

# Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 18, 2022

Holy Eucharist, 10:30am



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

408-736-4155  
[www.stthomas-svale.org](http://www.stthomas-svale.org)

# Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 18, 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:*

*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.*

Prelude

J.S. Bach, WTC Book 2

*Prelude & Fugue No. 10*

Benjamin Belew, keyboard

Opening Hymn

Hymnal #497

*How Bright Appears the Morning Star*

[Live]

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

1 How bright ap - pears the Morn-ing Star, with mer - cy beam-ing  
 2 Though cir-cled by the hosts on high, he deigned to cast a  
 3 Re - joice, ye heavens; thou earth, re-ply; with praise, ye sin - ners,

from a - far; the host of heaven re - joic - es;  
 pit - ying eye up - on his help - less crea - ture;  
 fill the sky, for this, his In - car - na - tion.

O right-eous Branch, O Jes - se's Rod! Thou Son of Man and  
 the whole cre - a - tion's Head and Lord, by high-est ser - a -  
 In - car - nate God, put forth thy power, ride on, ride on, great

*continued next page*

Son of God! We, too, will lift our voi - ces:  
 phim a - dored, as - sumed our ve - ry na - ture;  
 Con - quer - or, till all know thy sal - va - tion.

Je - sus, Je - sus! Ho - ly, ho - ly, yet most low - ly,  
 Je - sus, grant us, through thy mer - it to in - her - it  
 A - men, a - men! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia

draw thou near us; great Em-man-uel, come and hear us.  
 thy sal - va - tion; hear, O hear our sup - pli - ca - tion.  
 praise be giv - en ev - er - more by earth and hea - ven.

Words: William Mercer (1811-1873), after Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608)  
 Music: *Wie schön leuchtet*, melody att. Philipp Nicolai, (1556-1608);  
 arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Irr.

## Opening Acclamation

[Live]



# Advent Wreath Lighting

Reader: Prepare the way of the Lord

We light this candle in **love**,  
The love that Jesus, our Savior, has for us.  
Prepare then, the way of the Lord



**All: Come, Lord Jesus**

## Carol *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*[Live]*

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



7. O come, De - sire of na - tions bind in one the  
8. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



hearts of all \_\_\_\_\_ man - kind. Bid thou our sad di - vi - sions  
cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



cease, and be Thy - self our King \_\_\_\_\_ of Peace. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
here un - til the son of God \_\_\_\_\_ ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## Gloria

*(Live)*

Richard Shephard

*Please join in singing the Gloria; Zoom participants, please stay muted.*

4 *f*

S. A. *f*

T. B. *f*

Glo-ry to God in high - est heav'n Peace to all your peo - ple given

8 *Unison mf*

Al-migh-ty God, your grace a - boun-ding We give you glo-ry your praise\_ re-soun-ding

12 *f*

S. A. *f*

T. B. *f*

We wor-ship you, and sing to-day. Christ, our Hope, is on\_ the way.

19 *mf*

S. A. *mf*

T. B. *mf*

Je - sus Christ the on - ly Son, Lamb of God, the Bles - sed One;

23 *Unison*

Tak-ing a - way our sin and sad-ness, Turn-ing our sor - row in - to glad-ness;

27 *div. f*

S. A.  
T. B.

We wor-ship you, and sing to-day Christ, our Joy, is on\_the way.

S. A.  
T. B.

*mp*  
Je - sus, you are seat - ed there At God's right hand re - ceive\_our prayer

38

S. A.  
T. B.

Peace is your king-dom now and ev - er, Li - on and lamb\_ lay down\_ to-geth-er,

42 *f*

S. A.  
T. B.

We wor-ship you\_ and sing to - day Christ, our Peace, is on\_ the way.

*continued next page*

49 *f*

S. A. *f*

T. B. *f*

For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, Lord of love, till a - ges run;

53

S. A.

T. B.

Glo-ry to God, e - ter - nal mer - it, Fath - ther, Son\_ and Ho - ly Spi - rit;

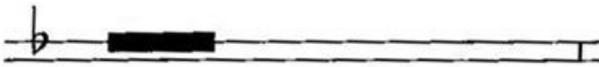
57

S. A.

T. B. *ff*

We wor-ship you and sing\_ to-day, Christ, our Love is on\_ the way.

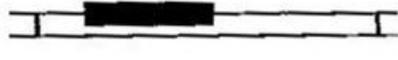
## Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Advent

Celebrant: 

God be with you.

People: 

**And also with you**

Celebrant: 

Let us pray.

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

## The First Lesson:        Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

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

People: Thanks be to God

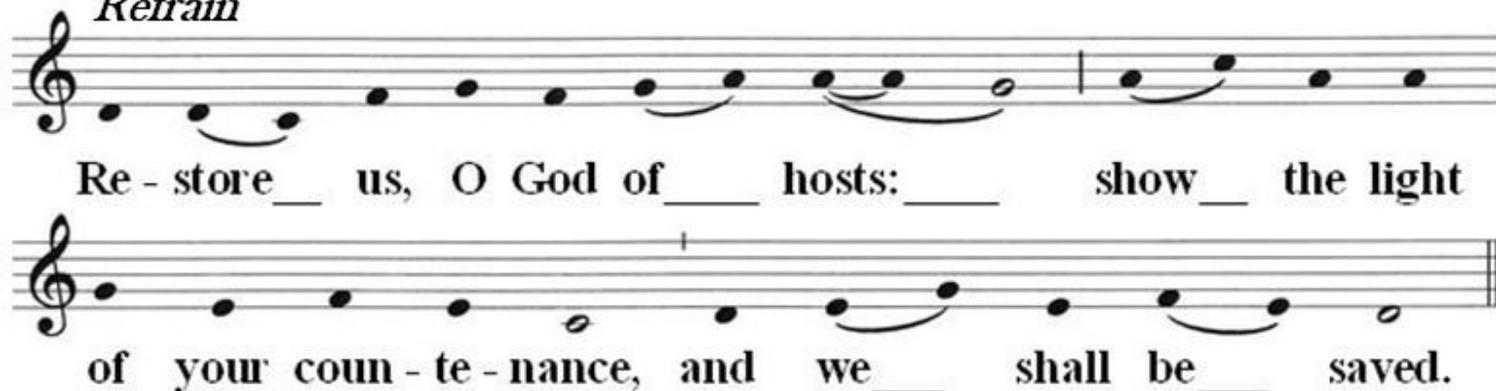
## Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

[Live]

*The cantor will lead the psalm.*

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

### *Refrain*

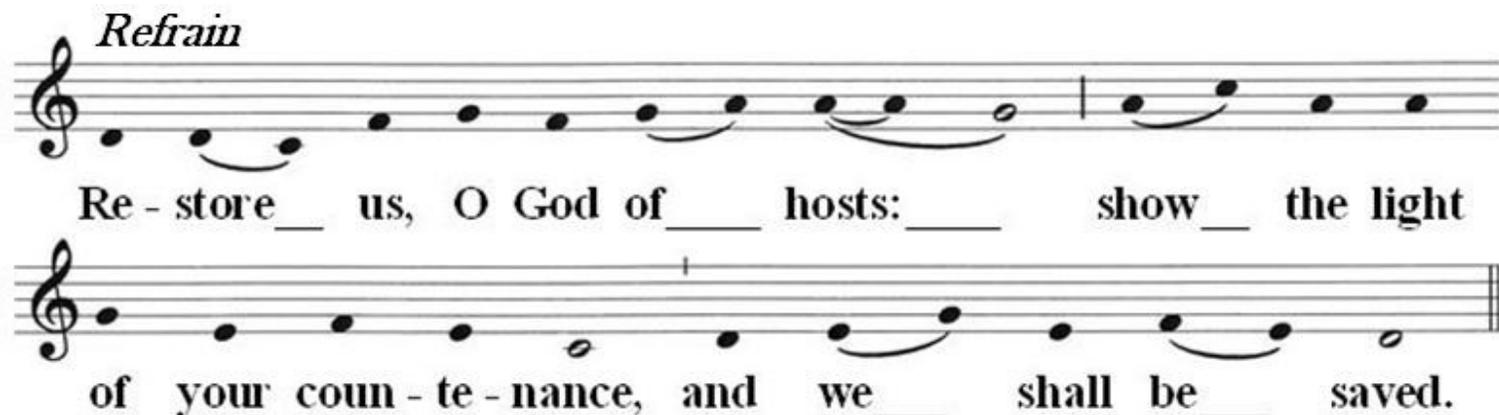


Re - store \_\_ us, O God of \_\_ hosts: \_\_ show \_\_ the light  
of your coun - te - nance, and we \_\_ shall be \_\_ saved.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and come to help us. *Refrain*

*Refrain*



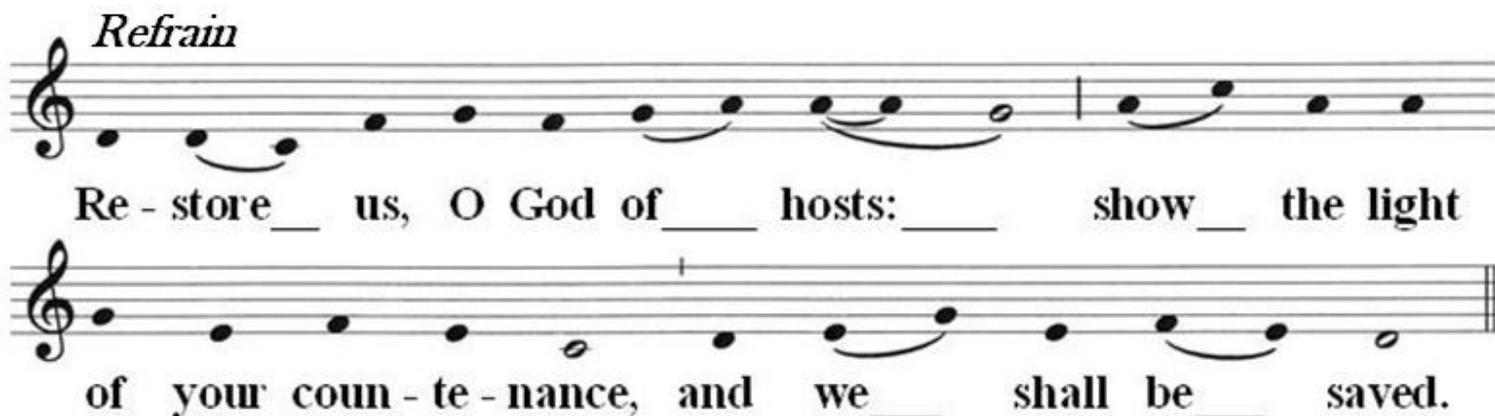
Re - store\_\_ us, O God of\_\_ hosts:\_\_ show\_\_ the light  
of your coun - te - nance, and we\_\_ shall be\_\_ saved.

O LORD God of hosts,  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn. *Refrain*

*Refrain*



Re - store\_\_ us, O God of\_\_ hosts:\_\_ show\_\_ the light  
of your coun - te - nance, and we\_\_ shall be\_\_ saved.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name. *Refrain (as above)*

## The Epistle    Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

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

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

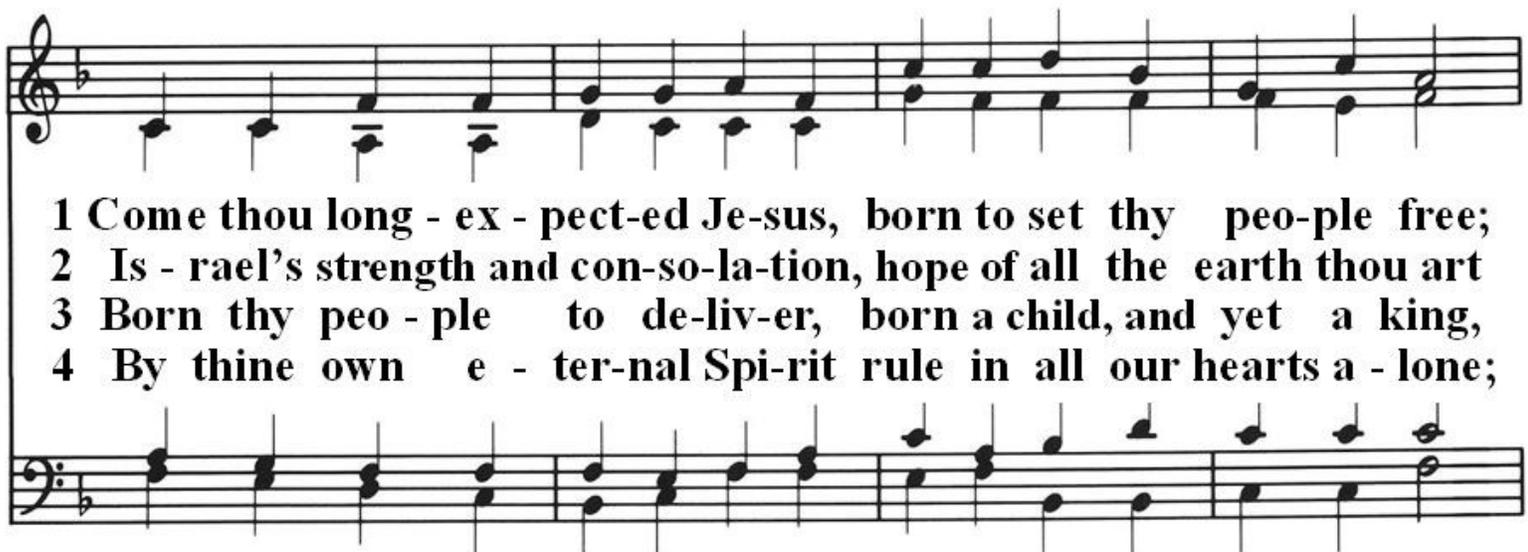
**People: Thanks be to God**

## Gradual Hymn

Hymnal #66

### *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* [Live]

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



1 Come thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Is - rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de-liv-er, born a child, and yet a king,  
4 By thine own e - ter-nal Spi-rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re-lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
 dear de-sire of ev-ery na - tion, joy of ev-ery long - ing heart.  
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.  
 by thine all - suf - fi-cient me-rit raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Stuttgart, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715;  
 adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

87. 87

## The Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

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

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

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,

“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”  
which means, “God is with us.”

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise to you Lord Christ**

## The Christmas Pageant

### *A Star in the Window*



#### Cast

The Carolers:	Chris Schmidt, John Pietrzyk, Ian Fugate, and John McVey
Otto Buecker	Kevin Beckham
Alma Buecker	Patricia Pietrzyk
Mrs. Gianelli	Dena Ware
Edward Gianelli	Fionnian Beckham
Barbara Gianelli	Brigid Beckham
Tony Gianelli	Joe Leen
Ben Gianelli	Liam Beckham
Mrs. Temby	Abby O’Connell
Jack Temby	Sam Leen
Mrs. Flanagan	Stephanie Daugherty
Mr. Baker	Jeremy Smith
Man	Joe Gutierrez
Woman	Marilyn Winans
Star Reader	Jeannie Battagin
Angels	Lana Sheridan, Astrid Rosgen, Faye Rosgen

Directed by  
Set

Sue Beckham  
Carl Beckham

*Curtain Call will include a photography moment!*

*A period of silence will follow.*

## **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.

*Silence*

**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



Celebrant:

People:



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant:



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People:



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r, of pow'r and might.



Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in\_\_ the high-est.



Bless-ed is he, is he who comes in the name\_\_ of\_\_ the Lord.

Ho - sa - na, Ho - sa - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na in\_\_ the high-est Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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:**



A - MEN\_

**The Lord's Prayer**     *led by the Deacon, said in unison*

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

*All are invited to join in singing the Sanctus.*

*Zoom participants please stay muted.*

*organ*

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus Christ

*acc. ad lib.*

5

in the break - ing of the bread. God of hope and

8

God of pro - mise, you have pre - pared a ban - quet for us;

*rit.*

11

Come Lord Je - sus, come and cheer Come and make thine Ad - vent here.

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 #60

*Creator of the Stars of Night*

*[Live]*

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

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

The image shows a musical score for the hymn. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The piano accompaniment is written on two staves (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line, with numbers 1 through 6 indicating the start of each line of the hymn. The piano part features a simple harmonic accompaniment with a steady bass line and a more active treble line.

*continued next page*

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

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

*continued next page*

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

This rhythm may be used throughout: 

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956)

LM

*Please stand.*

**Post-Communion Prayer** *led by the Celebrant, said in unison*

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

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 #265

*The Angel Gabriel*

[Live]

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

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,  
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,  
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,  
 4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ was born

*continued next page*

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;  
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,  
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,  
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,  
 Thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."  
 And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!  
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!  
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!  
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

*The Annunciation (March 25).*

Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943)

## The Dismissal

Deacon: Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## Postlude

Domenico Scarlatti

### *Sonata in D*

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:** Jim Cobb

**Greeters:** MaryJane Johnson, Donna Cobb

**Intercessor:** Jim Cobb

**Lectors:** *John Pietrzyk*, Dorothy Furgerson

**Cantors:** Susan McVey, John McVey

**Advent Reader/Candle-Lighter:** Joe Leen, Sam Leen

**Accompanist:** Benjamin Belew

**Zoom Host:** Lou Poulain

**Stream/Tech Team:** Steve Williams, Jim Cobb

## 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.

**The Christmas Pageant** Many thanks to Sue and Carl Beckham for putting together our Christmas pageant(s) again this year!

**Christmas Decorating** Stay after the service to decorate the church as we transition from Advent to Christmas! Many hands make light work.

**Octave of Advent O-Antiphon Devotional** is available. Pastor Salying produced this liturgy with music youtube links for your use for the last week of Advent (December 17-23). It was sent out through the administrator email account. If you did not receive it, but wish to have it, please email [pastorsalying@stthomas-svale.us](mailto:pastorsalying@stthomas-svale.us).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Dearly Departed: Shirley Falk**

The funeral for Shirley Falk will be on January 6 at 4pm. Shirley died at 92 and was surrounded by the love of family.

**The week after Christmas at St. Thomas** Please note that midweek services (Centering Prayer, Noonday Prayer, Intercessory Prayer Vespers) are canceled for the week after Christmas. Intercessory Prayer Vespers will continue on hiatus until Thursday January 12, 2023.

**Holiday Boutique final** A huge shout out of thanks and gratitude for the generous outpouring of support for the 2022 St. Thomas Holiday Boutique fundraiser! There were folks who baked, stitched, crafted, and donated items and there were many of you who shopped and donated. We also had walk-in traffic. All of those efforts resulted in a donation back to St. Thomas of **\$2,617**.

A special note of thanks to Kristen Kaliski, Fran Hostettler, Daniel Ng, Abby O'Connell, and Donna and Jim Cobb for all their help in execution.

Bravo to this generous community.

In gratitude, Ann Kopischke

## **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). There are 13 families enrolled, which include 39 children. Over the past week we have had great support from our congregation and several people have signed up to help. The gifts will be distributed on December 24.

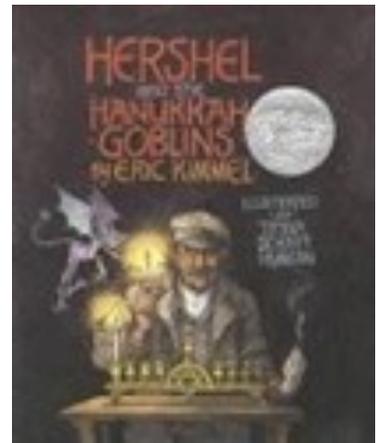
Anyone interested in contributing please contact Pastor Salying or Deacon Bertram ([bertramemail@gmail.com](mailto:bertramemail@gmail.com)), or Sherene Nagarajah ([sherenenmail@gmail.com](mailto:sherenenmail@gmail.com))

## **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 18**

*Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins* was conceived as a Jewish story. Events made it a Ukrainian one as well. First of all, it takes place in Ukraine. Ostropol is a real Ukrainian town, just as Hershel was a real person who lived there in the early nineteenth century.



*I've always felt connected to Ukraine through my grandmother. She came from the Western Ukrainian town of Kolomyya in the early twentieth century...*

*Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins actually began as a Ukrainian story. I came across a tale called Ivanko, The Bear's Son. Ivanko fools a goblin who lives in a lake. I thought if I multiplied that goblin by eight and made the last one a king, I'd have a Hanukkah tale. The problem was what to do with that King of the Goblins. How could I*

*make him convincing? He's not a fool like his cohorts.*

*I looked back to Ukrainian history for the answer. Like Lenin, Stalin, and every other tyrant in history, the King thinks he holds all the cards. He has all the power, all the answers. And some do—for a while.*

*Hershel is no superhero. He has no special powers except his wit and courage. That was all the Jewish people had in the days of Antiochus. That is all the Ukrainian people have in the days of Putin. But it's enough.*

*The King of the Goblins only wins if we let him.*

- Eric Kimmel, author



## *Christmas Eve Festivities!*

*When: December 24  
after the 4pm Service*

*Who: The whole St. Thomas Family!*

*Where: The Church Narthex*

*What: Feast on heavy hors d'oeuvres,  
desserts, and festive quaffs!*

*and*

*bring a beloved Christmas ornament or  
memento to share its story!*

## **Christmas Eve at St. Thomas**

If you are planning to join in the Christmas Eve festivities after the 4 pm service, please consider bringing an appetizer to share. We're looking for easy-to-eat food that doesn't require separate plates or utensils, so for example: meat/cheese platter, veggie tray, fruit platter, finger sandwiches, mini quiches, anything on a stick(!), deviled eggs, egg rolls, etc For sweets, please also make them single serve, like cookies, cupcakes, brownies, etc.. Wine is also an option and that helps out too!

Please let Dena Ware know if you plan to bring something and what it is by email at [denaware@gmail.com](mailto:denaware@gmail.com) (or phone/text at 970-404-1630) so we can make sure we're getting an assortment and not too much of

just one thing!

**January 6 Epiphany Evensong Service** will be hybrid. We will use the Marty Haugen evensong he wrote for the Holden community. Bring your star from your Christmas letter or get a star when you come. This beautiful service begins at 7pm on January 6, 2023.

December 18	8am - In person 10:30am - Hybrid	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
Friday, January 6	4pm- in the church 7pm - Hybrid	Shirley Falk funeral Epiphany Evensong

**Save the Dates:**

**End of the Year Contributions:** Contributions must be postmarked **on or before December 31st, 2022** or handed to the Treasurer by that date to count as tax-deductible contributions for 2022. If you are donating late, in the December 25-31, 2022 period, please send a notification email to [Finance@stthomas-svale.org](mailto:Finance@stthomas-svale.org). Although the Parish Office will be closed beginning Friday afternoon, December 23rd, through Monday, January 2nd, we will be periodically checking the US mail and email for messages.

Also, if you choose to donate securities, please contact the Treasurer (Jim Cobb) if you need the account number and transfer

information. It is important to notify us when the transaction is submitted to ensure our prompt attention to your donation!

### **Stewardship update: Pledges Gratefully Accepted**

If you are considering pledging to our annual budget for 2023, you can still do so. You may submit a pledge card by mail, by email at [finance@stthomas-svale.org](mailto:finance@stthomas-svale.org), and by hand-delivery to Jim Cobb. Currently, we have 47 pledges toward our goal of 60.

**Annual Meeting Sunday January 29, 2023** At the Annual Meeting, the Annual Report for 2022 will be presented along with important announcements about St. Thomas as we go forward in 2023, There will be a single worship service that morning to facilitate attendance by all. Please put this date on your calendar!

**The Annual Report** consists of budget information from the Treasurer and Finance group, as well as individual summations of the 2022 activities of all the groups at St. Thomas. Please submit your individual reports **no later than Friday January 20, 2023** for inclusion in the report! Thank you!

## **General Announcements**

**New Vestry members** have been nominated. They will be confirmed at the Annual meeting next month.

Here they are, to introduce themselves:

### **Joe Gutierrez:**

I'm honored to be nominated to serve for a three-year term on our vestry. I've been at St. Thomas long enough to have seen many changes. This is not the same church that it was when I arrived. Each Sunday



is an evolving experience. It's not that we don't know that change is inevitable, but that change is taking place at an increasingly faster rate. It's the rate of change and the emotional agility that it takes to adjust to these rapid changes that makes our church life so interesting.

I was on the Search Committee to select our pastor in 2014 and 2015. I was also on the interviewing sub-committee that interviewed our to-be pastor, Salying, at St. Marks, Palo Alto. I knew at that time, that Salying was the leader that could and would lead us through these challenging times, so full of doubt, wonder, surprise, sadness and joy.

If elected, I look forward to helping you, the vestry and Pastor Salying meet the special challenges that face us. Of the many changes that we have experienced over the years, the restructuring of our campus for leasing and space-sharing is probably the most complex change of all. I know we can do this with grace and love. I would like to be a part of this very special effort with you as your vestry person.

With love and blessings, Joe Gutierrez

**Dena Ware:**

I felt I found a home from the moment I walked through the doors of St. Thomas just over a year ago! There are so many important ministries here, and I love learning about them, getting to know the people involved, and even participating in them too! Prior to St. Thomas, I attended Episcopal churches in Colorado and Texas, but obviously, St. Thomas is my favorite!! I've lived all over the US, but I've been in Sunnyvale for the past 12 years where I live, work, play, and now worship. I am honored to be considered for the St. Thomas Vestry.



**Emilee Wilhelm-Leen:**

I'm a mother of two boys and a primary care doctor caring for homeless folks in Santa Clara county. I previously attended St. Bede's in Menlo Park – where I did two tours on the vestry – but joined St. Thomas about five years ago when I realized I could skip the freeway and hop on my bike instead. I'm so glad I did! I treasure the feelings

of love and fun that are so unmistakable in the St. Thomas community. Previously at St. Thomas, I served on the Financial Sustainability Committee and I recently joined the choir where they are patient with me as I learn to sing harmony with my fellow altos. I'm looking forward to sitting on vestry in 2023



## **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 or 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



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Faith. Hope. Love.  
Unity.

A banner image showing the top of a brick church steeple with a bell, set against a blue sky and green trees. The text "Faith. Hope. Love. Unity." is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

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](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: <https://stthomas-svale.org/give/>

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](mailto: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: [prayerchain@stthomas-svale.us](mailto:prayerchain@stthomas-svale.us).

**Children and Family Ministry** For information on the schedule of children and family ministry, please contact Sue Beckham at [Sue\\_beckham@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 **Monday December 26** 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: [drdfurg@mac.com](mailto:drdfurg@mac.com)

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

**Tuesdays, 6pm** Centering Prayer, led by Pastor Salying:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/724376004>

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

(For December we only meet on 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022. In January we will begin again on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023).

Zoom link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89699188717?  
pwd=dzNuY1VkOWpnbzFvQkpwRnJ0VG1JUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89699188717?pwd=dzNuY1VkOWpnbzFvQkpwRnJ0VG1JUT09)

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

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

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

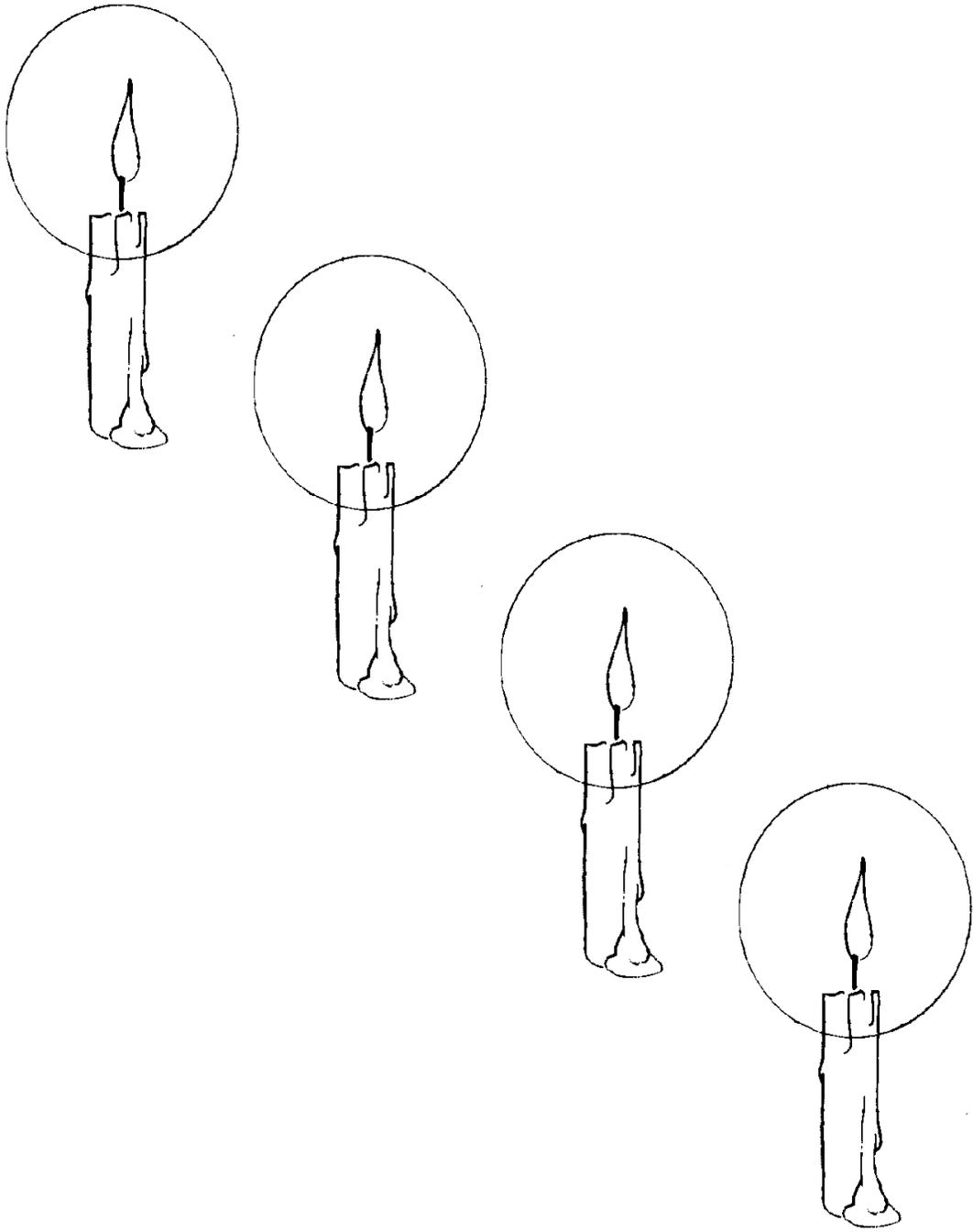
*Please see website for week-to-week information.*

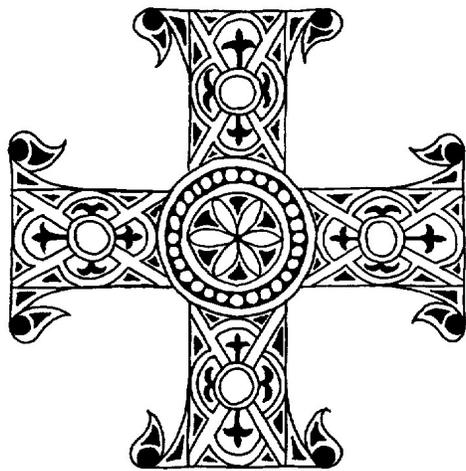
An updated **Announcement page** is available on line at  
[https://docs.google.com/document/  
d/1M\\_iFUN25FBuxOVTr0UKw6mokVcdE9iNII9RFrPIKNAg](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1M_iFUN25FBuxOVTr0UKw6mokVcdE9iNII9RFrPIKNAg)  
and updates of various parish events and activities may also be  
found on our website at [www.stthomas-svale.org](http://www.stthomas-svale.org)

A decorative border of small, stylized birds in flight, arranged in a rectangular frame around the text.

## Parish Mission Statement

St. Thomas is joyfully on the way!  
We are becoming whom Jesus calls us to be: a spiritually-centered  
community dedicated to creating connections with God, each other,  
and our neighbors, so that we might walk together with love  
toward justice, compassion, and hope.





THE VESTRY OF ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SUNNYVALE

Abby O'Connell, **Senior Warden**  
Chris Schmidt, **Junior Warden**

2022  
Susan McVey  
Chris Schmidt  
Bill Rosgen

2023  
Pat Dare  
Breno DeMedeiros  
Abby O'Connell

2024  
Nancy Allgeier  
Gage McKinney  
Rita Welsh

Gage McKinney, **Clerk**

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

Stephanie Daugherty    MaryJane Johnson    Hugo Lopez-Laguna    Mabel Cheng  
(Joe Gutierrez, Marilyn Winans alternates)

St. Thomas website: [www.stthomas-svale.org](http://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](mailto:pastorsalying@stthomas-svale.us)  
or 510-478-3554
- Deacon:** The Rev. Bertram Nagarajah.....[bertramemail@gmail.com](mailto:bertramemail@gmail.com)
- Treasurer:** Jim Cobb.....[Finance@stthomas-svale.org](mailto:Finance@stthomas-svale.org)
- Parish Administrator:** Anne Buelteman.....[office@stthomas-svale.org](mailto:office@stthomas-svale.org)
- Family Ministry Director.:** Susan Beckham.....[family\\_ministry@stthomas-svale.org](mailto:family_ministry@stthomas-svale.org)
- Library and Resource Center Coordinator:** Carol Campbell .....[resourcecenter@stthomas-svale.org](mailto:resourcecenter@stthomas-svale.org)
- Music Director:** Patricia Pietrzyk,..... [patriciapietrzyk@gmail.com](mailto:patriciapietrzyk@gmail.com)
- Newsletter Editor:** Anne Buelteman..... [office@stthomas-svale.org](mailto:office@stthomas-svale.org)
- Accompanist:** Michele Elizabeth Kemmerling .....
- Our Daily Bread (ODB) Coordinator:** David Barnes.....408-736-4108, [odb@stthomas-svale.org](mailto: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..... 510-478-3554

Parish Office.....408-736-4155

If there is no answer, please leave a message.

You may invite prayers online through The Intercessory Prayer Chain  
at [prayerchain@stthomas-svale.org](mailto:prayerchain@stthomas-svale.org)