

# Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 29, 2023

Holy Eucharist EOW1, 10:30am



*The Sermon on the Mount*

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

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

# Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 29, 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, piano

## Opening Hymn

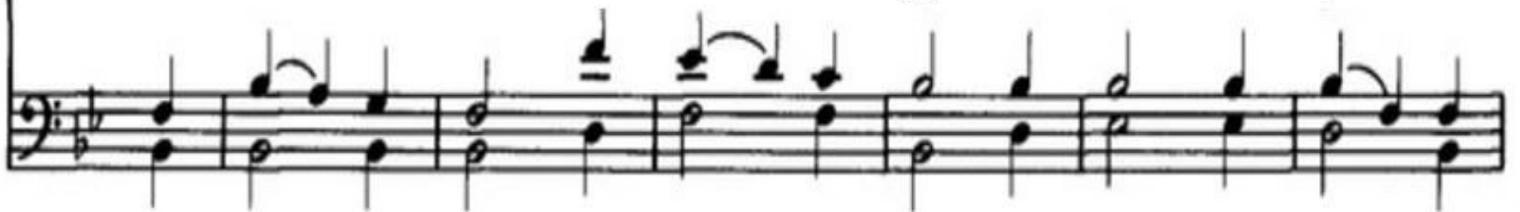
Hymnal #574

### *Before Thy Throne, O God, We Kneel*

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



1 Be - fore thy throne, O God, we kneel: give us a con - science  
2 Search out our hearts and make us true; help us to give to  
3 For sins of heed - less word and deed, for pride am - bi - tious  
4 Let the fierce fires which burn and try, our in - most spi - rits



quick to feel, a rea - dy mind to un - der - stand the  
all their due. From love of pleas - ure, lust of gold, from  
to suc - ceed, for craft - y trade and sub - tle snare to  
pu - ri - fy: con - sume the ill; purge out the shame; O



*continued next page*

mean - ing of thy chas - tening hand; what - e'er the pain and  
 sins which make the heart grow cold, wean us and train us  
 catch the sim - ple un - a - ware, for lives be - rept of  
 God, be with us in the flame; a new-born peo - ple

shame may be, bring us, O Fa - ther, near - er thee.  
 with thy rod; teach us to know our faults, O God.  
 pur - pose high, for - give, for - give, O Lord. We cry.  
 may we rise, more pure, more true, more no - bly wise.

Words: William Boyd Carpenter (1841-1918), alt.  
 Music: *St. Petersburg*, Dimitri S. Bortniansky (1751-1825)

88. 88. 88

## Opening Acclamation

Celebrant:

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

**People:**

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

**Greeting and Collect for Purity**

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**All:** Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known  
and from you no se - crets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our  
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly  
love you and worthily magnify your ho - ly Name,  
Through Christ our Lord. A - men.

# The Gloria

Hymnal #S204

*Please join the choir in singing the Gloria. Zoom participants stay muted.*

1. Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

2. We praise thee, we bless thee, we wor-ship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks

to thee for thy great glo - ry, 3. O Lord God, heaven - ly King,

God the Father Al - might - y. 4. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther,

5. that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy up - on us.

6. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

7. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Fa - ther, have mercy up - on us.

8. For thou on - ly art ho - ly; thou on - ly art the Lord; 9. Thou only, O Christ,

with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Setting: *Old Scottish Chant*, from *Chants or Tunes for Particular Hymns*, 1763?, alt.

## Collect for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### The First Lesson      Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the Lord has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,  
 with calves a year old?  
 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
 with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?  
 Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
 the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
 and what does the Lord require of you  
 but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
 and to walk humbly with your God?

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**People: Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 15

*You may join with the choir in singing the refrain.  
 Zoom participants please stay muted.*

*Refrain*



The right- eous shall a - bide\_\_ up - on\_\_ God's\_ ho - ly hill.

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?  
 who may abide upon your holy hill?

Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right,  
 who speaks the truth from his heart. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

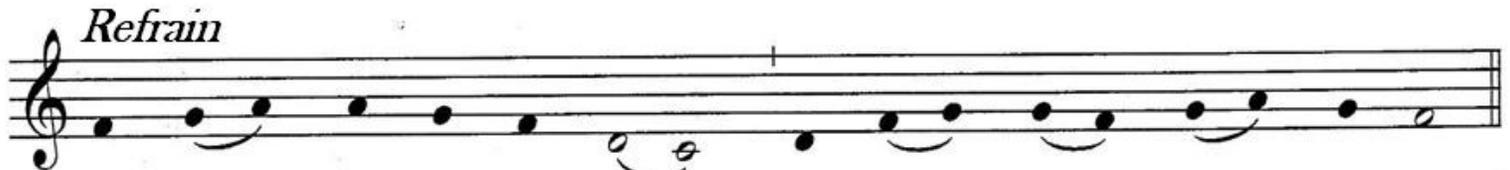


The right- eous shall a - bide\_\_ up - on\_\_ God's\_ ho - ly hill.

There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend;  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

In his sight the wicked is rejected,  
but he honors those who fear the Lord. *Refrain*

*Refrain*



The right- eous shall a - bide\_\_ up - on\_\_ God's\_ ho - ly hill.

He has sworn to do no wrong  
and does not take back his word.

He does not give his money in hope of gain,  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things  
shall never be overthrown. *Refrain*

*Refrain*



The right- eous shall a - bide\_\_ up - on\_\_ God's\_ ho - ly hill.

## The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Lector: A reading from the first letter to the Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Gradual Hymn**

Hymnal #440

*Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word*

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

1 Bless-ed\_ Je - sus at thy word we are gath-ered all to  
 2 All our\_ know-ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep-est dark-ness  
 3 Gra-cious\_ Lord, thy - self im - part Light of Light from God pro-

hear thee; let our\_ hearts and souls be stirred  
 shroud - ed, till thy\_ Spi - rit breaks our night  
 ceed - ing, o - pen\_ thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach-ings  
 with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
 help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up-rais-es; hear, and bless our prayers and prai - ses.

Words: Tobias Clausnitzer (1619-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.

Music: *Liebster Jesu*, melody Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625-1673); alt. *Das grosse Cantional oder Kirchen-Gesangbuch*, 1687; harm. George Herbert Palmer (1846-1926)

78. 78. 88

## The Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

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

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

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord

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

**The Homily:**

*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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
    he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
    and was made man.  
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 and the Son.  
    With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and  
    glorified.  
    He 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**

**Marty Haugen**

*See next page*

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:

Keep — us, hold — us, gra - cious God.

## 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.**

Celebrant:

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**



People:



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

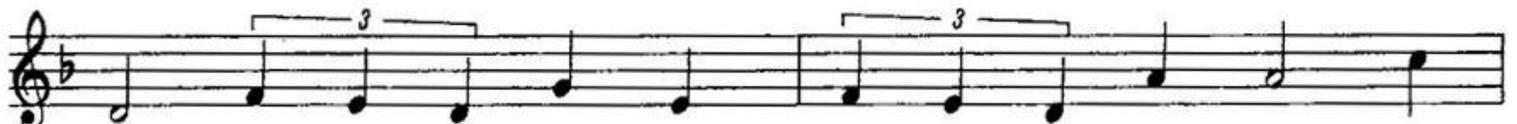
Celebrant: All thanks and praise  
are yours at all times and in all places,  
our true and loving God;  
through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,  
the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.  
You laid the foundations of the world  
and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;  
You brought forth all creatures of the earth  
and gave breath to humankind.  
Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,  
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;  
And so as the morning stars sing your praises  
we join the heavenly beings and all creation  
as we shout with joy:

## Sanctus

*Please sing along; Zoom participants remain muted.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly\_\_ Lord, God of pow-er and



might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

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**

### **Fraction Anthem**

**Celebrant:** We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**People:** **We who are many are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.**

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

## **The Communion**

*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.*

## Communion Hymn

*Gather #524*

### *Make Me a Channel of Thy Peace*

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



1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace,      Where  
2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace,      Where  
4. Make me a chan-nel of your peace,      It



there is ha - tred, let me bring your love.      Where  
there's des-pair in life, let me bring hope.      Where  
is in par - don - ing that we are par-doned,      in



there is in - ju - ry, your par-don Lord,      And  
there is dark-ness,      on - ly light,      And  
giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive,      and in



where there's doubt true faith in you.  
where there's sad-ness, ev - er joy.  
dy - ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life.

*continued next page*

Verse 3



3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may ne-ver seek so much to be con-



soled as to con - sole, to be un-der-stood as to un-der-



stand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Text: *Prayer of St. Francis*; adapt. by Sebastian Temple, b. 1928, ©1967, 1975, 1980, Franciscan Communications  
Tune: Sebastian Temple, b. 1928, © 1967, 1975, 1980, Franciscan Communications; acc. by Diana Kodner, b. 1957, © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy. Reprinted with permission.

*Please stand.*

**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.**

**The Blessing**

*After the blessing, the Annual Meeting will continue as follows.*

## **Prayer for Annual Meeting**

Celebrant and People:

**Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in St. Thomas for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Food distribution**

Pat Dare and team

**Adoption of Minutes from Annual Meeting 2022**

Fran Hostettler and Pastor Salying

**Reading of Baptisms, Confirmations and Necrology**

Pastor Salying

**Report of Finances - 2022 Actuals and 2023 Budget**

Jim Cobb

**Report from Senior Warden and Rector**

Abby O'Connell and Pastor Salying

**Awards and Honors**

Pastor Salying

- • Vestry members Class of 2022
- • Rector's Award
- • Vestry Cross
- • Good and Faithful Servant Recognition

**Election of New Vestry and Delegates to Convention and  
announcement of Sr. Warden**

# Commissioning of Vestry, Delegates, and Alternates

## Adjournment

## Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world as instruments of God's  
peace, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

*The new vestry will meet immediately after the service to vote  
for the Treasurer and Clerk and take a vestry picture.  
Please meet in the chapel.*

## Postlude

Benjamin Belew, Piano



## **Serving us at 10:30 am**

### **The St. Thomas Altar Guild**

**Celebrant & Preacher:** The Rev. Salying Wong

**Deacon:** The Rev. Bertram Nagarajah

**Eucharistic Minister:** Ann Kopischke

**Greeters:** MaryJane Johnson, Donna Cobb

**Cantor:** Ian Fugate

**Intercessor/Cantor:** Chris Schmidt

**Lectors:** Cal Cornwell, Patricia Pietrzyk

**Accompanist:** Benjamin Belew

**Zoom Host:** Aer van de Water

**Stream/Tech Team:** Breno DeMedeiros, Sophia DeMedeiros

# TODAY

**Today** we will have the **Annual Meeting** in the church following worship. Refreshments will be provided by Parish Event Planners. Please be mindful of recommended Covid protocols.

## 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?.

### **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. At our latest count, we now have **54** pledges toward our goal of 60.

### **Agape Circle Friday, February 3, 6:30pm:**

Please join us for food, fun, and friendship!

Please bring a pot-luck dish to share (along with serving utensils).

In observance of Candlemas, please bring a new (never lit) candle for a Candle Swap game! We look forward to seeing you there!

Location: Cowans Hall (we will observe "mask" protocols as necessary).

### **Shrove Sunday Pancake Brunch – Sunday, February 19**

Shrove Sunday, or St. Thomas' version of Transfiguration Sunday, is

back! Following the 10:30 am service on Sunday, February 19, PEP will be hosting a Pancake Brunch in Cowans Hall to highlight the coming of Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday later that week. For brunch, we will be serving both regular and blueberry pancakes along with a slice of ham. Beverages (i.e., juice, coffee, tea, and water) are also provided. You can show your appreciation for the brunch by contributing to a “Goodwill Donation for Santa Maria Urban Ministries” which supports needy inner-city residents in San Jose.

### Save the Dates / Worship schedule:

Sunday, February 5	8am - in person 10:30am - Zoom only	Holy Eucharist Rite I Morning Prayer
Sunday, February 12	8am - in person 10:30am - Hybrid	Holy Eucharist Rite I Holy Eucharist Rite II
Sunday, February 19	8am - in person 10:30am - Hybrid	Holy Eucharist Rite I Holy Eucharist Rite I Shrove Sunday pancakes after worship
Ash Wednesday, February 22	12n - in person only 7pm - Zoom only	Holy Eucharist w/ashes Evening Prayer

## General Announcements

### 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



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Faith. Hope. Love.  
Unity.

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).

**Recent projects** Fifteen St Thomas parishioners donated Christmas gifts to fifteen families that included forty-five kids. We want to thank each member at St Thomas who donated gifts.

A group of faithful parishioners banded together during Christmas and prepared eight gift baskets for other St Thomas parishioners who are home-bound or less mobile. .

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)

**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)

**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** and will be hosted by Patricia Pietrzyk. 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 Patricia through our website [www.stthomas-svale.org/contact](http://www.stthomas-svale.org/contact) for the Zoom link.

\* *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](http://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 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=dzNuY1VkOWpnbzFvQkpwRnJ0VGJlJUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89699188717?pwd=dzNuY1VkOWpnbzFvQkpwRnJ0VGJlJUT09)

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:*

*[www.stthomas-svale.org](http://www.stthomas-svale.org)*



**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](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)

**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)