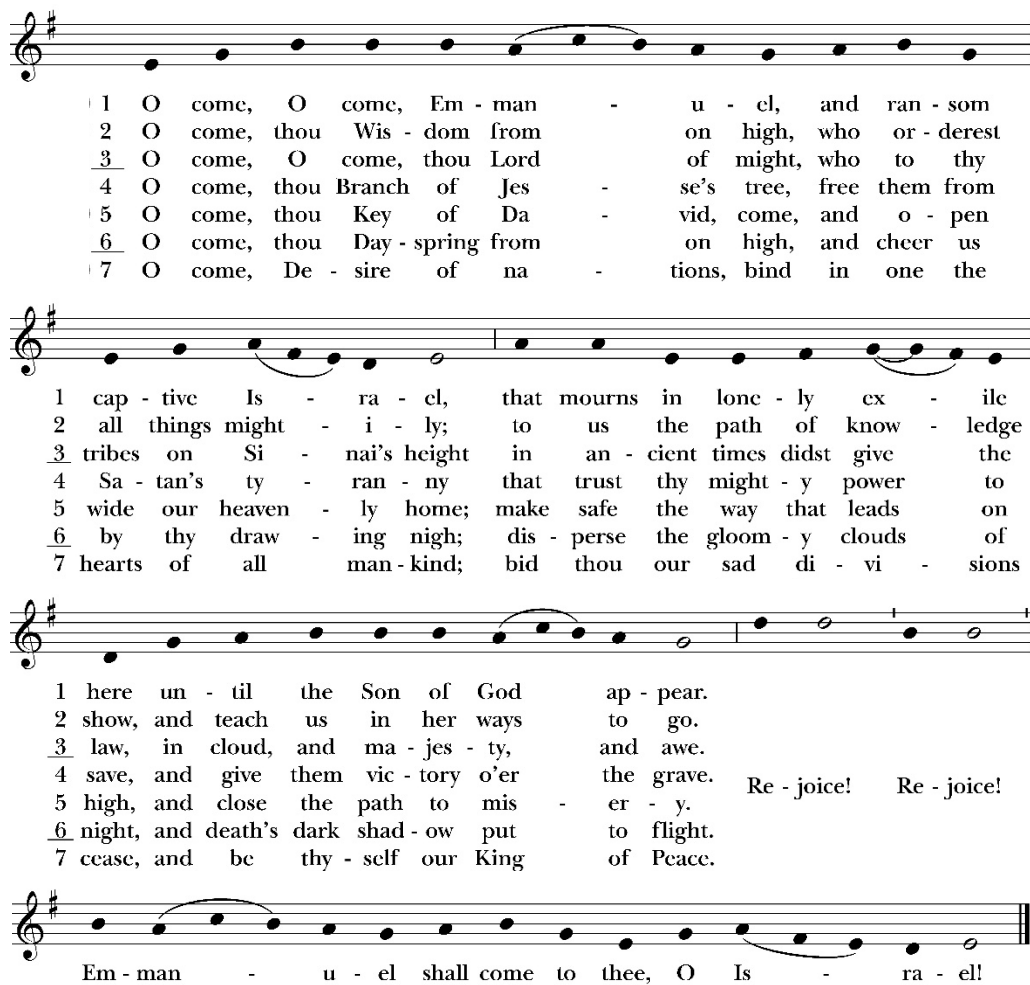
Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

THE GREETINGS

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
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the

1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

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).



THE PENITENTIAL ORDER

Celebrant



THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

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

The People sit.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-16

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

PSALM 80:1-7

Anglican Chant (*Samuel Sebastian Wesley*)

QUI REGIS ISRAEL

HEAR, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep :
shew thyself also, thou that sittest upon the cherubims.
Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasses : stir up thy strength, and come, and help us.
Turn us again, O God : shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.
O Lord God of hosts : how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?
Thou feedest them with the bread of tears : and givest them plenteousness of tears to drink.
Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours : and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
Turn us again, thou God of hosts : shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.
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 1:1-7

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

The People stand.



HYMN

BESANÇON CAROL

1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall
5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to

1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the
2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may
3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has
4. brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -
5. earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the word, the Lord is

1. ta - ble. Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.
2. flour - ish. Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.
3. cho - sen. Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.
4. geth - er. Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.
5. com - ing. Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.

People, look East, #724 from *Wonder Love and Praise* — Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965).
Music: *Besançon Carol*, harm. John L. Hooker (b. 1944).

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor *People*

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son:
and they shall call his name Emmanuel.

People

Al - le - lu - ia.



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.



After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

The Rector

A period of silent reflection may follow the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED

Said by all, standing. It is customary to bow at the underlined words.

I BELIEVE in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.



And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (SPECIAL FORM)

The People remain standing for the prayers. The Intercessor says

WATCHFUL at all times,
let us pray for strength to stand with confidence
before our Maker and Redeemer.

This response is made to each petition

let us pray to the Lord:

People **Lord, have mercy.**

At the end, the Intercessor says

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray
to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father:

Silence is kept. The Celebrant says

O LORD, raise up, we pray thee, thy power, and come among us,
and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness,
we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us,
thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us;
through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord,
to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be honor and glory,
world without end. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Celebrant says

UNTO us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

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

The People offer one another a sign of peace.

The Celebrant says the Offertory Sentence, and the People sit.



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

MOTET AT THE OFFERTORY

Sung by the Choir

*Benedict Tanner
(b. 2006)*

I SYNG of a mayden
That is makeless;
King of all kings
To her Sone she ches.

He cam also stille
There his moder was
As dew in Aprylle
That falleth on the grass;

He cam also styлле
To his modres bow
As dew in Aprylle
That falleth on the flowr;

He came also stille
There his moder lay
As dew in Aprylle
That falleth on the spray.

Moder and mayden
Was never none but she;
Wel may such a lady
Godes moder be.

Anonymous



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



HYMN

ES IST EIN ROS

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,
Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as scers of old have sung.
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.
dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;
It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the
To show God's love a - right, she bore to
true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and
cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.
death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming, #81 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: St. 1-2 German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859); tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. *Hymnal 1940*. St. 3, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621).



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; he is the one foretold by all the prophets, whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling. John the Baptist was his herald and made him known when at last he came. In his love Christ fills us with joy as we prepare to celebrate his birth, so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer, our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

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

SANCTUS, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra Gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

The People kneel or stand.

*Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory,
Glory be to Thee, O Lord most High.*

*Blessed is he that cometh
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

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.

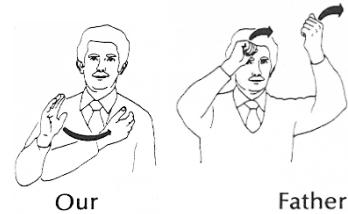
The People respond **AMEN.**



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo
하늘에 계신 우리 아버지
Notre Père qui es aux cieux
Πατερ ημων ο εν τοις ουρανοις
Pai nosso, que estais nos Céus,
Отче наш, що єси на небесах
أَبَانَا الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاءَاتِ،

Vater unser, der du bist im Himmel
Pater noster, qui es in caelis
我們在天上的父
Baba Yetu uliye mbinguni
Padre nostro, che sei nei cieli
天におられる私たちの父よ
हे हमारे स्वर्गबासी पिता,



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

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

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

People There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

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.

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

The People remain kneeling until the bell rings.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL 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.

MIDDLE VOLUNTARY

How Fair and How Pleasant Art Thou from
Vêpres du commun des fêtes de la Sainte Vierge, Op.18

Marcel Dupré
(1886-1971)

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

A tender shoot

Kerensa Briggs
(b. 1991)

ATENDER shoot hath started
Up from a root of grace,
As ancient seers imparted,
From Jesse's holy race,
It blooms without a blight,
Blooms in the cold bleak winter,
Turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us
From Jesse's root should spring;
The Virgin Mary brought us
The branch of which we sing;
Our God of endless might
Gave her this child to save us,
Thus turning darkness into light.

*German 15th Century, versified by Otto Goldschmidt (1829–1907)
Trans. William Bartholomew (1793–1867)*



After Communion, silence is kept for a while.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People kneel

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 BLESSING

The Celebrant 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.

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HYMN

ANTIOCH

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - cous - ness, and
heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
3 far as the curse is found, far
4 and won - ders of his love, and
sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
heaven and na - ture sing,
peat the sound - ing joy,
as the curse is found,
won - ders of his love,

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).



STC
200

God's Love at the Heart of New York

THE DISMISSAL

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

VOLUNTARY

Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671

Johann Sebastian Bach

Please join us for a special Coffee Hour after the service
at the back of the Lady Chapel and the Nave
to bid farewell to Nicolas Haigh, Maks Adach,
and Margaret Carpenter Haigh

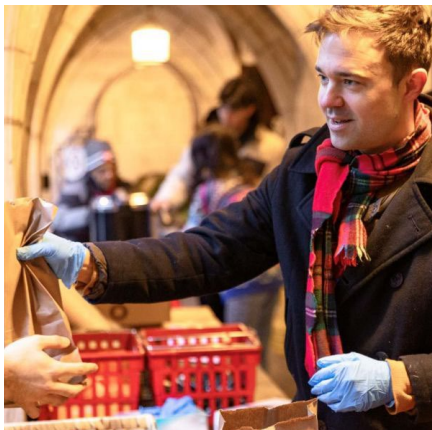


Saint Thomas gives thanks for those who have given endowed funds to provide flowers to beautify the church in perpetuity. This week, we give thanks for the memory of Mrs. Robert L. Dodge, Dr. Lewis Rutherford Morris, Harold V. Smith, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, and Parsons Trotter, and pray for the repose of their souls.

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

Neighbor To Neighbor

The Saint Thomas Community Outreach Program



The Saint Thomas Social Outreach program **Neighbor to Neighbor** 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 knowing more about the program and getting involved, **please register to the mailing list for this group using the QR code:**





WORSHIP & RECITALS THIS WEEK

* indicates livestreamed.

Today

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.*

Monday 22nd December - O Rex Gentium

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers*

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist*

Tuesday, 23rd December - O Emmanuel

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers*

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist*

Wednesday 24th - Christmas Eve

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers*

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist*

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.*

5:45 p.m. Said Vigil Mass of Christmas

at the High Altar

Homily by the Vicar

10 p.m. Christmas Music for Organ*

Nicolas Haigh and Maks Adach, organ

10:30 p.m. Procession and Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity*

Sung by the Choir of Men and Boys

*Music by Mozart, Ledger, Scheidt, Hampton, Hancock,
Darke, and Rose.*

Sermon by the Rector

Thursday 25th - Christmas Day

9 a.m. Said Mass at the High Altar

Homily by Fr. Gonzales-Grisson

11:00 a.m. Procession and Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity*

Sung by the Choir of Men and Boys

Music by Dove, Sweelinck, Scheidt, Hancock, and Wilberg.

Sermon by Fr. Gioia

Friday 26th - St. Stephen

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers*

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist*

Saturday 27th - St. John the Evangelist

11-11:45 a.m. Confessions, Spiritual Advice,

Ministry of Healing in the Lady Chapel

Confessor: Mo. Turner

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers*

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist*

Next Sunday: December 28th

The First Sunday of Christmas:

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

7:45 a.m. Said Mass

9 a.m. Said Mass

followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish House

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist*

Sung by the Saint Thomas Consort

followed by Coffee Hour at the back of the Lady Chapel

Sermon by Mo. Turner

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!



