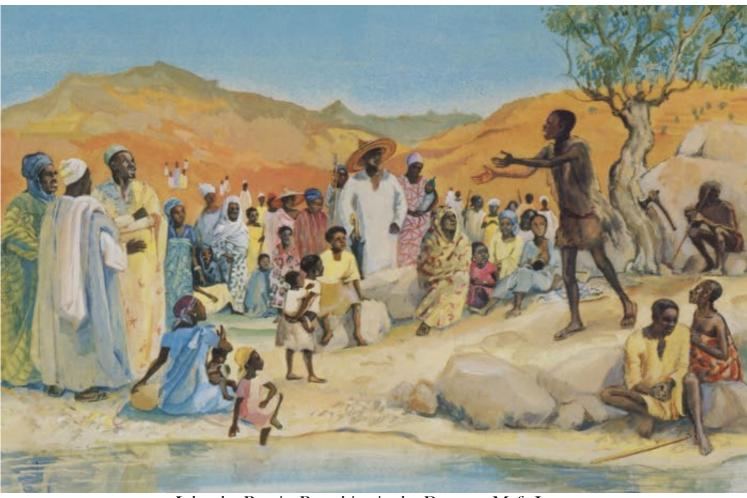
Second Sunday in Advent

December 4, 2022

Holy Eucharist, 10:30am



John the Baptist Preaching in the Desert - Mafa Jesus

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

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

Second Sunday in Advent

December 4, 2022

Holy Eucharist 10:30am

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 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.

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:

 <u>by computer or smartphone</u> (video and audio): You may access our ZOOM meeting on the following link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82690025101
<u>by telephone</u> (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.

Prelude

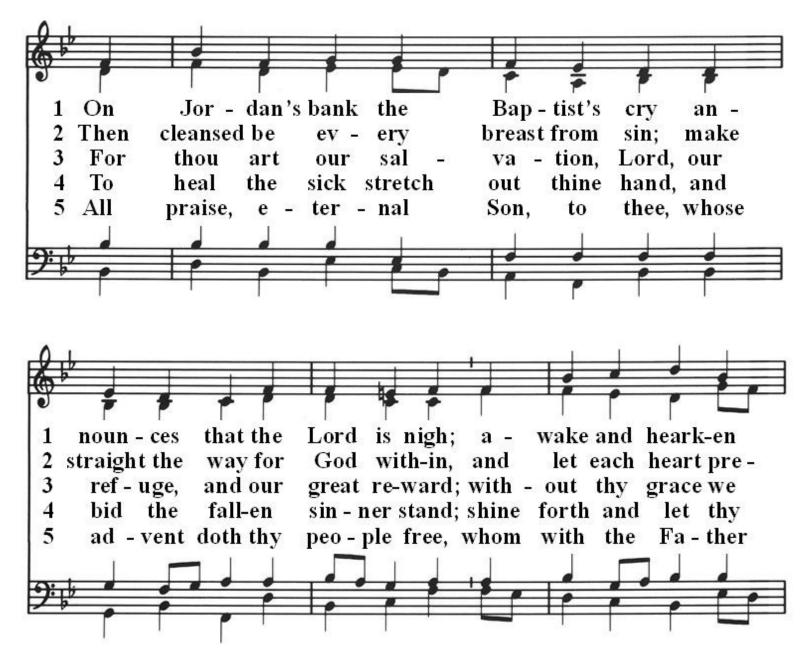
Benjamin Belew, keyboard

Opening Hymn

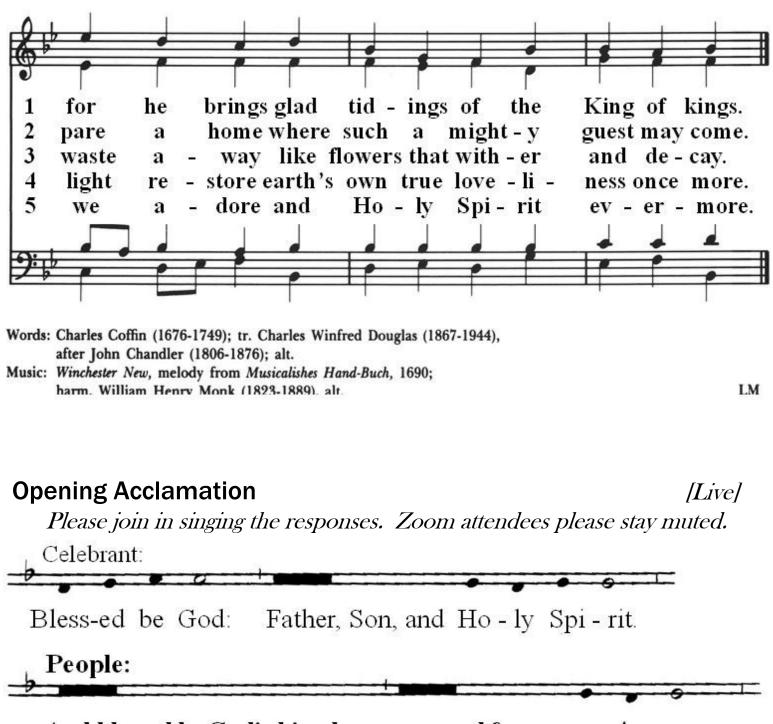
Hymnal #76

On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry /Live/

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



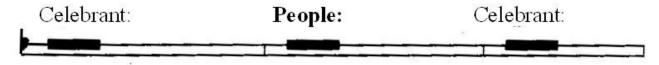
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And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

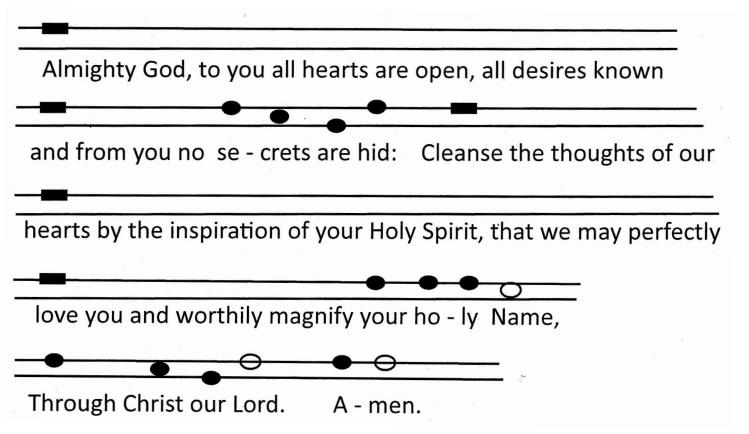
Setting: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (b. 1933)

Greeting and Collect for Purity



The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

All:



Advent Wreath Lighting

Reader: A candle is burning, a candle of **peace**, A candle to signal that conflict must cease, For Jesus is coming to show us the way, A message of peace humbly laid in the hay.



People: Come Lord Jesus

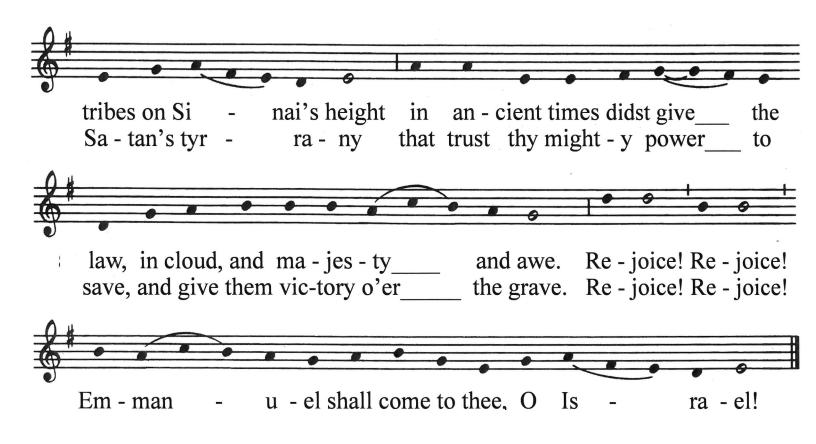
Carol

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

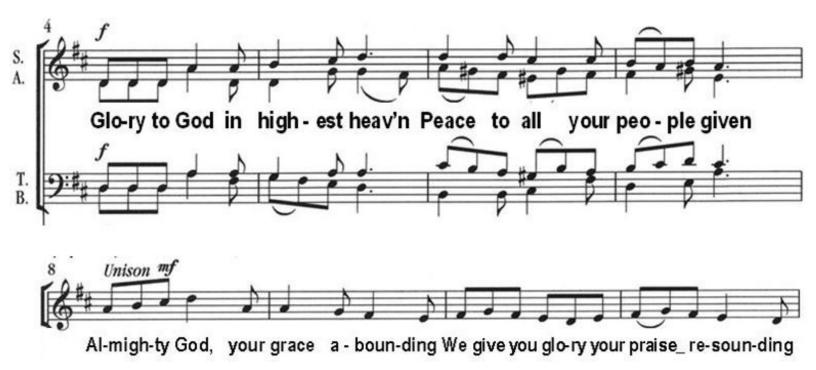
[Live]

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





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

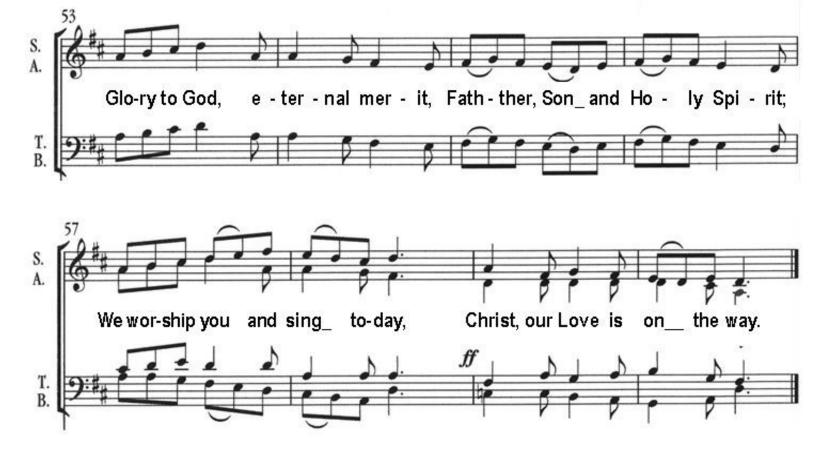


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Collect for the Second Sunday in Advent

Celebrant: God be with you. People: And also with you

Celebrant:

Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

T

The First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

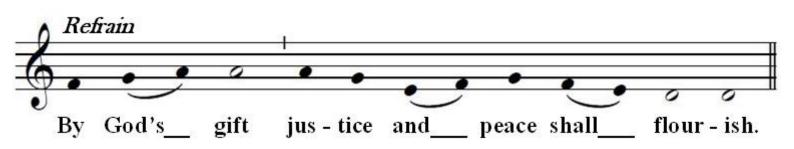
A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. People: Thanks be to God

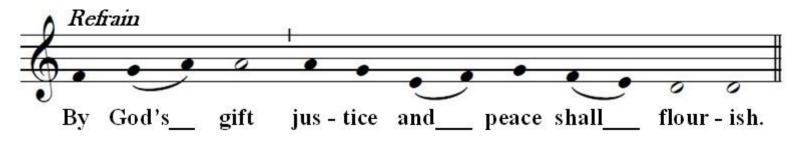
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

The cantor will lead the psalm. All may join in singing the refrain. Zoom participants, please stay muted

[Live]

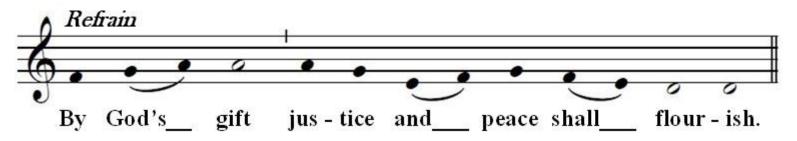


- Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;
- That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness. *Refrain*

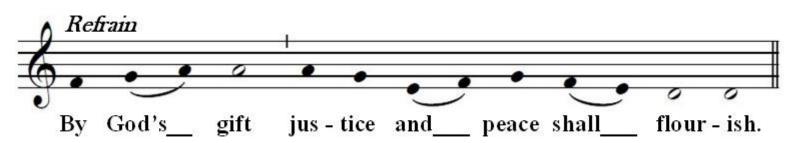


He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

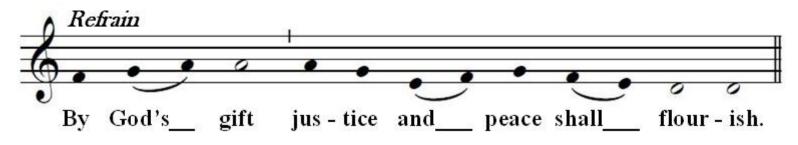
He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. *Refrain*



He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth. *Refrain*

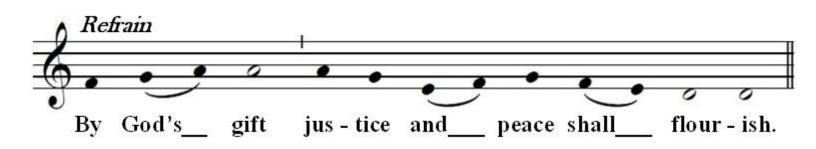


In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. *Refrain*



Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.



Refrain

The Epistle Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the

scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,

and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,

and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,

the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;

in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

People: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal #65

see next page

Prepare the Way, O Zion [Live]

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

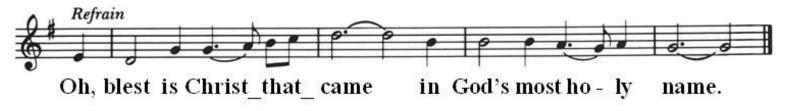


Pre-pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw-ing near!
He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa-vior's rule em - brace.

Let ev – ery hill and val – ley a lev – el way ap – pear. His rule is peace and free – dom, and jus – tice, truth, and love. His tid – ings of sal – va – tion pro–claim in ev – ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore-told in sa - cred stor - ry. Lift high your praise re-sound-ing for grace and joy__ a - bound - ing. All lands will now be - fore him their voic-es will__ a - dore him.



Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920)Music: Bereden väg för Herran, melody from Then Swenska Psalmboken, 169776. 76. 77 with Refrain

The Gospel:

Matthew 3:1-12

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come

near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.""

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

The Sermon

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: Advent Intercessions by The Rev. Rick Morley

- Leader: In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, remind us that you are always with us, that like Joseph we might always be eager to fulfill your will, and be eager to pray:
- Leader: O God, in days to come the mountain of your house will be established, and your joy shall reign. We pray for the church, that you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths.

Come Lord Jesus,

People: and hear our prayer.

Leader: Out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and you, O God, shall judge between the nations. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth.

Come Lord Jesus,

People: and hear our prayer.

Leader: In your Kingdom, O Lord, wolves lie down with lambs and children play with serpents without fear. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

Come Lord Jesus,

People: and hear our prayer.

Leader: In your Kingdom, O Lord, even the wilderness and dry land are glad and rejoice. We pray for those who rejoice this week as they celebrate their birthday, that they might obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing might flee away. Come Lord Jesus,

People: and hear our prayer.

Leader: In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer.

Come Lord Jesus,

People: and hear our prayer.

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 **And also with you.**

The people and the ministers greet one another.

Announcements

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Offertory sentence

The Offertory Anthem

Douglas Wagner

An Advent Legend Benjamin Belew, accompanist *[live]*

Celebrant:All things come of you, O Lord.People:And of your own have we given you.

Sursum Corda

Eucharistic Prayer D



Celebrant: It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

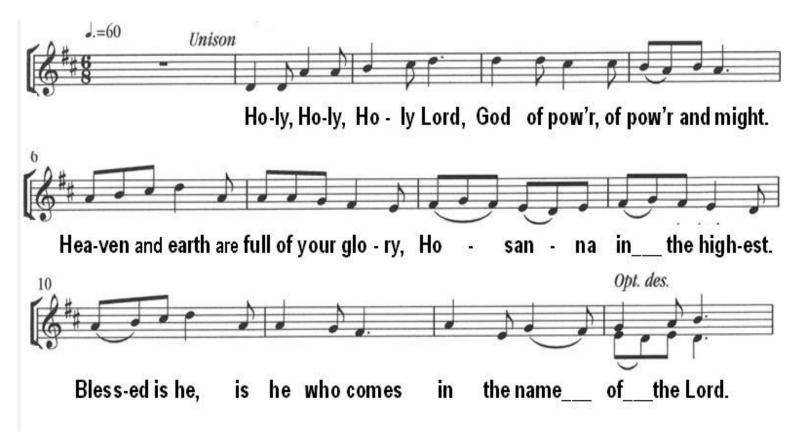
Sanctus

[Live]

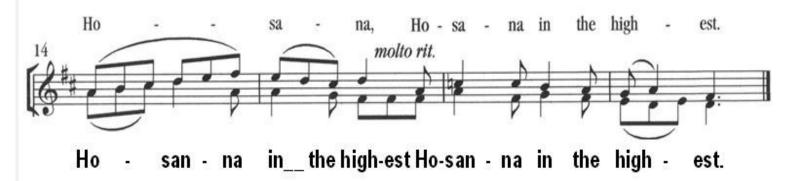
Richard Shephard

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

Celebrant and People:



continued next page



Celebrant:

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures.

When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Celebrant:

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and for ever.

All:



As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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.

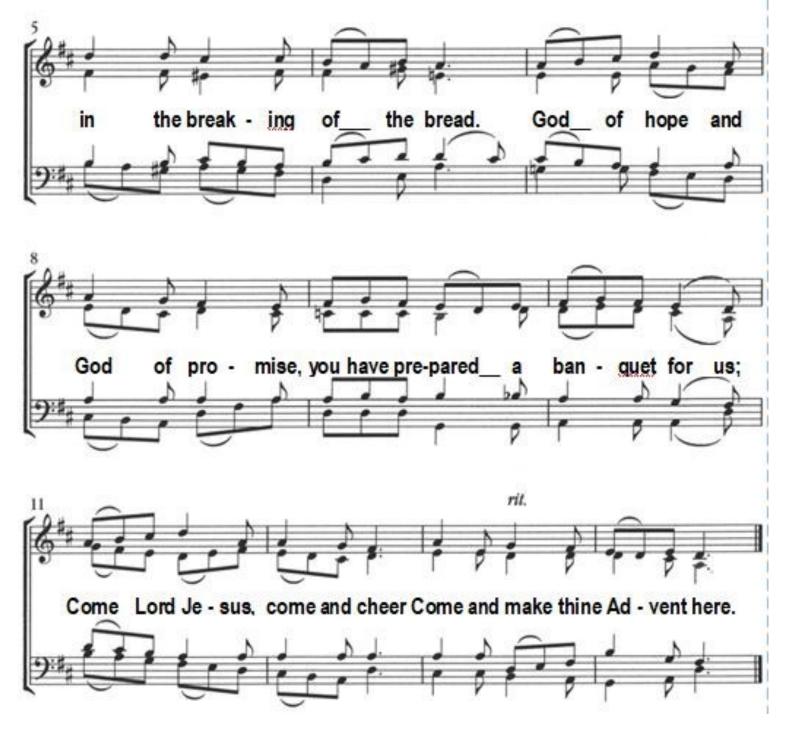
The Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem

Richard Shephard



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

The 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..
- As a symbol of our unity as the body of Christ, the wine will be served from the flagon into individual cups after the consecration. Once you have consumed your wine, please place the cup on one of the trays near the aisles.

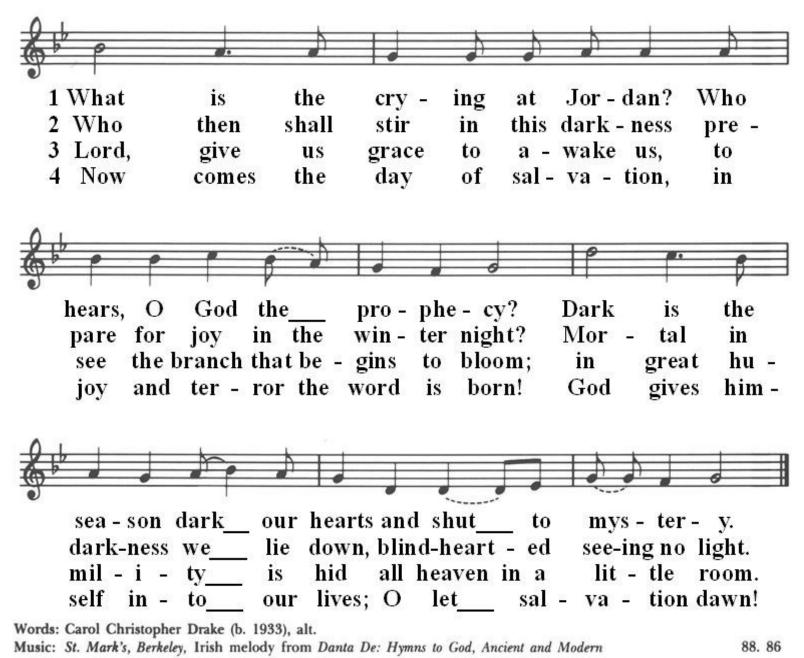
- If you do not wish to receive communion, you may receive a blessing: please cross your arms over your chest as a sign that you wish to be blessed.
- Gluten free bread is available upon asking.

Communion Hymn

Hymnal #69

What Is the Crying at Jordan? [Live]

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



Post-Communion Prayer

led by the Celebrant, said in unison

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

Blessing for Advent

Book of Occasional Services

Celebrant: May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

> May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

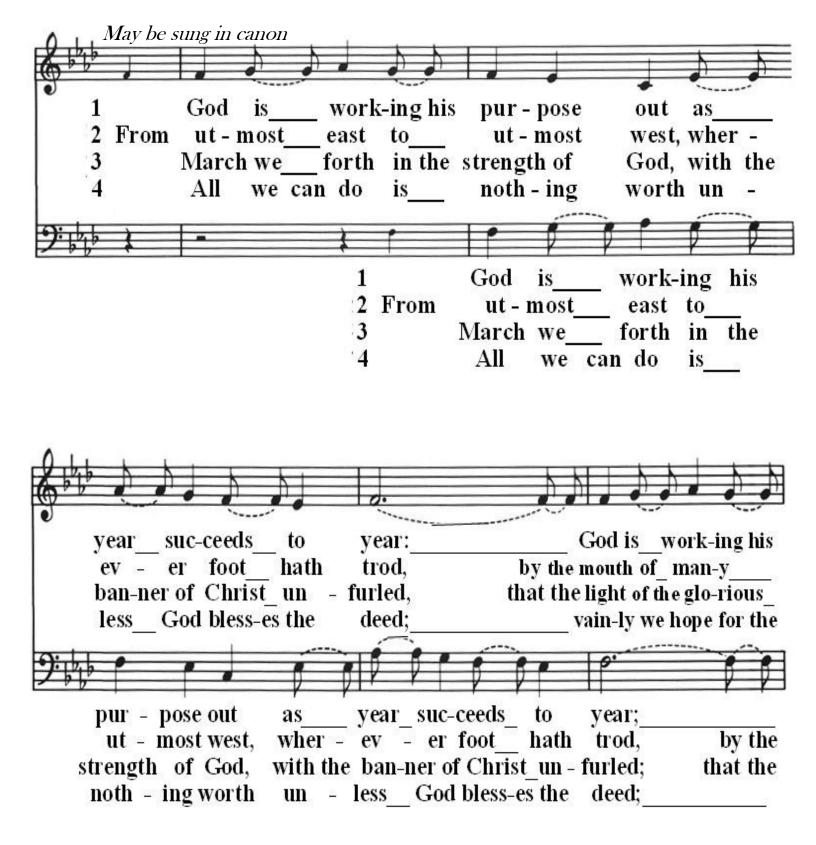
Closing Hymn

Hymnal #534 see next page

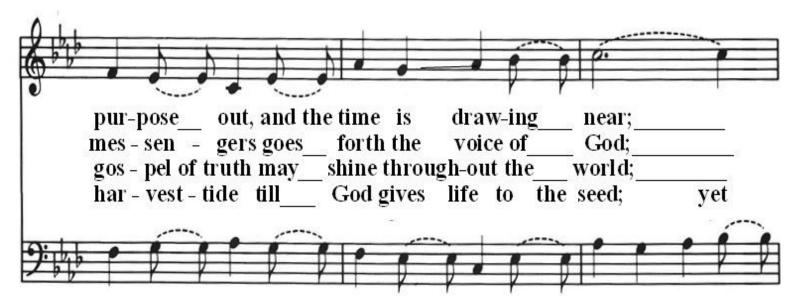
God Is Working His Purpose Out

[Live]

Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom attendees please stay muted. 26



continued next page



God is _____ work-ing his pur-pose ___ out, and the time is draw-ing _____ mouth of _____ man - y _____ mes-sen - gers goes ____ forth the voice of ______ light of the glo-rious _____ gos - pel of truth may _____ shine through-out the ______ vain-ly we hope for the har - vest - tide till _____ God gives life to the

draws the time, the time that shall sure-ly near - er and near-er con - ti - nents, ye isles, give ear to me, ye ear to give we the fight with sorrow and sin to set their cap-tives fight near - er and near-er draws the time, the time that shall sure-ly near-er and near-er draws the time, the time that shall near; give ear to me, ye con-ti-nents, ye isles, give God;

world; ______ fight we the fight with sorrow and sin to seed; yet ______ near-er and near-er draws the time, the

continued next page

set their

time that shall



4 God as the wa – ters

cov-er the sea.

The Dismissal

Deacon: Alleluia. Alleluia.Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude

Benjamin Belew, keyboard /Live/

Serving us at 10:30 am

The St. Thomas Altar Guild Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong Deacon: The Rev. Bertram Nagarajah Eucharistic Minister: Joe Gutierrez Greeters: MaryJane Johnson, Donna Cobb Intercessor: Joe Gutierrez Lectors: Lou Poulain, Susan McVey Cantor: Abby O'Connell Advent Reader/Candle-Lighter: Brighid Beckham Accompanist: Benjamin Belew

Zoom Host: Fulvia Govetto Stream/Tech Team: Breno DeMedeiros, Sophia DeMedeiros

TODAY

The Altar Flowers are replaced by greens at this season of Advent.

Coffee Hour today will be in Cowans Hall. Please be mindful of recommended Covid protocols.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Piano Concert with Benjamin Belew. Save the date for **Saturday, December 10th at 4pm** for a solo piano concert with our own Benjamin Belew. For the majority of his concert, he will perform his own work. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Choral Scholars Program at St. Thomas. More details will follow.

Lessons and Carols will be **December 11**, both at 8am in the church and at 10:30am as an online Morning Prayer service, both featuring a series of scripture readings and recorded Advent carols. **The Winter Follies Revue** (on Zoom) will follow the 10:30 service. Mark your calendar for the festivities.

Winter Follies Revue - Sunday, December 11

The Winter Follies Revue will be on Zoom immediately following the 10:30 am Morning Prayer Service on Sunday, December 11. It will be a Zoom only revue, and the format will be like previous revue shows except for the seasonal theme highlighting winter and the Christmas season. Although the event replaces our traditional Saint Nicholas and Saint Lucy Feast which was held annually at this time of the year, we should continue the spirit of sharing and joy that the previous event embodied. We are inviting volunteers to participate by singing a song, playing some music, reading poetry, doing dramatic readings, or any

other activity that can be shared on Zoom for the purpose of fellowship. Please contact Pat Dare at pdare5@comcast.net if you want to participate with details of what you will be doing. If your activity is pre-recorded, we will also need the link to access it. The revue will also include a new rendition of Improv Theater that is being coordinated with Dena Ware. The group has already started its preparations, but if you are interested in performing on Improv Theater, please contact Dena at denaware@gmail.com so she can fit you in.

Gifts for Kids of Inmates in Elmwood Jail.

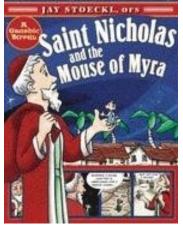
St Thomas Stepping Stone Jail ministry is planning to give gifts to the kids whose Dad or Mom is in jail (now only one jail pod is being considered). Over the past week we have had great support from our congregation and several people have signed up. Anyone interested in contributing please contact Pastor Salying or Deacon Bertram (bertramemail@gmail.com)

Library News:

Please take a look in the Archives Display case at the back of the church at a fascinating collection of bookmarks rescued by the Library Committee in some of the returned library books. Do you see one of yours?

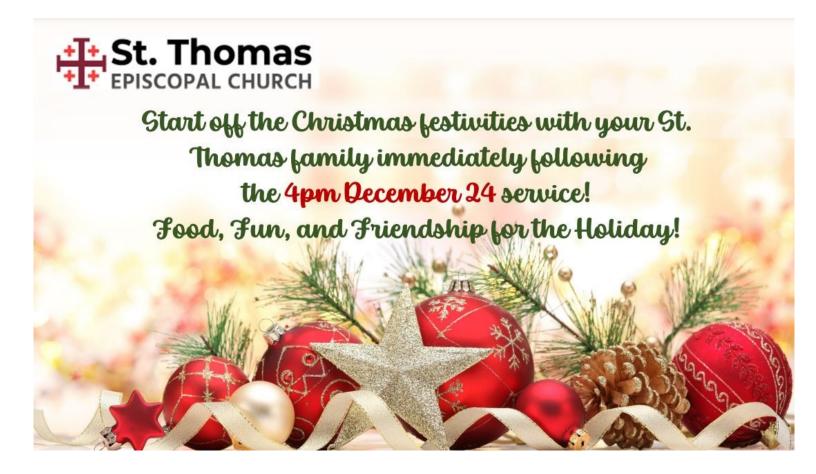
Book of the Week December 4 for celebration of St. Nicholas Day *Saint Nicholas and the Mouse of Myra* by Jay Stoeckl, OFS

"Was there a real Saint Nicholas? Is he more than the character seen in malls during the Christmas season? Children in elementary and middle school will delight in discovering that the beloved figure was a real person who lived in the late third and early fourth centuries. He was a man of faith who learned that a spirit of generosity and caring is part of being a faithful Christian. Jay Stoeckl has skillfully written



and illustrated his graphic novel in chapter-book form. He even gives Nicholas a friendly companion—Cicero, the philosopher-mouse. Cicero, dressed in a tiny Greek toga, helps his friend through his journey from young lad to priest and defender of the faith. A scripture verse for each chapter focuses on the main lessons Nicholas learns along the way. Saint Nicholas and the Mouse of Myra is an excellent graphic novel for Christian youth."

~ Mary Lou Henneman, Congregational Libraries Today



Save the Dates:

Saturday, December 10	4pm - In person	Benjamin Belew Solo Concert
December 11	10:30am - Morning	Advent 3 - Lessons and Carols Winter Follies Revue after 10:30am service

	L	Advent 4 - Christmas Pageant at both services
Saturday, December 24	4pm - Hybrid	Christmas Eve, with festive reception following
December 25	<u>9</u> am - in person 10:30am - Morning Prayer Zoom only	Christmas Day

General Announcements

Stewardship update: Pledges Gratefully Accepted

If you are considering pledging to our annual budget, you can still do so. You may submit a pledge card by mail, by email at finance@stthomas-svale.org, and by hand-delivery to Jim Cobb. Currently, we have 41 pledges toward our goal of 60.

Thanksgiving and Memorial Donations to Altar Guild

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 **strongly 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.

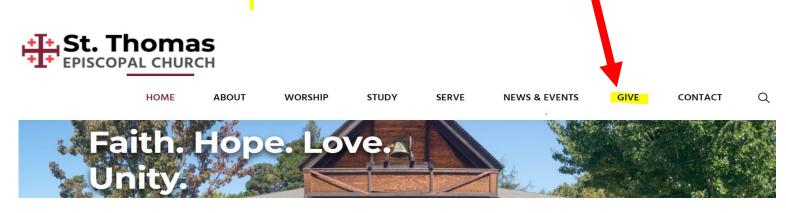
Pledges, Offerings & Donations

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:

<u>https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-</u> <u>xclick&hosted_button_id=9C43D8TLRQCLU&source=url</u> 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: <u>https://</u> <u>stthomas-svale.org/give/</u>

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

Welcome to the St. Thomas Library 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.

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: <u>prayerchain@stthomas-svale.us</u>.

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.

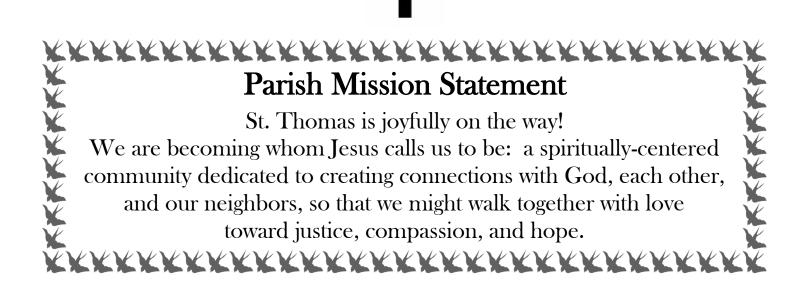
Thomas Library. We are an open book club: All are welcome, whether you have read the book or not. Our next meeting will take place on <u>Monday December 26</u> using Zoom conferencing, we will meet to discuss *Broken (in the best possible way)* by Jenny Lawson.

With people experiencing anxiety and depression now more than ever, Jenny humanizes what we all face in an all-too-real way, reassuring us that we're not alone and making us laugh while doing it.

Please join us—contact Dorothy Furgerson for the Zoom link: <u>drdfurg@mac.com</u>

An updated Announcement page is available on line at <u>https://docs.google.com/document/</u> <u>d/1M_iFUN25FBuxOVTr0UKw6mokVcdE9iNII9RFrPIKNAg</u>

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



Weekly Worship at St. Thomas

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

Wednesdays, 12:15pm Noonday Prayer with Commemoration of a Saint, led by Pastor Salying: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86313271549</u> Dial-in option: 1 669 900 9128 meeting ID# 86313271549

Thursdays, 6:30pm Intercessory Prayer Group on Zoom led by Deacon Bertram: - every Thursday (For December we only meet on 1st, 8th and 15th December 2022. In January we will begin again on the 12th January 2023). Zoom link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89699188717?</u> <u>pwd=dzNuY1VkOWpnbzFvQkpwRnJ0VGIJUT09</u> 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 <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82690025101</u>

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

Please see website for week-to-week information.

Abby O'Connell, Senior Warden	2022	2023	2024
Chris Schmidt, Junior Warden	Susan McVey	Pat Dare	Nancy Allgeier
	Chris Schmidt	Breno DeMedeiros	Gage McKinney
Gage McKinney, Clerk	Bill Rosgen	Abby O'Connell	Rita Welsh
Stephanie Daugherty (Jo	DELEGATES TO CON MaryJane Johnson F be Gutierrez, Marilyn Win	lugo Lopez-Laguna Mabe	l Cheng
9	st. Thomas website: www.s	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.com
Treasurer: Jim Cobb	Finance@stthomas-svale.org
Parish 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
Music Director: Patricia Pietrzyk,	patriciapietrzyk@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Anne Buelteman	office@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)
The Rev. Salying Wong, Rector
If there is no answer, please leave a message. You may invite prayers online through The Intercessory Prayer Chain at prayerchain@stthomas-svale.org