

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

with commemoration of Candlemas:

the Feast of the Presentation

February 5, 2023

Morning Prayer EOW1, 10:30am



St. Thomas Episcopal Church

231 Sunset Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

408-736-4155

www.stthomas-svale.org

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Morning Prayer EOW1, 10:30am

Welcome to ZOOM worship at St. Thomas.

*This Sunday at 10:00am, you are invited to join us
for open conversation before worship begins at 10:30am.*

*Now that most of us know how to use Zoom, the half hour before service usually
dedicated to trouble-shooting will also be an open time to connect with one another. All
are welcome. Just sign in as usual.*

All others, at 10:20-10:25am Sunday, please connect to our worship meeting.

There are two ways to do this:

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 #

*Notes for dial-in users: *6 (star 6) to mute/unmute the audio from your phone
to the meeting. This doesn't stop audio from the meeting to you.*

**9 (star 9) raise your hand to (hopefully) let someone else at the meeting know
you'd like to speak. You may use *9 again to lower your raised hand.*

Actual connection time may take several minutes; please be patient.

*Once you are connected, your face (or phone number) should appear
in a square on your screen, as will the faces of others who have signed in,
including Pastor Salyng who will lead worship this morning.*

Note: For the sake of audio clarity, your mic will be muted on entry.

*We will begin with introductory remarks, announcements,
and then worship with Morning Prayer together as one large body.*

After the liturgy, all are invited to stay for a community gathering.

*You may print the order of service from this document,
OR you may follow along when the order of service appears on the screen.*

When all are ready, the officiant will begin.

The Feast of the Presentation is celebrated on February 2, forty days after Christmas. This feast has been called other names, including the Purification of the Virgin Mary and Candlemas. In some traditions, this day represented the end of the Season of Epiphany, which was marked by a procession of lights to the streets, to represent carrying the light of Christ outside the church building into ordinary life. Aptly then, it was also thought of as the beginning of ordinary time and a countdown to Lent and Easter.

Please bring your candles that you will use in your home if you wish for God to bless them for your ordinary life—life of meals, of prayer and of hospitality.

Announcements

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1M_iFUN25FBuxOVTr0UKw6mokVcdE9iNII9RFrPIKNAg/edit?usp=sharing

The Blessing of Birthdays & Anniversaries



Please gather all candles to be blessed and bring them to the zoom screen.

Officiant: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Candles may be lit here.

Officiant: Dear people of God, at Christmas we celebrated the joyful feast of the incarnation of Jesus. We recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the same Spirit, we now enter the house of God, where we shall recognize Christ in the breaking of bread..

Let us pray.

O eternal God, who have created all things; on this day you fulfilled the petitions of the just Simeon: we humbly ask you to bless and sanctify these candles for our use. Graciously hear our prayers and be merciful to us, whom you have redeemed by your Son, who is the light of the world, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Canticle Nunc dimittis

chanted by the Cantor

*Lord, you now have set your servant free
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,
whom you have prepared for all the world to see;
A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.*

Officiant: Let us pray.

O God, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Fill our hearts with the light of faith, that we who bear these candles may walk in the path of goodness, through Jesus Christ the Light of the World. **Amen.**

You may extinguish your candles.

Opening music

Thomas Tallis

[If Ye Love Me](#)
SJMP lic#20852

The Peace

Officiant: The peace of God be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Let us greet one another with a namaste of peace.

The bell tolls and the officiant continues.

Epiphany opening sentence

Officiant: Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness
of your rising. *Isaiah 60:3*

The Confession

Officiant: 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.**

Officiant: 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.**

Opening versicle

Enriching Our Worship 1

Officiant: O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People: And your glory all the day long.

Doxology

**All: Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

Antiphon

V. The Holy One is in our midst:

R. **O come let us worship.**

Invitatory Psalm: Venite *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Gloria

Berthier

[Gloria](#)

Members of the St. Thomas Choir
Michele Elizabeth Kemmerling, piano

All are welcome to sing along with the recording. Please stay muted.

1 Dm Gm C F 2 Dm Gm C F

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!
 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

3 Dm Gm C F 4 Dm Gm C F

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

This Gloria may be sung as a round

Psalm 112

The congregation may join the choir in singing the refrain—please stay muted.

Refrain:



Hap - py are they__ who have giv - en to the poor.

Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord
 and have great delight in his commandments!

Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
 the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Refrain

Refrain:



Hap - py are they__ who have giv - en to the poor.

Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last for ever.

Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

Refrain

Refrain:



Hap - py are they__ who have giv - en to the poor.

It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

Refrain

Refrain:



Hap - py are they__ who have giv - en to the poor.

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is right;
they put their trust in the Lord.

The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.

Refrain

Refrain:



Hap - py are they__ who have giv - en to the poor.

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Isaiah 58:1-9a

Lector: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Shout out, do not hold back!
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.
Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.
“Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.
Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.
Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?
Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

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

People: Thanks be to God

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Lector: A reading from the letter to the Corinthians

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

People: **Thanks be to God**

Canticle P A Song of the Spirit *Revelation 22:12-17*

“Behold, I am coming soon,” says the Lord, “and bringing my reward with me,*

to give to everyone according to their deeds.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, *
the beginning and the end.”

Blessed are those who do God’s commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, *

and may enter the city through the gates.

“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you, *

with this testimony for all the churches.

“I am the root and the offspring of David, *

I am the bright morning star.”

“Come!” say the Spirit and the Bride; *

“Come!” let each hearer reply!

Come forward, you who are thirsty, *

let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.

The Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

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

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

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you Lord Christ

The Homily:

There will be a time of silence for reflection.

Anthem

R. Vaughan Williams

[The Blessed Son of God](#)

Members of the St. Thomas Choir

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant and **People:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;**

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.
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. Amen.**

The Prayers

Officiant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Officiant: Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer

**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 Collects

Collect for the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Prayers of the People

Form IV

Leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence.

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

EOW1

Officiant: May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Concluding Sentence

EOW1

Officiant: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ephesians 3:20,2

The Dismissal

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

Postlude

arr. George Maybry (spiritual)

[This Little Light of Mine](#)

SJMP lic#20852



Serving us at 10:30 am

Officiant & Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong

Deacon: The Rev. Bertram Nagarajah

Responder/Intercessor: Jim Cobb

Cantor: Patricia Pietrzyk

Lectors: Fulvia Govetto, Lou Poulain

Zoom Host: The Rev. Salying Wong

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



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**
TBA, Junior Warden

Gage McKinney, **Clerk**

2023
Pat Dare
Breno DeMedeiros
Abby O'Connell

2024
Nancy Allgeier
Gage McKinney
Rita Welsh

2025
Joe Gutierrez
Dena Ware
Emilee Wilhelm-Leen

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

Stephanie Daugherty

Hugo Lopez-Laguna

Mabel Cheng

Sherene Nagarajah

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