# TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 30, 2022

Holy Eucharist, 10:30am *Enriching Our Worship* 1

Proper 26



St. Thomas Episcopal Church 231 Sunset Avenue Sunnyvale, Ca. 94086

408-736-4155 www.stthomas-svale.org

# TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 30, 2022

Holy Eucharist 10:30am

Enriching Our Worship 1

#### Proper 26

We are so happy you are here today, in-person and online.

For those of you coming to church in-person, please follow these guidelines to keep everyone safe during this pandemic:

INDOOR - Masking is now optional at church services.

For those who have vulnerable health issues, our 10:30am services always offer an option to worship from the safety of home. Please stay home if you feel sick.

When the priest celebrates communion, she will always thoroughly wash her hands. She will be unmasked while celebrating communion. The bread and wine will be covered with a linen/pall except during the epiclesis. She will remask to distribute communion, since she will come closer than six feet and want to make everyone as comfortable receiving.

Thank you for your continued patience as we try to provide the greatest level of safety for all of us!

OUTDOOR - Please be aware of those around you who may be vulnerable and try to maintain a distance. Our coffee hour will be on the Alpha-Omega patio.

For those attending remotely, you may connect in either of two ways:

1. by computer or smartphone (video and audio):

You may access our ZOOM meeting on the following link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82690025101

2. by telephone (audio only):

Dial +1 669 900 9128 Meeting ID: 826 9002 5101

When prompted for a participant number, touch the pound key (#). Please follow the usual procedures for muting and unmuting (\*6) and raising a hand (\*9).

Note: For the sake of audio clarity, your mic will be muted on entry.

Thank you for joining us, and for observing our protocols.

## Benjamin Belew, keyboard [Live]

#### **Opening Hymn**

Wonder, Love, and Praise #782

# Gracious Spirit, Give Thy Servants [Live]

Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom attendees please stay muted.



- 1. Gra cious Spir-it, give\_\_ your ser-vants joy to set\_\_\_ sin's
- 2. Word made flesh who gave up glo-ry to be -come our
- 3. Lov ing God, who birthed cre-a-tion from the noth ing -
- 4. Tri une God, e ter nal Be ing, nev er end ing,



cap - tives free, great\_high priest, ness\_\_ of space, un - be - gun, hope to heal the bro - ken - heart-ed, tak - ing on our hu - man na - ture kin - dling life where all \_\_ was emp - ty, bound-less grace and per - fect jus - tice,



peace to share\_love's li - ber- ty. Through us bring your balm\_\_of to re - deem\_\_ the last\_ and least, let your cour-age and \_ comturn—ing cha - os in - to grace when we feel con-fused\_ and right-eous and \_\_ for - giv - ing One: so en - fold us in \_\_ your



glad-ness to the wound-ed and op-pressed: help\_\_ us claim and pas- sion shape and guide\_ our min - is - tries: as\_\_\_ our Sav-ior fruit-less, dawn up - on\_\_ our rest - less night; give\_\_ us faith's immer- cy that our wills\_\_ and yours u - nite; through\_ us may the



show\_\_ God's fa - vor and\_\_ our Shep-herd ag - in - a - tion, world\_\_ be - hold you, as\_\_\_ a peo - ple called and blessed. lead\_\_ us to\_\_ the truth that frees. hope's\_\_ re - new - ing, love's de - light. find\_\_ your love, your truth, your light.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); © 1997 Hope Publishing Co.

Music: Abbot's Leigh, Cyril Vincent Taylor (b. 1907);

© 1942. Renewal 1970 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

You must contact Hope Publishing Co. to reproduce this selection.

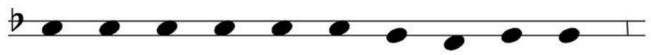
#### **Greeting and Collect for Purity**

Celebrant:



Bless-ed be the one, ho - ly and liv - ing God.

#### People:



Glo-ry to God for ev-er and ev-er.

#### Celebrant:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known

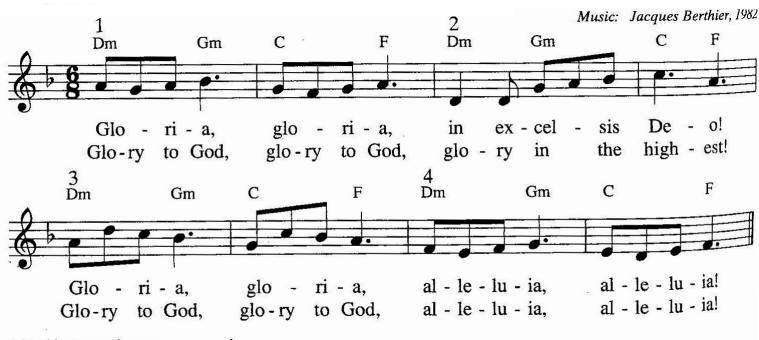
and from you no se - crets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our

hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly

love you and worthily magnify your ho - ly Name,

Through Christ our Lord. A - men.

Gloria (Live) Berthier Please join in singing the Gloria; Zoom participants, please stay muted.



This Gloria may be sung as a round

#### Collect for the Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 26

-b------

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### The First Lesson: Isaiah 1:10-18

Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom!

Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the LORD;

I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts;

I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more;

bringing offerings is futile;

incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation— I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.

Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates;

they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them.

When you stretch out your hands,

I will hide my eyes from you;

even though you make many prayers,

I will not listen;

your hands are full of blood.

Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes;

cease to do evil,

learn to do good;

seek justice,

rescue the oppressed,

defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

Come now, let us argue it out, says the LORD:

though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow;

though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

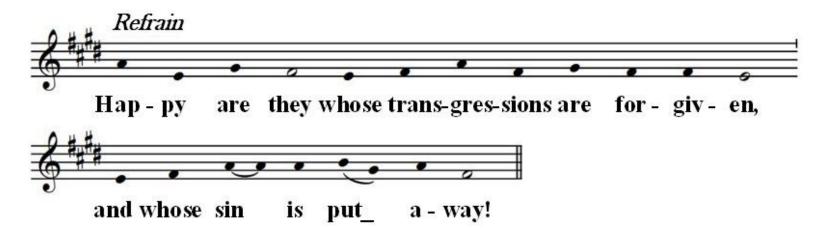
Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 32:1-8 [*Live*]

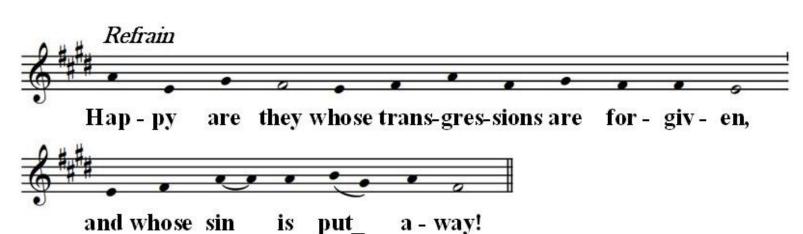
The cantor will lead the psalm.

All may join in singing the refrain. Zoom participants, please stay muted



Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \* and whose sin is put away!

Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, \* and in whose spirit there is no guile! *Refrain* 



While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \* because of my groaning all day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \* my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

Refrain (as above)

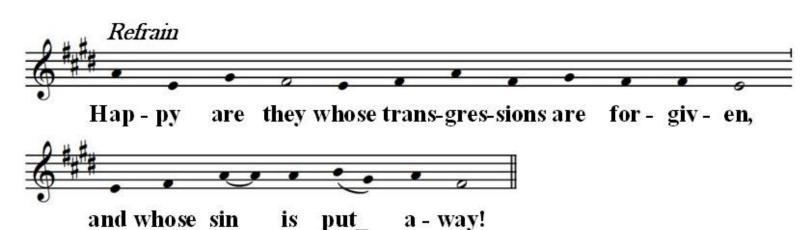
Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \* and did not conceal my guilt.

I said," I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." \*
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*

when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \* you surround me with shouts of deliverance. *Refrain* 



### The Epistle: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing. Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and

faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring.

To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

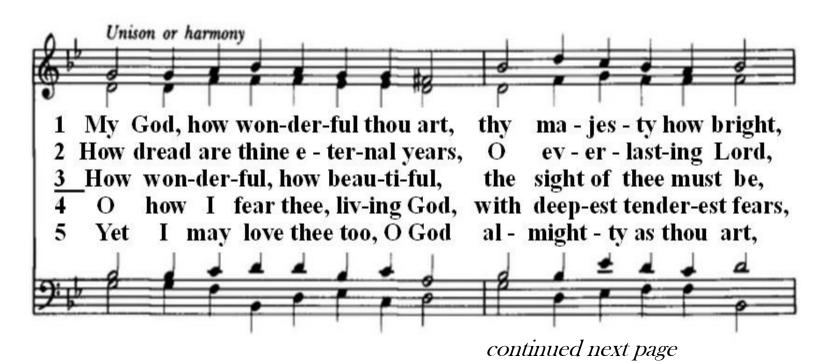
People: Thanks be to God

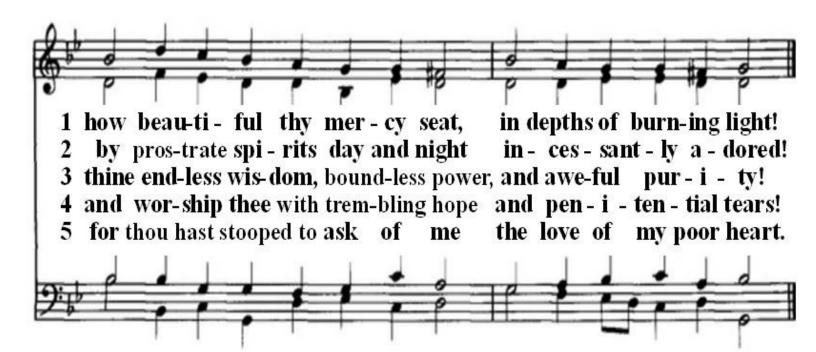
#### **Gradual Hymn**

Hymnal #643

My God, How Wonderful Thou Art [Live]

Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom attendees please stay muted.





Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863)

Music: Windsor, melody William Damon (1540?-1591?), alt.; harm. Booke of Musicke, 1591

CM

The Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Luke

**People:** Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much."

Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord **People: Praise to you Lord Christ** 

#### The Sermon

Abby O'Connell, Senior Warden

After the sermon there will be a time of silence for reflection.

#### The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

And the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **Prayers of the People**

The Episcopal Network for Stewardship

Celebrant: Recognizing that our gifts are miracles that enable our

ministry, serve our neighbors, and strengthen our

community, we gather to offer our intentions, petitions,

and thanksgivings to God.

Leader: I ask your prayers for the Church, the inspiration and

inheritance of our gifts of wealth, works, and wisdom.

Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Lucinda, our Bishop, and

all other ministers in the Church.

silence

When we give out of our abundance,

**People:** There is always more than enough.

Leader: I ask your prayers for the world, your greatest miracle.

May we who inherit this earth be wise stewards of

Creation and kind caretakers of all your creatures. I ask

your prayers for those who lead our nations. For António,

Secretary-General of the United Nations; for Joseph, our President; for our legislative and judicial institutions, and for the representatives of our local government. May they use the plentiful resources they steward to care for the people of the world.

silence

When we give out of our abundance,

There is always more than enough.

I ask your prayers for our neighbors and all who need or request our prayers. For those who are marginalized and oppressed; those who are sick and those who are dying; for the lonely and isolated; for those who are suffering; and for those who sleep on our streets. I pray for all on our prayer list, and family and friends we name now.

Names may be spoken aloud or added in silence

When we give out of our abundance,

People: There is always more than enough.

People:

Leader:

Leader:

Leader:

I ask your prayers for those who have died. May they forever gather at your table of plenty, sharing their gifts with love and joy.

silence

We remember the many past members of St. Thomas, whose gifts, bequests and intentions provide inspiration and abundance beyond their lifetimes.

When we give out of our abundance,

People: There is always more than enough.

As the crowd gathered to hear Jesus preach shared two fish and five loaves, they discovered that when their gifts were blessed, they increased and became a blessing to others. We give you thanks for the uncountable miracles and blessings in our lives.

#### silence

When we give out of our abundance,

**People:** There is always more than enough.

Celebrant: May we, too, reach within ourselves to share our gifts

with the world so that our love overflows in a need-filled world. These and all things we ask in the name of Your

Son.

People: Amen.

#### The Confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

All: God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

#### The Absolution

Celebrant: 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.

#### **The Peace**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you

People: And also with you.

The people and the ministers greet one another.

#### **Announcements**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



#### Offertory sentence

#### **The Offertory Anthem**

Vincent Cole

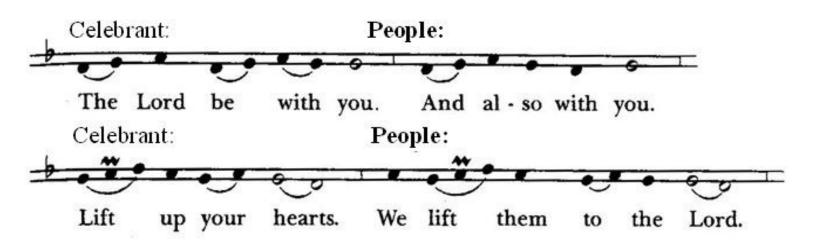
Create in Me
Members of the St. Thomas Choir
Benjamin Belew, accompanist

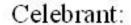
[live]

Celebrant: All things come of you, O Lord.

People: And of your own have we given you.

#### Sursum Corda EOW EP2







Let us give to the Lord our God. thanks

People:



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant:

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being:

sun, moon, and stars;

earth, winds, and waters;

and every living thing.

You made us in your image,

and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;

and yet, as a mother cares for her children,

you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us

to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,

lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

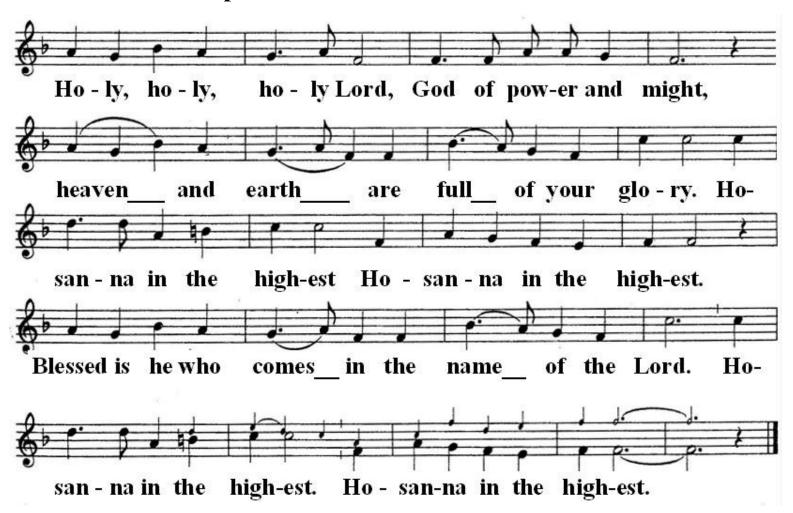
Sanctus

[Live]

Hymnal S-125

All are invited to join in singing the Sanctus. Zoom participants please stay muted.

#### Celebrant and People:



Celebrant: Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.

To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us.

He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

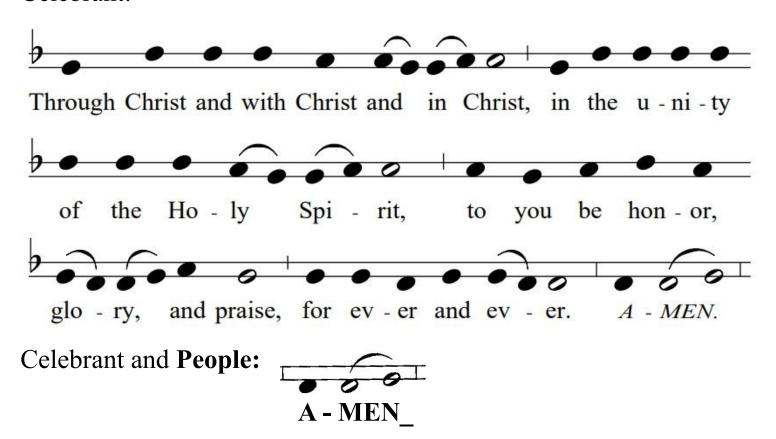
Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.

Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Thomas and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

#### Celebrant:



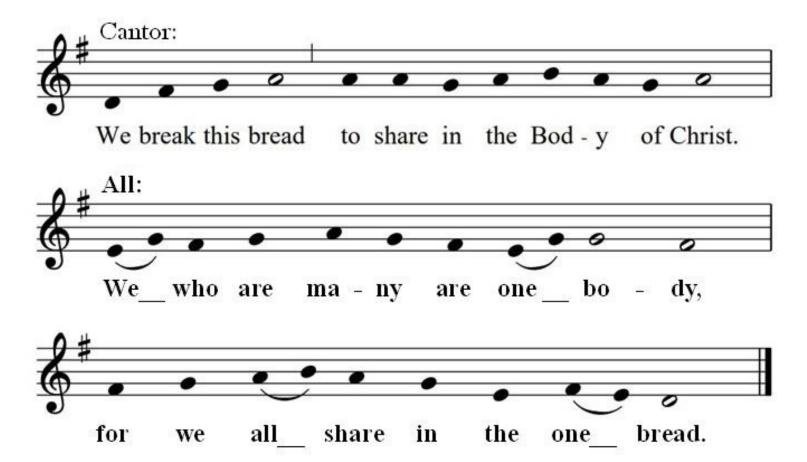
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray

#### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen

#### The Breaking of the Bread

#### **The Fraction Anthem**



Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

#### The Communion

Everyone is invited to come forward to receive Communion.

Everyone is invited to receive Communion.

Please come to the rail.

- You may stand or kneel at the altar rail, as you are able..
- The wine will be served from the flagon into individual cups. Once you have consumed your wine, please place the cup on one of the trays near the aisles.

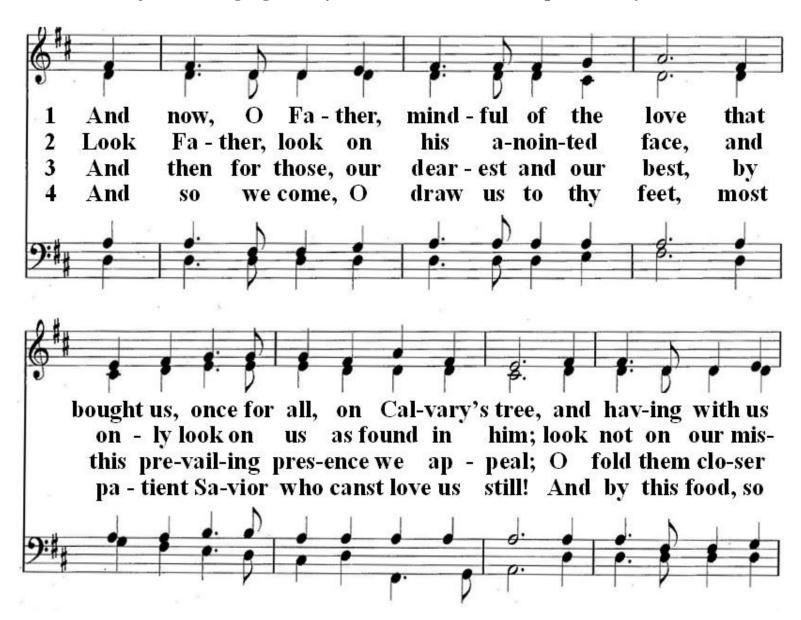
- If you do not wish to receive communion, you may receive a blessing: please cross your arms over your chest as a sign that you wish to be blessed.
- Gluten free bread is available upon asking.

#### **Communion Hymn**

Hymnal #337

## And Now, O Father, Mindful of the Love [Live]

Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom attendees please stay muted.



continued next page



#### **Post-Communion Prayer**

Please stand.

#### **Celebrant and People:**

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

#### The Blessing

Celebrant: May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah,

and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary,

and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a

mother over her children,

be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

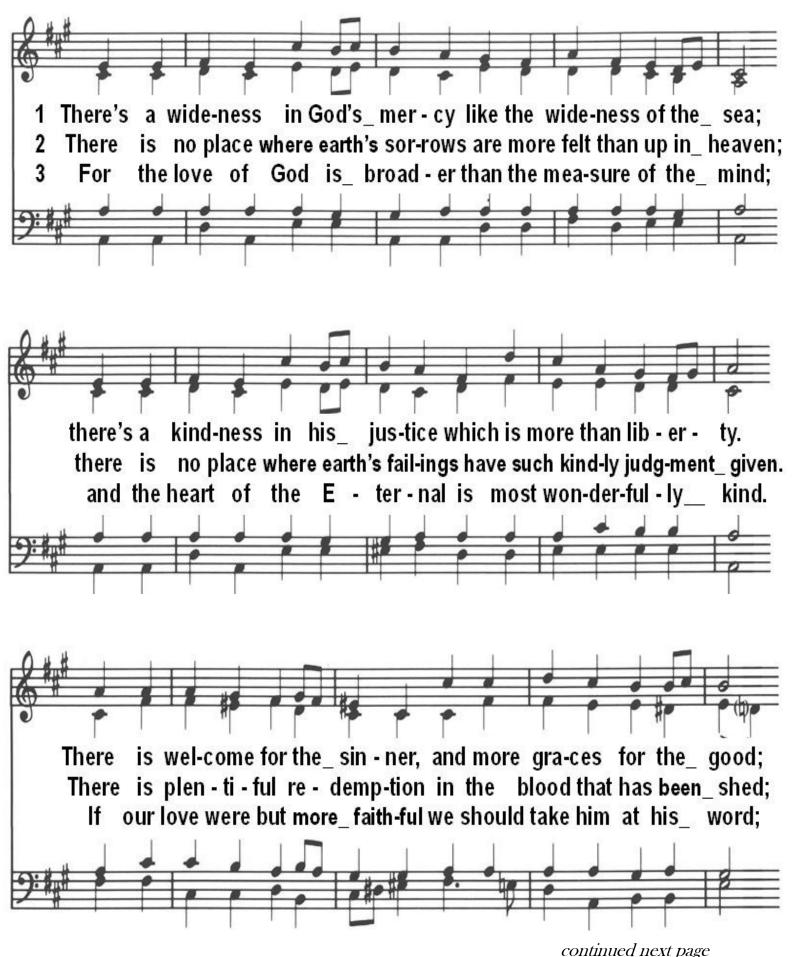
#### **Closing Hymn**

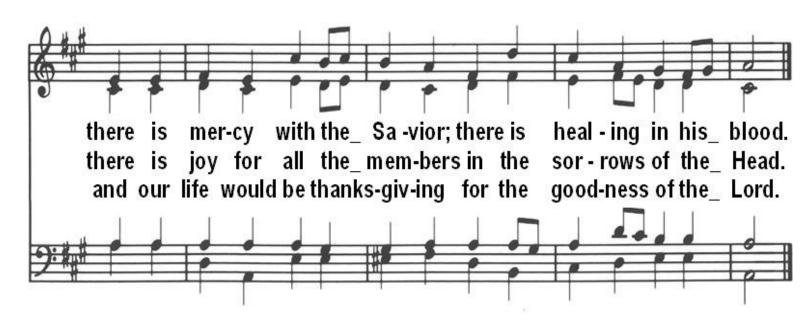
Hymnal #470

see next page

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy [Live]

Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom attendees please stay muted.





Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt. Music: Beecher, John Zundel (1815-1882), alt.

87. 87. D

#### **Celebrating Stewardship**

We will hear from our Treasurer a preliminary list of expenses for 2023 so that you can make an informed pledge.

A light lunch will be handed to you.

It is recommended that you keep your mask on
when not taking a bite or sip.

Introduction

Pastor Salying

Budget status 2022 & Proposed Budget 2023

Jim Cobb

#### Closing prayer

**Pastor Salying** 

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen** 

#### The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude** 

Benjamin Belew, keyboard [Live]



#### Serving us at 10:30 am

**The St. Thomas Altar Guild** 

Celebrant: The Rev. Salying Wong Preacher: Abby O'Connell, Sr. Warden Eucharistic Minister: Ann Kopischke Greeters: MaryJane Johnson, Donna Cobb

Intercessor: Ann Kopischke Lectors: Fulvia Govetto, John Pietrzyk Cantors: Susan McVey, John McVey Pianist: Benjamin Belew

Zoom Host: TBA Stream/Tech Team: Steve Williams, Jim Cobb

#### TODAY

#### "More than Enough" Stewardship Sunday October 30

Our senior warden, Abby O' Connell, will preach and help us consider how and what to give from our core values and our abundance. Please pray how you might contribute to the ministry and witness of our parish. Jim Cobb, our treasurer, will give a report of to -date of our financial status and present a preliminary budget for 2023. There is no 8am service. Only one hybrid service at 10:30am.

Thanks to Pat Dare and gang for the bagged lunch.

## **Upcoming Events**

Jane Doman departed to eternal life on October 26, accompanied by her daughter Sharon and a host of angels. You may send cards of condolences to Sharon Glass at 36568 Mountain Home Rd, Burney, CA 96013. The memorial service for Jane will be on All Saints Sunday, November 6 at 2:00pm. A reception will follow in Cowans Hall.

Memorial Service for Katharine Wilson will be by Deacon Bertram at St. Thomas on November 12 at 11am. A reception hosted by the family will be in Cowan's Hall. (The graveside committal service in Oakland will be officiated by Pastor Salying on November 19.)

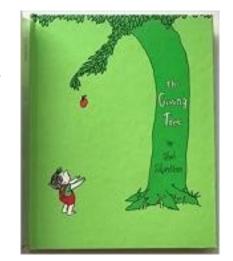
#### **Library News:**

**Book of the Week October 30** 

Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein

This moving parable written in 1964 for all ages offers a touching interpretation of the gift of giving and a serene acceptance of another's capacity to love in return.

Every day the boy would come to the tree to eat her apples, swing from her branches, or slide down her trunk...and the tree was happy. But as the boy grew older, he began to want more from



the tree, and the tree gave and gave and gave. This is a tender story, touched with sadness, aglow with consolation.

Agape Friendship and Food Circle The next Agape Circle will

be **Friday**, **November 4**, **at 6:30pm**. It will be held indoors in Cowans Hall (we will be observing "mask" protocols). The activity for the Agape Circle dinner is Show and Tell! Bring a treasured item, whether it be holiday-themed, a souvenir from a trip, a beloved book, or anything else that evokes fond memories, and share its story with the group! Also, please bring a pot-luck dish to share (along with serving utensils) and be ready for a fun and friendship-filled evening! Please email Dena Ware at <a href="mailto:denaware@gmail.com">denaware@gmail.com</a> to RSVP (not required but helps us get an idea of how many will attend). We look forward to seeing you there!

**Daylight Savings time ends** Please mark your calendar - DST ends next Saturday night so put your clocks back an hour and enjoy an extra hour of sleep before church on Sunday, November 6, 2022.

All Saints / Pledge Sunday November 6 - Please join us when we present our 2023 pledges at the altar next Sunday. And stay after worship at 10:30 for the annual Family Ministry Chili Feed!

#### **Hybrid Services at 10:30**

We have three hybrid services a month. Because of special days in the calendar, all the hybrid services will be scheduled rather than follow a set formula. So, it is especially important that everyone pay attention to our calendar.

Hybrid services through November 27, Advent 1:

The 2022 St. Thomas Holiday Boutique Fundraiser is quickly

November 6	Hybrid	All Saints, Chili Feed
November 13	Morning Prayer on Zoom	
November 20		Christ the King, Transgender Remembrance
November 27	Hybrid	Advent 1 Wreath-making

approaching and we need your support!

We'll be sharing a catalog of available items via email between November 21 and December 2. Purchases will be made on-line via email. On **Saturday, December 3**, from 10:00 AM - noon, we'll host a **pick-up** of Boutique items at the church in Cowans Hall along with an in-person **Bake Sale**.

We're calling all crafters, sewers, bakers, quilters, knitters, woodworkers, gardeners, and candlestick makers! Do you have any interesting gently used holiday related treasures you may be ready to part with that might delight someone else? Good books you've read or puzzles you've loved and are ready to pass on? Gift Cards you haven't used - or are willing to purchase to donate? We welcome your donations. All proceeds will go to directly support the ministries of St. Thomas.

If you'd like to make a **donation**, please contact any one of us **by November 5**. We'll need a good photo of the item, along with a written description, including sizes or dimensions, for the catalog posting. Also please note, if you'd like to donate to the bake sale, all items must be individually or fully wrapped.

We know how much talent and generosity there is in our community and look forward to this year's event!

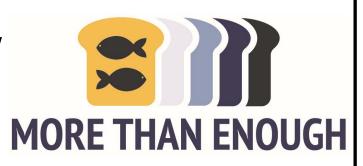
#### Save the Dates:

	-	
November 4	Agape Friendship and Food Circle, 6:30pm	
November 5	Diocesan Convention	
November 6	Pledge Sunday, All Saints, Chili Feed	
November 24	Thanksgiving Day Holy Eucharist (in-person only),	
	10:30am	
November 26	Greening of the Church, 10:30 am Saturday after	
	Thanksgiving	
November 27	Advent 1: Wreath-making following 10:30 service	
December 3	Christmas boutique pick-up	
	General Announcements	

#### Thanksgiving and Memorial Donations to Altar Guild

#### **Season of Stewardship**

And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.



#### Giving and Receiving

a reflection by Fr. Malcolm French, SCP

In his excellent book *Being Christian*, former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams draws this lesson from the story of Zacchaeus:

Jesus is not only someone who exercises hospitality; he draws out hospitality from others. By his welcome, he makes other people capable of welcoming. And that wonderful alternation in the Gospels between Jesus giving hospitality and receiving hospitality shows us something absolutely essential . . .

Now, I'm probably alone in this, but Archbishop Rowan's comment made me think about the Royal Canadian Navy Manual of Naval Etiquette. The Manual outlines a first and second aim of proper etiquette:

The first aim of proper etiquette is "the consistent demonstration of thoughtfulness and consideration for the wellbeing of others."...

The second aim of proper etiquette is "the gracious acceptance of reciprocation.".

continued next page

[O]nly a mutual, interactive process of kindness and decency will allow mutual trust, respect and friendship to flourish.

Not only does God give us his extraordinary gift of grace, but he graciously accepts our reciprocation.

This reciprocation, however, is not a quid pro quo. The relative value of God's gifts to us and our gifts to God are nowhere near equal. The graciousness of a person of wealth and privilege will look very different from the graciousness of a person who is poor or otherwise

marginalized. Yet though the fare at the poor person's table may not be the haute cuisine we would expect from the tables of the wealthy, who would be so churlish as to complain? The simple stew was likely a greater sacrifice for the poor host than the steak and lobster was for the wealthy. And like the widow's mite, it is appreciated all the more.

Our God is not content to be merely the dispenser of largesse. Our God seeks a relationship with us. In order for that relationship - that friendship - to flourish, the God who is so generous with us graciously accepts our reciprocation.

Questions For Reflection:

Can you think of a time someone was very generous with you but would not permit you to reciprocate in any way? How did you feel?

How was it different in another case where you were allowed to reciprocate?

Fr. Malcolm French, SCP, is the Rector of St. Simon's Anglican Church, Oakville, ON in the Diocese of Niagara. He has previously served parishes in western Canada and in Aotearoa New Zealand. He was also a Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve) officer for 25 years.

Our altar guild appreciates your support in making our space holy and beautiful. You can make a donation for fresh flowers on a designated date or a general donation for supplies, like communion wine and bread and oil for the candles. You can make this donation online or by

check, with "altar guild" on the memo line. If applicable, please also include (1) the date for the commemoration and (2) the person or occasion to be commemorated.

#### **COVID Protocols update**

Masking is now recommended at church services.

For those who have vulnerable health issues, our 10:30am services always offer an option to worship from the safety of home. Please stay home if you feel sick.

When the priest celebrates communion, she will always thoroughly wash her hands. She will be unmasked while celebrating communion. The bread and wine will be covered with a linen/pall except during the epiclesis. She will re-mask to distribute communion, since she will come closer than six feet and want to make everyone as comfortable receiving.

#### Welcome to the St. Thomas Library QR code (short for "quick

response"), which can be scanned using a smartphone that automatically recognizes QR codes or QR scanner app. You will then be led directly to the online catalog.

It is possible to continue to use this link as well: <a href="https://stec-ind.skathi.opalsinfo.net">https://stec-ind.skathi.opalsinfo.net</a>

#### The St. Thomas Church Library will be open

The church library will be open on Sundays after the 8 a.m. service and after the 10:30 service during the Sundays when there is the option to meet in person. Carol or a member of the Library Committee will be available to answer questions on Fridays from 10-12; after 12 our administrator Anne will be available at 408-736-4155 until 4:00 to open the door for you. We request that you remember to wear your mask.

#### **Pledges, Offerings & Donations**

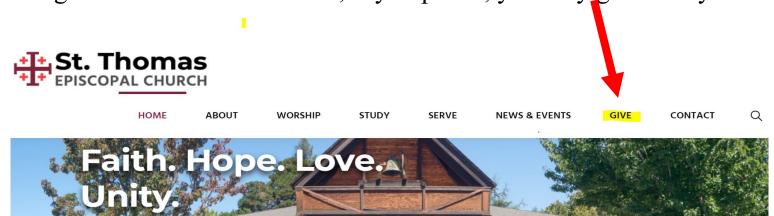
At the August Vestry meeting, we reported that our 2022 pledge

donations received dropped again in June but rebounded nicely in July. Through month-end July we are at 99% of budget, which is an excellent position to be at 7 months into the year! Thank you for keeping your pledge donations up to date, especially during these summer months. We have also started to receive the additional facility use reimbursement from Our Daily Bread, which was retroactive to the beginning of this year. Lastly, in late June we were notified that a parishioner's family had initiated our second car donation! Based on our experience from last fall, we expect to receive the proceeds from the donation in August or September. Your pledges and other donations may always be mailed to the church office and marked to the attention of the Treasurer.

When donating by check, please make the check payable to "St. Thomas Episcopal Church".

Under our current public health restrictions, we encourage you to mail in your pledges and offerings to the church <u>or</u> use our online donation option.

Online Giving Please look for the "GIVE" option on the main menu bar on the St. Thomas website. It is located on the upper right side of the home page. Once you select "GIVE" (highlighted below), you will be taken to a new page where you may donate through PayPal, using a debit or credit card.OR, if you prefer, you may go directly to



the PayPal site through the following link:

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\_s-xclick&hosted button id=9C43D8TLRQCLU&source=url

If you choose to give online, please be aware that St. Thomas does pay a fee for each transaction.

Finally, and very simply, another way to support St. Thomas is through Amazon Smile on our website, where Amazon gives the church a small percentage of your purchases. You just start your Amazon purchases from our website by clicking the Amazon Smile link, which you'll find at the bottom of the "GIVE" page: <a href="https://stthomas-svale.org/give/">https://stthomas-svale.org/give/</a>

As always, we want to say "Thank You!" Peace, Jim Cobb

### **Small Groups and Spiritual Formation Ministries**

#### St Thomas Stepping Stones Jail Ministry

Get proximate to the pain and you will make the deepest connection. Join the St. Thomas Stepping Stone Jail ministry and get proximate to those who are in need of community and love. We began by sending out pen-pal letters and the coming weeks we will try to organize going in person into the jail (only for persons who want/agreed to do this work). Please contact Deacon Bertram (bertramemail@gmail.com) if you have any questions or wish to volunteer.

### The Prayer Chain and Helping Hands and Hearts

**Committee.** Anyone who needs prayers or needs pastoral care assistance or would like to join in this ministry, please send an email to: <a href="mailto:prayerchain@stthomas-svale.us">prayerchain@stthomas-svale.us</a>.

**Children and Family Ministry** For information on the schedule of children and family ministry, please contact Sue Beckham at Sue\_beckham@comcast.net

**Senior Ministry** If you are a Senior at Saint Thomas and are not yet receiving our twice weekly Senior Activities Sheets please contact Sue Beckham at Sue beckham@comcast.net

**St. Thomas offers English Language Classes**. A class for Chinese speakers meets most Fridays at 10:00am in the Disciples room. A class for Japanese speakers meets Wednesdays at 1:00pm in the Disciples room.

#### **Zooming in Men's Spiritual Growth Group**

Yes! Now you can be there in your pajamas (at least), and therefore sleep a bit longer. But on the other hand we can no longer advertise coffee + if you arrive a bit early. We are now meeting **weekly** with a standard format, alternating between wondering what the scriptures might be leading us to personally on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays (9-10 AM on your computer), and on the other Saturdays, a check-in and just for sanity's sake (starting at 9 AM). Our Zoom meetings are password protected so you'll need to connect with Chris Schmidt (randischris@gmail.com) if you are new to the group. We invite all men (even those not a part of St. Thomas) to join with us for fellowship and good discussion.

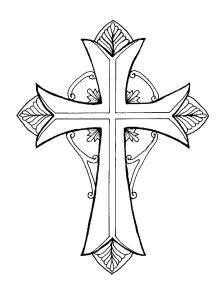
Book Club usually meets once a month from 7 to 8 p.m. in the St. Thomas Library. We are an open book club: All are welcome, whether you have read the book or not. Our "September" meeting will take place on Monday November 28 using Zoom conferencing, we will meet to discuss *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel. A forgotten photo prompts semi-retired Florida librarian Eva to recall fleeing Paris after the arrest of her father, a Polish Jew. Finding refuge in a small mountain town in the Free Zone, she began forging identity documents for Jewish children fleeing to neutral Switzerland, and deciding she must find a way to preserve the real names of the children who are too young to remember who they really are. The

records she keeps in *The Book of Lost Names* becomes even more vital when the resistance cell she works for is betrayed. Based on a true story.

Please join us—contact Dorothy Furgerson for the Zoom link: <a href="mailto:drdfurg@mac.com">drdfurg@mac.com</a>

# An updated **Announcement page** is available on line at <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/">https://docs.google.com/document/</a> <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/">d/1M iFUN25FBuxOVTr0UKw6mokVcdE9iNII9RFrPIKNAg</a>

and updates of various parish events and activities may also be found on our website at **www.stthomas-svale.org** 



### **Weekly Worship at St. Thomas**

**Tuesdays, 6pm** Centering Prayer, led by Pastor Salying: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/724376004">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/724376004</a>
Dial-in option: 1 669 900 9128 meeting ID# 724376004

**Wednesdays, 12:15pm** Noonday Prayer with Commemoration of a Saint, led by Pastor Salying:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86313271549

Dial-in option: 1 669 900 9128 meeting ID# 86313271549

Thursdays, 6:30pm Intercessory Prayer Group on Zoom led by Deacon Bertram: - every Thursday Zoom link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89699188717?">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89699188717?</a>

pwd=dzNuY1VkOWpnbzFvQkpwRnJ0VGlJUT09
Meeting ID: 896 9918 8717 Passcode: 225424

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,89699188717#,,,,\*225424# US (San Jose)

Sundays: 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I in the church with masks and social distancing protocols and

10:30am Holy Eucharist (Hybrid) or Morning Prayer (online), led by Pastor Salying in person, in the church or on Zoom <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82690025101">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82690025101</a>

Dial-in option: 1 669 900 9128 Meeting ID: 826 9002 5101

Please see website for week-to-week information.

Parish Mission Statement

St. Thomas is joyfully on the way!

We are becoming whom Jesus calls us to be community dedicated to creating or and our neighbors



#### THE VESTRY OF ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SUNNYVALE

Abby O'Connell, **Senior Warden** 2022 2023 2024

Chris Schmidt, **Junior Warden**Susan McVey
Chris Schmidt
Pat Dare
Nancy Allgeier
Gage McKinney

Gage McKinney, Clerk Bill Rosgen Abby O'Connell Rita Welsh

**DELEGATES TO CONVENTION** 

Stephanie Daugherty MaryJane Johnson Hugo Lopez-Laguna Mabel Cheng

(Joe Gutierrez, Marilyn Winans alternates)

St. Thomas website: www.stthomas-svale.org

#### Welcome

St. Thomas' Parish is a reconciling, affirming, and inclusive Christian community striving through worship, love, and service to welcome all people just as God created them. No matter where you are on your journey of faith, and whether you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered, our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender identity and gender expression, sexual orientation, economic condition, physical, or mental ability. God delights in the diversity of creation, and so do we!

**Rector:** The Rev. Salying Wong......pastorsalying@stthomas-svale.us

or 510-478-3554

Deacon: The Rev. Bertram Nagarajah.bertramemail@gmail.comTreasurer: Jim Cobb.Finance@stthomas-svale.orgParish Administrator: Anne Buelteman.office@stthomas-svale.org

Family Ministry Director.: Susan Beckham..................family\_ministry@stthomas-svale.org
Library and Resource Center Coordinator: Carol Campbell .......resourcecenter@stthomas-svale.org

Accompanist: Michele Elizabeth Kemmerling .....

Our Daily Bread (ODB) Coordinator: David Barnes......408-736-4108, odb@stthomas-svale.org

#### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

If you or a loved one is in urgent need of pastoral care (hospitalization, death in the family, etc.), PLEASE CALL US.

(The hospital does not always automatically notify the parish)

If there is no answer, please leave a message.

You may invite prayers online through The Intercessory Prayer Chain at prayerchain@stthomas-svale.org