

First Sunday in LENT

February 26, 2023

Holy Eucharist

Rite II, 10:30am



Photo by Dena Ware

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
231 Sunset Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
408-736-4155 www.stthomas-svale.org

First Sunday in LENT

February 26, 2022

Holy Eucharist Rite II, 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.

When all are ready, the Celebrant will begin.

THE WORD OF GOD

The service begins in silence.

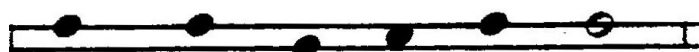
Please stand.

The Great Litany

The Litanist will lead. The congregation may sing the responses.

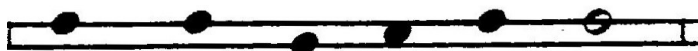
Zoom participants, please stay muted.

Litanist: O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,



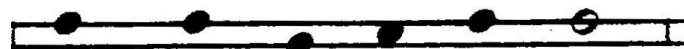
People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,



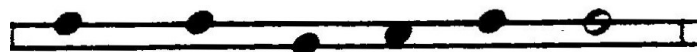
People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful,



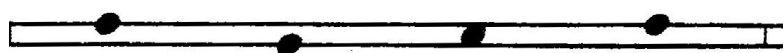
People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,



People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

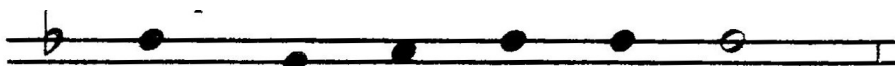
Litanist: Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy preserve us, for ever.



People: Spare us, good Lord.

continued next page

Litanist: From all evil and wickedness; from sin;
from the crafts and assaults of the devil;
and from everlasting damnation,



People: Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist: From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory,
and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and
from all want of charity,



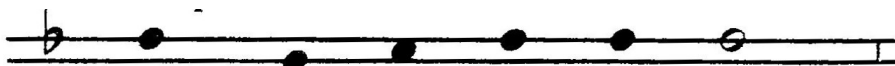
People: Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist: From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all
the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,



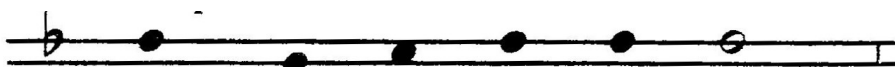
People Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist: From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism;
from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and
commandment,



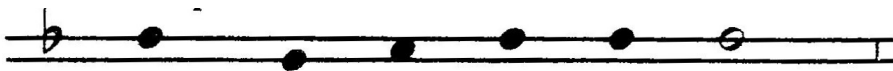
People Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist: From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire,
and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,



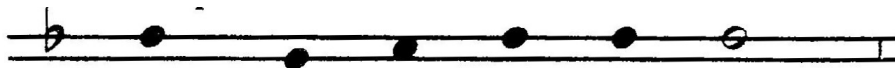
People: Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist: From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion;
from violence, battle, and murder;
and from dying suddenly and unprepared,



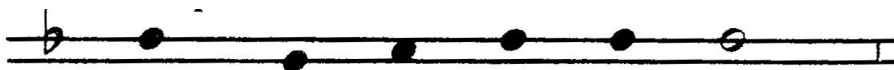
People: Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist: By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation;
by thy holy Nativity and submission to the Law;
by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,



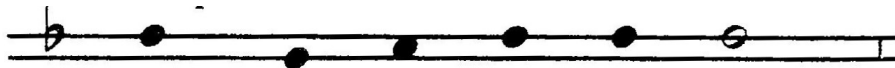
People: Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist: By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and
Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial;
by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension;
and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,



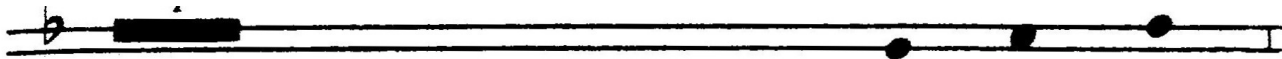
People: Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist: In all time of our tribulation;
in all time of our prosperity;
in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,



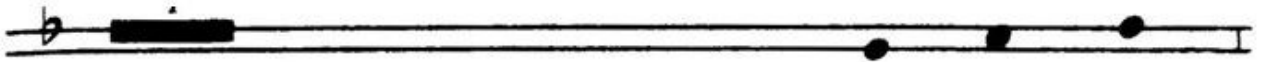
People: Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist: We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God;
and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy
Church Universal in the right way,



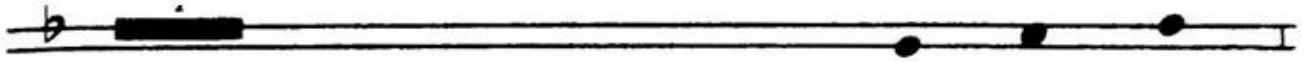
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests,
and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding
of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and
living, they may set it forth, and show it accordingly,



People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,



People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,



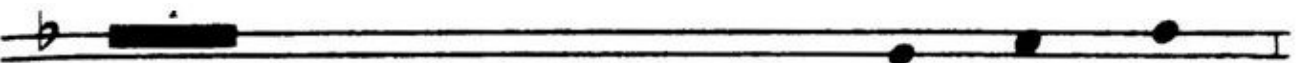
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,



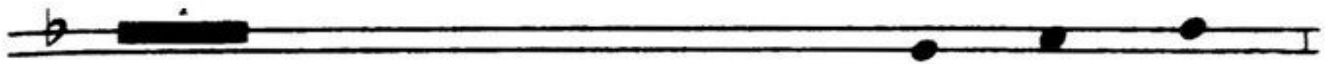
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,



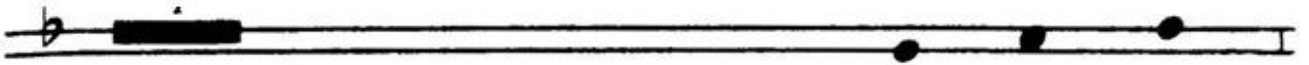
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,



People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,



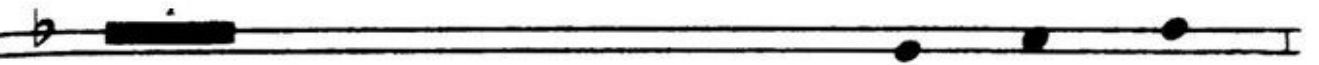
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,



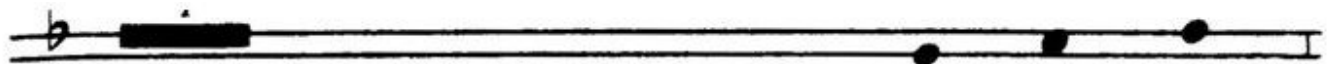
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,



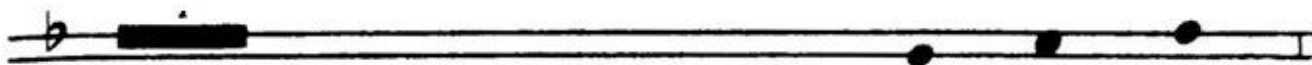
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,



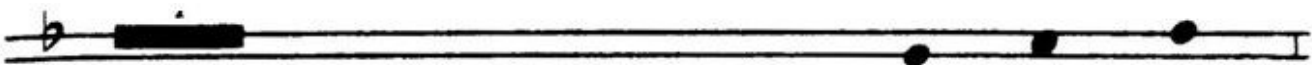
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,



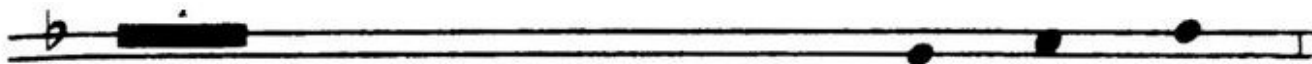
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,



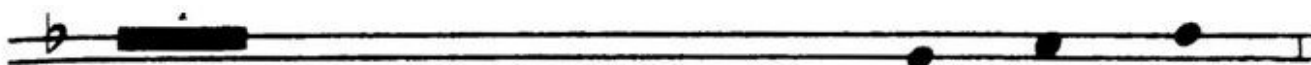
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,



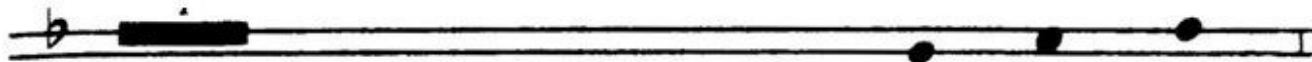
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,



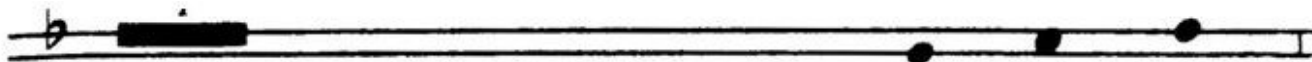
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,



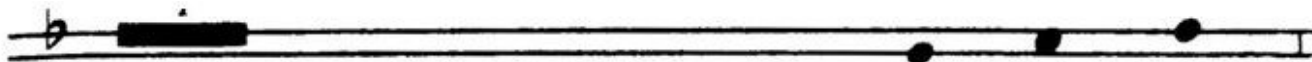
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to have mercy upon all mankind,



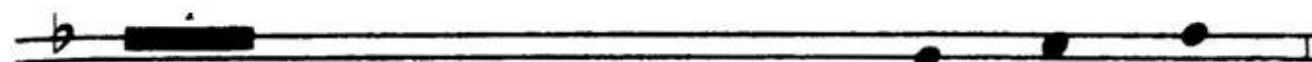
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,



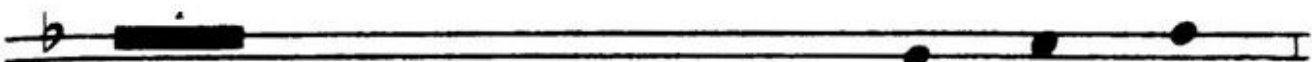
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,



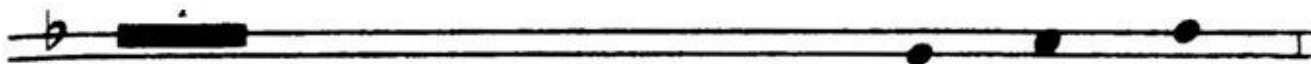
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,



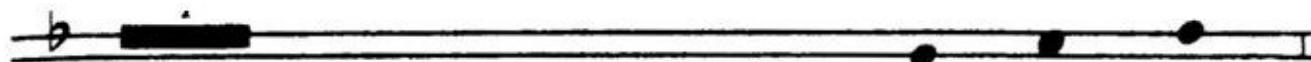
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,



People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of Thomas and all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,



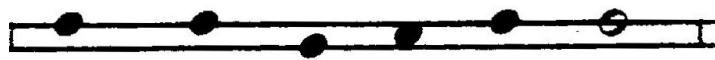
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.



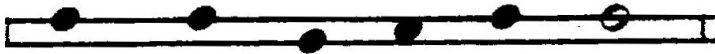
People: Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

Litanist: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,



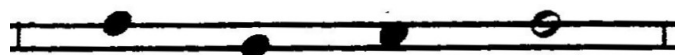
People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,



People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,



People: Grant us thy peace.

Litanist: O Christ, hear us.



People: O Christ, hear us.

Kyrie

Litanist: Lord have mercy upon us.



People: Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

Litanist: Lord have mercy upon us.

Collect for the First Sunday in Lent

Celebrant:

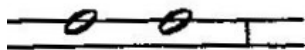
People:

Celebrant:



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

Celebrant: Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



All: A - men.

The First Lesson

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden’?” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32

You are welcome to sing along with the refrain.

Zoom participants, please stay muted.



Hap - py are they whose trans-gres-sions are for - gi - ven,



and whose sin_ is put_ a - way!

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

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

Refrain:

Hap - py are they whose trans-gres-sions are for - gi - ven,
and whose sin_ is put_ a - way!

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

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

Refrain:

Hap - py are they whose trans-gres-sions are for - gi - ven,
and whose sin_ is put_ a - way!

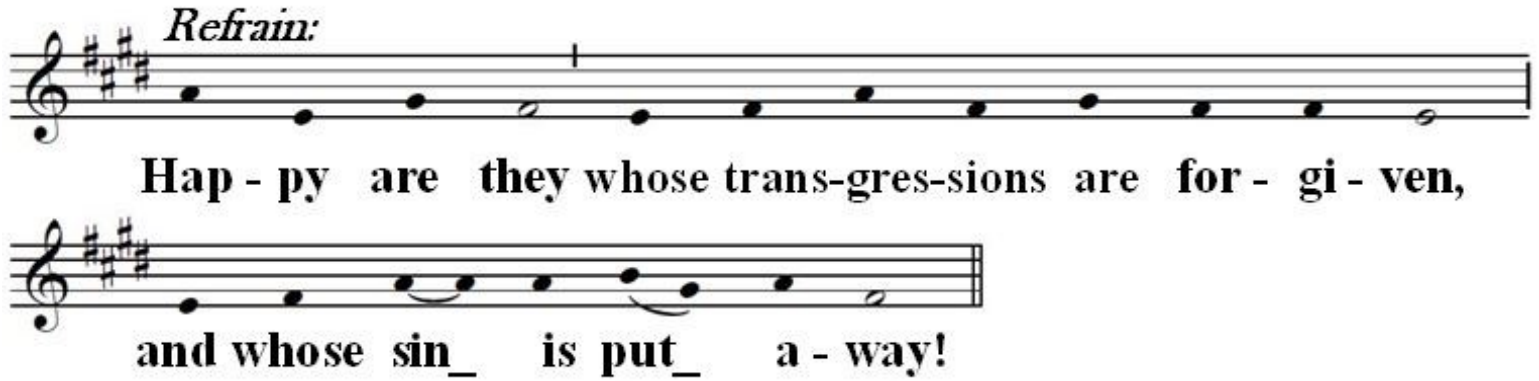
Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not conceal my guilt.

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

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of
trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

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

Refrain:

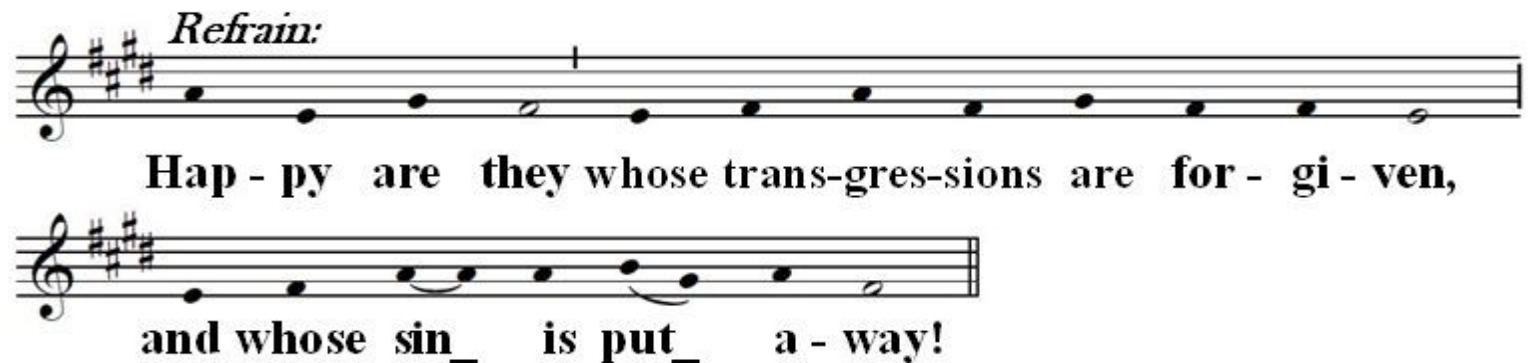


Hap - py are they whose trans-gres-sions are for - gi - ven,
and whose sin_ is put_ a - way!

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you." *Refrain*

Refrain:

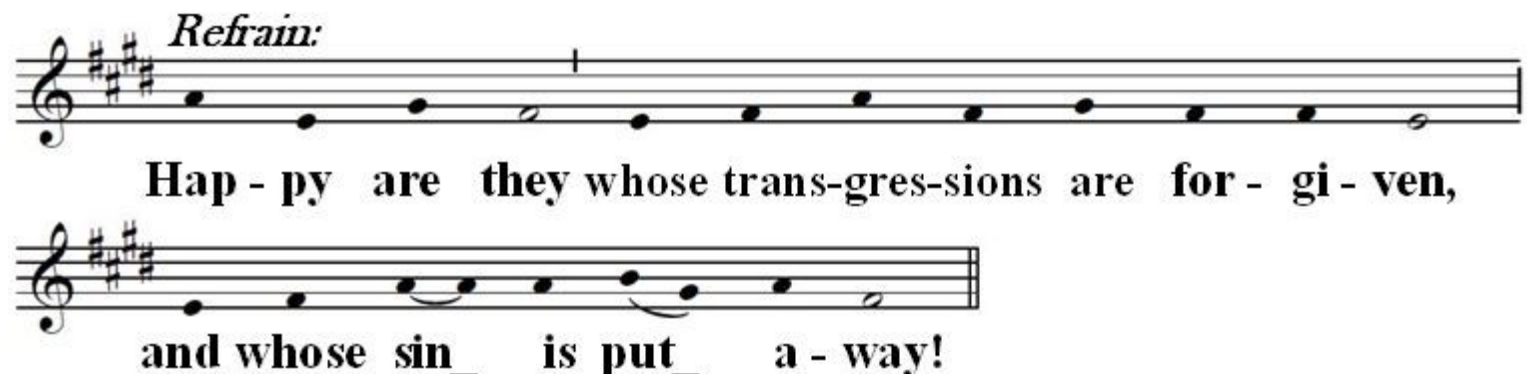


Hap - py are they whose trans-gres-sions are for - gi - ven,
and whose sin_ is put_ a - way!

Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart. *Refrain*

Refrain:



Hap - py are they whose trans-gres-sions are for - gi - ven,
and whose sin_ is put_ a - way!

The Epistle: Romans 5:12-19

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal #150

See next page.

Forty Days and Forty Nights

Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom participants stay muted.

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou was fast-ing in the wild;
 2 Should not we thy sor-row share and from world-ly joys ab-stain,
 3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior hear our call!
 4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad-ness ours shall be;
 5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con-stant by thy side;

1 for - ty days and for - ty nights, temp-ted and yet un - de-filed.
 2 fast-ing with un - ceas-ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
 3 Vic-tor in the wil - der-ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
 4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - i - stered to thee.
 5 that with thee we may ap-pear at the e - ter-nal Eas-ter-tide.

Words: George Hunt Smytton (1822-1870), alt.

Music: *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, melody att. Martin Herbst (1654-1681), alt.;

harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

77. 77

The Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

There will be a time of silence for meditation.



The Nicene Creed

said in unison

**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.

The Confession

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Absolution

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

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Let us greet one another with a wave and a namaste of peace.

Offertory

Timothy Noon

The Lord is My Light
Members of the St. Thomas Choir
Benjamin Belew, piano

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Celebrant: All things come of you, O Lord.

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

Sursum Corda

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Hymnal S-130, F. Schubert

You are invited to sing along. Zoom participants, please stay muted.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea-ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na

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

Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Celebrant:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil

and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant:

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

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.**

Agnus Dei

Hymnal S-164, F. Schubert

You are invited to sing along. Zoom participants, please stay muted.

Je-sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je-sus, bear-er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

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 Music

LEVAS #188

It Is Well With My Soul

Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom participants stay muted.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'It Is Well With My Soul'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. Below the staves, there are four lines of lyrics, each numbered 1 through 4.

1 When peace, like a riv - er at - tend - eth my
2 Though sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should
3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous
4 And, Lord, haste the day when the faith__ shall be

1 way, When sor - rows like sea - bil - lows roll;
 2 come, Let this blest as - sur - ance con - troll,
 3 thought— My sin— not in part, but the whole—
 4 sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll.

1 What - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
 2 That Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es =
 3 Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
 4 The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de -

1 say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 2 taste, And has shed His own blood for my soul.
 3 more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 4 scend, "E - ven so" - it is well with my soul.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "It is well with my soul". It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The vocal line has lyrics: "It is well with my soul, with my". The second system also has a vocal line and a bass line. The vocal line has lyrics: "soul. It is well, it is well with my soul." The music is in a minor key, indicated by three flats in the key signature.

Words: Horatio Spafford (1828-1888)
 Music: Philip P. Bliss (1838-1876)

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

Book of Occasional Services

Celebrant: Bow down before the Lord.

Please bow or kneel.

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

.Closing Hymn

Hymnal #448

O Love, How Deep

Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom participants 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, this 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

Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



Serving today

Officiant and Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong

Eucharistic Minister: Joe Gutierrez

Lector: Lou Poulain, Fulvia Govetto

Greeter: MaryJane Johnson, Donna Cobb

Cantor/Litanists: Chris Schmidt, Abby O'Connell

Tech team: Tian Zhu

Zoom Hosts: Aer van de Water

Today in the Parish

Coffee Hour today will be inside Cowans Hall. Please be mindful of Covid protocols. Thank you.

Lenten preparations: Some Lenten devotions may be found in the issues of *Forward Day By Day* and *The Upper Room* which are available to pick up from the racks at the back of the church.

Cards printed with the **schedule of worship** services through Lent to Easter are also available on the table in the narthex.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Library News:

Please take a look in the archives display case to see the 1611 King James Version of the Bible given to the church by the Patterson family during Advent in 1916. William Patterson was the first warden at St. Thomas.

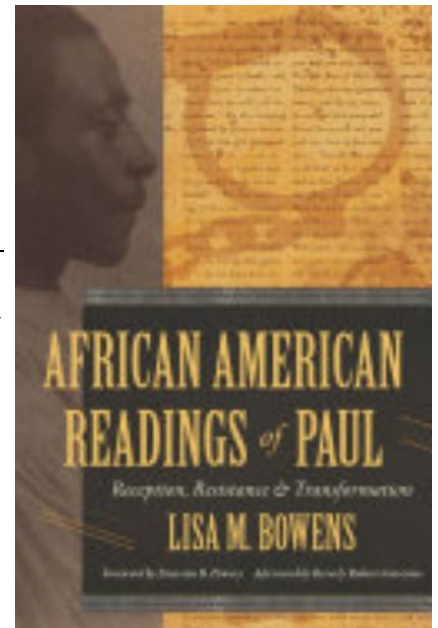
Book of the Week February 26

[*African American Readings of Paul: Reception, Resistance, and Transformation*](#)

by Lisa M. Bowens

The letters of Paul—especially the verse in Ephesians directing slaves to obey their masters—played an enormous role in promoting slavery and justifying it as a Christian practice. Yet despite this reality African Americans throughout history still utilized Paul extensively in their own work to protest and resist oppression, responding to his theology and teachings in numerous—often starkly divergent and liberative—ways.

In the first book of its kind, Lisa Bowens takes a historical, theological, and biblical approach to explore interpretations of Paul



within African American communities over the past few centuries. Also providing fresh documentation of Black religious life through wide swaths of American history. *African American Readings of Paul* promises to change the landscape of Pauline studies and fill an important gap in the rising field of reception history ~ Publisher

ADULT FORMATION DURING LENT 2023

Lenten Book Study:

The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing ourselves and Our world

by Archbishop Desmond Tutu

figure in the late 20th century. After the collapse of the apartheid system in South Africa, Archbishop Tutu chaired The Truth and Reconciliation Commission. This commission provided opportunities for those wounded by the racist regime to tell their stories, and of equal importance, it provided opportunities for the perpetrators of these evil acts to acknowledge responsibility.

Desmond Tutu drew from this painful but healing process a roadmap for forgiveness: Here is a quote from the introduction to his book:

There are countless studies that enumerate the social, spiritual, psychological and even physiological benefits of forgiveness. The actual process of forgiveness, however has often been left a mystery. It is good and helpful to let go of resentment, but how do we let go of resentment when we have been harmed? It is better not to exact retribution, but how can we forgo retribution when what has been taken from us cannot be restored? And, is it even possible to forgive and still pursue justice? What steps must we follow to achieve forgiveness? How do we heal all the holes in our hearts that come with being the fragile creatures we are?

The Lenten book study will meet via ZOOM on four consecutive **Wednesday evenings:**

March 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd, beginning at 7:00PM.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82186179073>

Meeting ID: 821 8617 9073

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,82186179073#

Our library has three copies of *The Book of Forgiving*. It is also available from all major book sellers. Amazon has it in paperback, as a Kindle ebook and as an audiobook. You may also be able to download the audiobook from your local library.

Agape Circle First Friday of the month at 6:30pm, Cowans Hall (we will observe "mask" protocols as necessary). Please join us for food, fun, and friendship! Also, please bring a pot-luck dish to share (along with serving utensils)! In March, we will meet on **Friday March 3rd at 6:30 pm**. We look forward to seeing you there!

Save the Dates / Worship schedule:

Wednesday, March 1	7:00pm on Zoom	Lenten Book Study 1st session
Friday, March 3	Agape Circle 6:30pm	<i>Details tba</i>
Lent 2 Sunday, March 5	8am - in person 10:30am - Zoom only 4pm - in person	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer Concert
Lent 3 Sunday, March 12	8am - in person 10:30am - Hybrid	Holy Eucharist Rite I Holy Eucharist Rite II
Lent 4 Sunday, March 19	8am - in person 10:30am - Hybrid	Holy Eucharist Rite I Holy Eucharist Rite II

Concert March 5 A concert by our pianist/organist and composer Benjamin Belew and his instrumental ensemble will take place on Sunday **March 5 at 4:00pm** in the sanctuary. The program will

feature traditional repertoire and original pieces by Benjamin and other local composers. Part of the proceeds of the concert will benefit victims of the Half Moon Bay shooting. Put it on your calendar!

General Announcements

Episcopal Relief & Development: Turkey & Syria

Almost 2 weeks ago a deadly 7.8-magnitude earthquake and severe aftershocks struck along the border between Turkey and Syria, killing, at current count, over **43,000** people and causing widespread damage across the region. Episcopal Relief & Development has been working with partners to provide support. Please join Episcopal Relief & Development in this relief effort by making a donation at episcopalrelief.org. Fliers may be found on the table at the back of the church.

Thanksgiving and Memorial Donations to Altar Guild

Our altar guild appreciates your support in making our space holy and beautiful. **Easter flowers donations** are especially welcome. You will find forms on the table at the back of the church if you have a special dedication you'd like to make. Thank you.

COVID Protocols update

Masks are recommended at the services. Please maintain six feet distance to keep all comfortable.

Pledges, Offerings & Donations

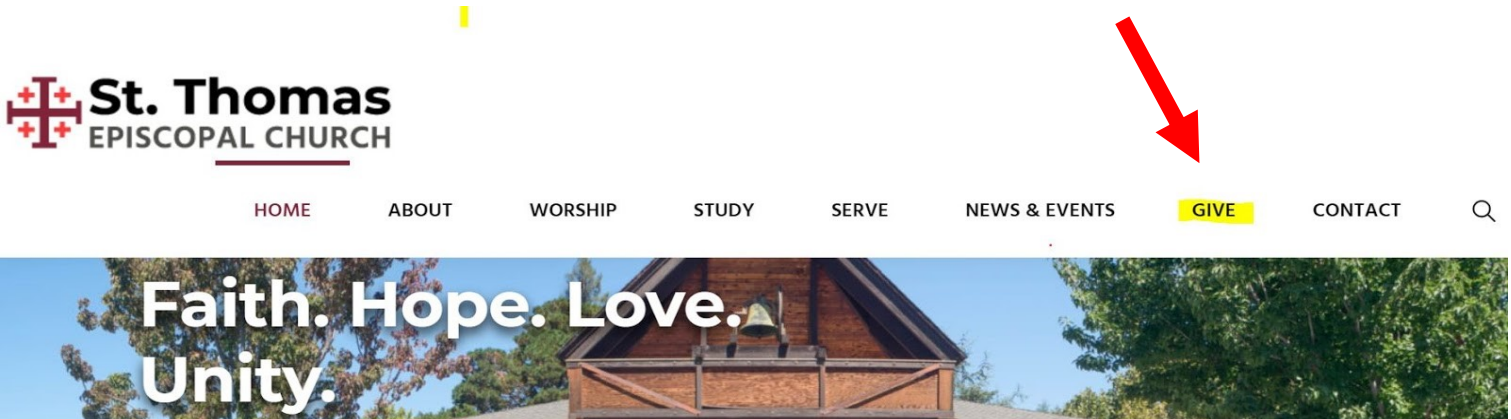
Your pledges and other donations may always be mailed to the church office and marked to the attention of the Treasurer.

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 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) 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.

Family Ministry This Lenten season Sunday school students and youth will receive in the mail packets dealing with Lent. Packet number one has been handed to or mailed to all. Packet number two will be sent out the first week in March. Other packets will be sent during March. We will be getting together later in the season prepare for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter Sunday, and the Easter Egg Hunt.

Family Ministry will be creating **Easter Blessing baskets** again this year. Order forms may be found on the table at the back of the church.

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

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 February 27** and will be hosted by Carol Campbell

Using Zoom conferencing, we will meet to discuss ***What the Fireflies Knew*** by Kai Harris * A moving story about family, identity, and race, the novel follows almost-eleven-year-old KB after her father dies of an overdose and the debts incurred from his addiction cause the loss of the family home in Detroit. With her sister she is sent by her overwhelmed mother to live with their estranged grandfather in Lansing,

Please join us—contact Carol through our website 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

and updates of various parish events and activities may also be found on our website at **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.

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

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

All Are 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.org
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
- 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

THE VESTRY OF ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SUNNYVALE

Abby O'Connell, Senior Warden	2022	2023	2024
Chris Schmidt, Junior Warden	Susan McVey	Pat Dare	Nancy Allgeier
	Chris Schmidt	Breno DeMedeiros	Gage McKinney
Gage McKinney, Clerk	Bill Rosgen	Abby O'Connell	Rita Welsh

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

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

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