

First Sunday after the Epiphany

The Baptism of our Lord

Service of Healing for New Beginnings

January 8, 2023

Holy Eucharist EOW1, 10:30am



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

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

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January 8, 2023

Holy Eucharist EOW1, 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

Benjamin Belew/Sakagch Akeala

Fugue 005

Benjamin Belew, piano

[Live]

Opening Hymn

Hymnal #117

Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

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

1 Bright-est and best of the stars_ of the morn - ing,
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing,
 3 Shall we then yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,

1 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend__ us thine aid;
 2 low lies his head with the beasts__ of the stall;
 3 o - dors of E - dom and of - ferings di - vine,

1 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,
 2 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
 3 gems of the moun - tain, and pearls of the o - cean,



1 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
 2 Ma - ker and Mon - arch and Sa - vior of all.
 3 myrrh from the for - est, and gold from the mine?

Words: Reginal Heber (1783-1826), alt.

Music: *Morning Star*, James Proctor Harding (1850-1911)

11 10. 11 10

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant:



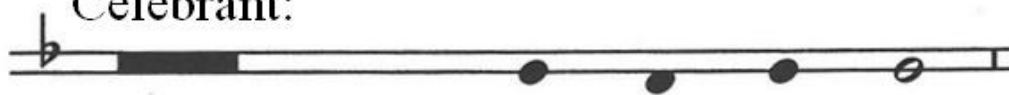
There is one body and one Spi - rit;

People:



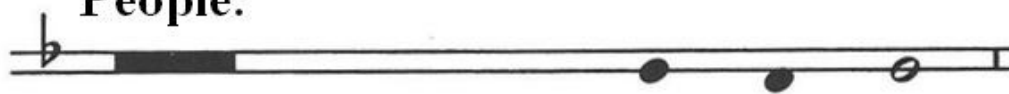
There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant:



One Lord, one Faith, one Bap - tism;

People:



One God and Fa - ther of all.

Setting: Ambrosian chant; adapt. *Hymnal* 1982

Greeting and Collect for Purity

Celebrant:

People:

Celebrant:

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

All:

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

and from you no secrets 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 holy Name,

Through Christ our Lord. A - men.

The Gloria

Benjamin Belew/Sakagch Akeala

The choir will sing the Gloria. The words are below

Gloria!

Lord God, almighty Father.

We praise you,

We bless you,

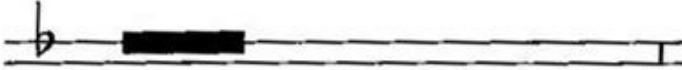
We adore you,

We glorify you.

Lord God, almighty Father.

Gloria!


Collect for the Baptism of our Lord

Celebrant: 

God be with you.

People: 

And also with you

Celebrant: 

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The First Lesson Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the LORD,
 who created the heavens and stretched them out,
 who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
 who gives breath to the people upon it
 and spirit to those who walk in it:
 I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
 I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
 I have given you as a covenant to the people,
 a light to the nations,
 to open the eyes that are blind,
 to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 29

*The congregation joins the choir in singing the refrain.
 Zoom participants please stay muted.*



The voice of the Lord__ is up - on the wa - ters.

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,
 ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name;
 worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. *Refrain*



The voice of the Lord__ is up - on the wa - ters.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor. *Refrain*

Refrain:

The voice of the Lord__ is up - on the wa - ters.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. *Refrain*

Refrain:

The voice of the Lord__ is up - on the wa - ters.

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.

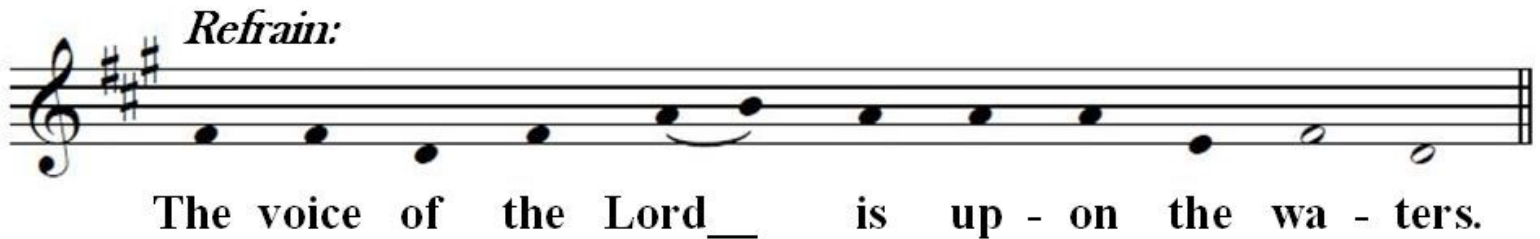
And in the temple of the Lord
all are crying, "Glory!" *Refrain*

Refrain:

The voice of the Lord__ is up - on the wa - ters.

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. *Refrain*



The Epistle: Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: Thanks be to God

Christ, When For Us You Were Baptized

1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spi - rit on you came,
 2 God called you his be - lov - ed Son, called you his ser - vant true,
 3 Straight-way and stead-fast un - til death you then o - beyed his call
 4 Bap - tize us with your Spi - rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,

as peace-ful as a dove and yet as ur - gent as a flame.
 sent you his king-dom to pro-claim, his ho - ly will to do.
 free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.
 that, like-wise in God's ser - vice we may per - fect free - dom find.

Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev.

Music: *Caithness*, melody from *The Psalms of David in Prose and Meeter*, 1635;
 harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

CM

The Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so

now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Homily:

There will be a time of silence for reflection.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

As you are sprinkled, it is appropriate to make the sign of the cross.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and
born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right
hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall
into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News
of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your
neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and
respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy
Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins,
keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our
Lord.

People: Amen.

All: *repeat continuously (under Leader)*

A

(Hmmm)

Response

All:

B

God — of mer - cy, hold us in love.

Leader:

A

B

Response (as above)

1. In peace, in peace, we pray_ to you:

Leader:

A

B

Response (as above)

2. For peace and sal-va-tion, we pray to you:

Leader: **A**

3. For peace be-tween na-tions, for peace be-tween peo-ples:

Response

All: **B**

God — of mer - cy, hold us in love.

Leader: **A** **B** *Response above*

4. For us who are gath-ered to wor-ship and praise you:
5. For all of your ser-vants who live out your gos-pel:
6. For all those who gov-ern, that jus-tice might guide them:
7. For all those who la-bor in ser-vice to oth-ers:
8. Grant weath-er that nour-ish - es all of cre - a - tion:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan-ger:
10. For all the be - lov - ed who rest in your mer-cy:

Leader:

Help us, com-fort us, all of our days:

All:

Musical score for the hymn "All: Keep us, hold us, gracious God." The score is written on two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Keep — us, hold — us, gra - cious God." The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final fermata on the word "God."

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.

The Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Offertory sentence

The Offertory Anthem

Don Humphreys

The Beatitudes

Jean Platner, soloist

Benjamin Belew, accompanist

[live]

Celebrant: All things come of you, O Lord.

People: **And of your own have we given you.**

Sanctus

Benjamin Belew/Sakagch Akeala

John McVey, soloist

The choir and soloist will sing the Sanctus/Hosanna.

Please sing along; Zoom participants remain muted.

choir



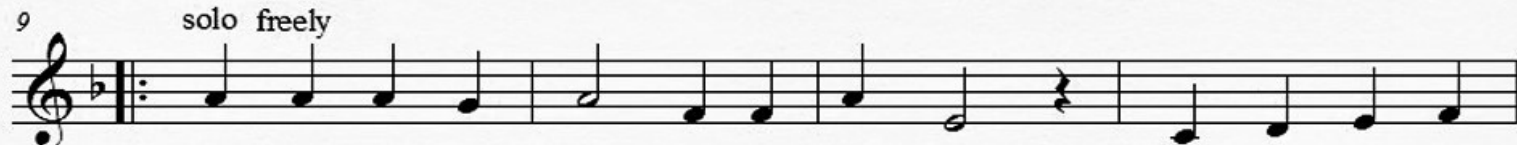
Ho - sa - - nna, Ho - sa - - nna, Ho - sa - nna in__ the

5



high - est. Ho - sa - nna, Ho - sa - - - - nna.

9 solo freely



Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God al - migh - ty. Heav'n and earth full
Blessed are those who come in thy name. In your king - dom

13



of thy glo - ry. Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God al -
from high you reign. Blessed are those who come in thy

17 a tempo choir



migh - ty. Heav'n and earth full of thy glo - ry. Ho -
name. In your king - dom from high you reign.

21



sa - nna, Ho - sa - nna, Ho - sa - nna in__ the

24



high - est. Ho - sa - nna, Ho - sa - - - - nna.

Celebrant: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,
your Word has never been silent;
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,
you delivered them from bondage
and led them to a land of promise.
Of your grace, you gave Jesus
to be human, to share our life,
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign
and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.
Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
you have freed us from sin,
brought us into your life,
reconciled us to you,
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.
We thank you that on the night before he died for us
Jesus took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
gave it to his friends and said:
“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”
After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:
“Drink this, all of you:
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”
And so, remembering all that was done for us:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
longing for Christ’s coming in glory,
and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made,
we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and **People**:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Celebrant: Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be to us
the Body and Blood of your Christ.
Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,
and in the fullness of time gather us
with all your people
into the joy of our true eternal home.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.

Celebrant and **People**:

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN

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

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

The Communion with Anointing for Healing

Everyone is invited to come forward 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.*
- *If you wish to be anointed, please remain after you have received the bread and the wine, and the oil will follow.*

Communion Hymn

Hymnal #529

In Christ There Is No East or West

[Live]

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

Unison or harmony

1 In Christ, there is no East or West, in
2 Join hands, disciples of the faith, what
3 In Christ, now meet both East and West, in

him no South or North, but one great fel - low -
e'er your race may be! Who servss my Fa - ther
him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through-out the whole wide earth.
as his child is sure - ly kin to me.
one in him, through-out the whole wide earth.

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.**

The Blessing

Celebrant: May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining
of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you
also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only
begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that
Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the
wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad
your hearts.

People: Amen.

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

People: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Hymnal #448

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

[Live]

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



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt.

Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

LM

The Dismissal

Deacon: Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Postlude

Benjamin Belew/Sakagch Akeala

Little Episode 01

Benjamin Belew, piano

[Live]



Serving us at 10:30 am

The St. Thomas Altar Guild

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong

Deacon: The Rev. Bertram Nagarajah (on Zoom)

Eucharistic Minister: Ann Kopischke

Greeters: MaryJane Johnson, Donna Cobb

Intercessor: Ann Kopischke

Lectors: Lou Poulain, John McVey

Cantor: Chris Schmidt

Accompanist: Benjamin Belew

Zoom Host: Abby O'Connell

Stream/Tech Team: Steve Williams, Jim Cobb

TODAY

Anointing for New Beginnings. Anointing is an ancient ritual of healing and commissioning. Today, you are invited to receive blessed oil at the communion rail after communion. May this sign be a blessing to you of healing and empowerment in Christ.

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

Christmas Decoration Breakdown. Please stay after the 10:30am service to tear down the decorations and store them for next year. Many hands make light work! Thank you for helping.

UPCOMING EVENTS

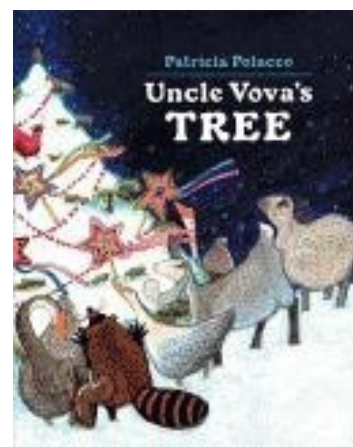
Library News:

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

Uncle Vova's Tree by Patricia Polacco.

Grandparents, aunts and uncles, and children gather at a farmhouse to celebrate Christmas in the Russian tradition.



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, and by hand-delivery to Jim Cobb. At our latest count, we now have **50** 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!

Save the Dates:

Sunday, January 15	8am - in person 10:30am - Hybrid	Holy Eucharist Rite I Holy Eucharist Rite II
Sunday, January 22	8am - in person 10:30am - Zoom only	Holy Eucharist Rite I Morning Prayer
Sunday, January 29	10:30am - hybrid one service only	Holy Eucharist Rite II Annual meeting

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.

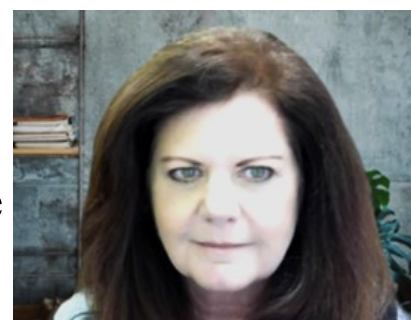
I was on the Search Committee to select our pastor in 2014 and 2015.

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

Delegates to Convention

Stephanie Daugherty, Hugo Lopez-Laguna, Mabel Cheng, and MaryJane Johnson have served as our delegates to convention. Mary Jane is stepping back—thank you MaryJane for your service! - and will be replaced by

Sherene Nagarajah.

I am an internal medicine physician currently practicing in the Bay Area. I am married to deacon Bertram and we have two sons. I am a new member of the altar guild at Saint Thomas. I was in the altar guild at Saint Marks, Santa Clara for seven years. Before that we lived in the east coast and I was in the flower guild at the episcopal church in Washington, D.C. I have also authored a Christian nonfiction book. I would be honored to serve as a delegate to the Convention.



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.

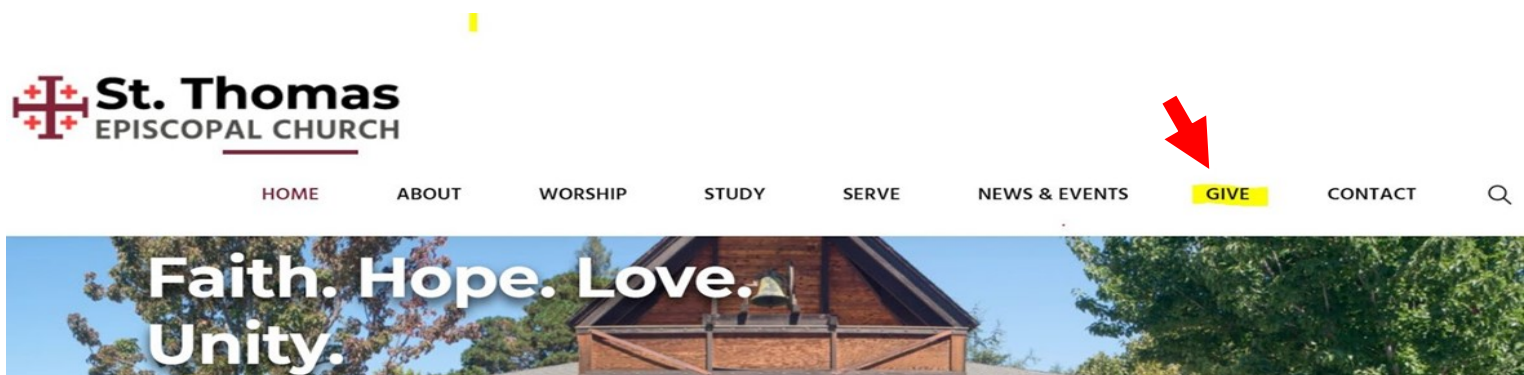
Pledges, Offerings & Donations

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”, 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: <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).

Recent project: On Christmas Eve morning, gifts were distributed to the families of the incarcerated at Elmwood Jail. Thank you again

to all who bought gifts and brought Christmas cheer to these families! And thank you to our volunteers who distributed the gifts. 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: 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

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

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

ESL is back 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 **Monday January 30** using Zoom conferencing, we will meet to discuss ***The Second Life of Mirielle West*** by Amanda Skenandore *

For Mireille West, a 1920's socialite married to a silent film star, the isolation and powerlessness of the Louisiana Leper Home is an unimaginable fall from her star-studded life in Hollywood's Golden Age. More a prisoner than a patient, she struggles to find community and purpose, and to redefine her self-worth while fighting an unchosen fate. Please join us—contact Dorothy Furgerson for the Zoom link: drdfurg@mac.com

* *Silicon Valley Reads 2023 selections: theme—journey to new beginnings*

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



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 1st, 8th and 15th December 2022. In
January we will begin again on the 12th January 2023).

Zoom link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89699188717?
pwd=dzNuY1VkOWpnbzFvQkpwRnJ0VGJIJUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89699188717?pwd=dzNuY1VkOWpnbzFvQkpwRnJ0VGJIJUT09)

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.



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**

Gage McKinney, **Clerk**

2022

Susan McVey

Chris Schmidt

Bill Rosgen

2023

Pat Dare

Breno DeMedeiros

Abby O’Connell

2024

Nancy Allgeier

Gage McKinney

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.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 Campbellresourcecenter@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..... 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