

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 27, 2023

Rite II, 10:30am



TEMPLES TO THE GODS AT CAESAREA PHILIPPI

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

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

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 16

Holy Eucharist

10:30am, Rite II

August 27, 2023

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. 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). For the sake of audio clarity, your mic will be muted on entry.*

*Please note: Regarding joining us on Zoom, we welcome newcomers and appreciate your **on-time** attendance. If you arrive more than 15 minutes after the service begins, our Zoom protocols may not permit your joining the service.*

Equally important, please be sure that your zoom account ID includes your first and last name. We look forward to seeing you.

After worship today please join us for coffee hour in Cowans Hall across the courtyard.

Prelude

Benjamin Belew, piano

Opening Hymn

Hymnal #304

I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord

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

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy__ to meet my Lord,__ for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near__ to
3 As Christ breaks bread_ and bids us share,__ each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord.__ His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound,__ we'll

1 giv - en, loved,__ and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all__ are fed, the new com - mun - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made__ us
4 pres - ence al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

continued next page

1 to re - call_ his life laid down_ for me.
 2 ty of love_ in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
 4 bet - ter known_ we see and praise him here.
 5 in the world_ we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt.

Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983)

CM

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Greeting

Celebrant:



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

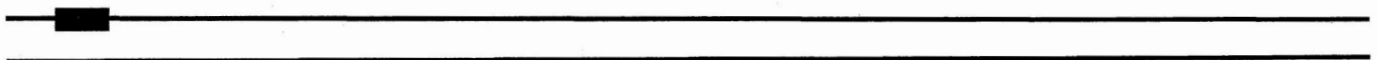
People:



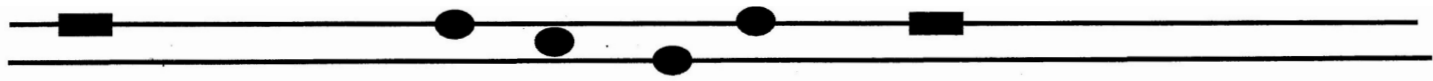
Glo - ry to God for ev - er and ev - er.

Collect for Purity

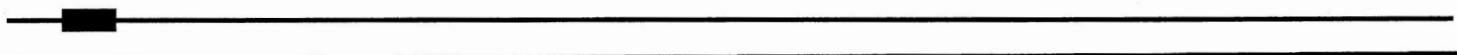
Celebrant:



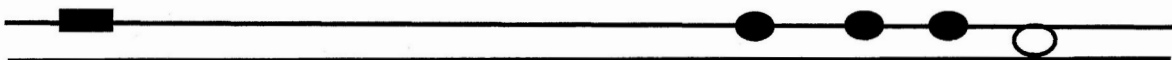
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known



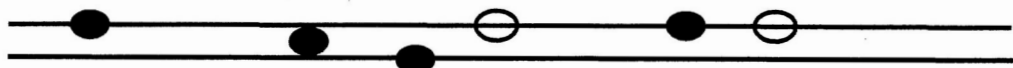
and from you no se - crets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our



hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly



love you and worthily magnify your ho - ly Name,



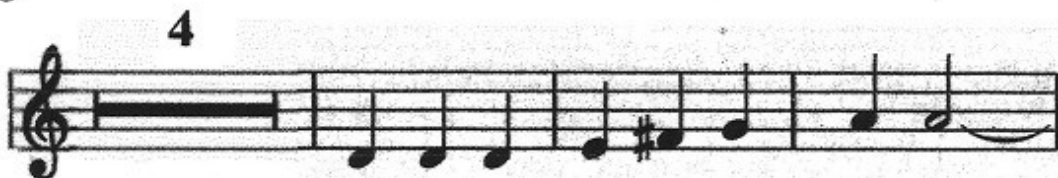
Through Christ our Lord. A - men.

Gloria

WLP #900

*Please join in singing
the Gloria.*

*Zoom participants
please stay muted*



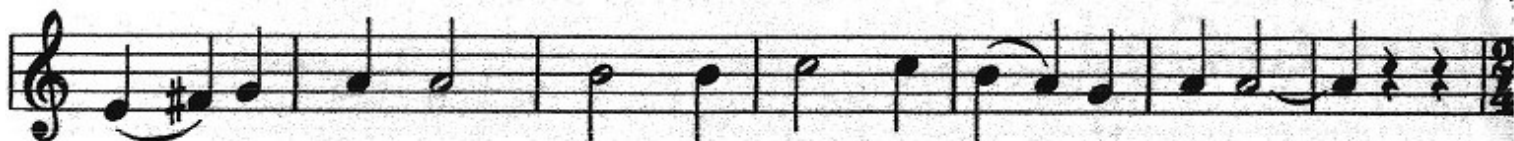
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, _



_ and peace to his peo-ple on earth ___ Lord God,



heav'n-ly King, al - might-y God_ and Fa - ther, _ we wor-ship



you, _ we give you thanks, we praise you for_ your glo-ry_

Fa-ther, __

Lord Je-sus Christ, __ on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, __
Fa-ther

Fa-ther, __

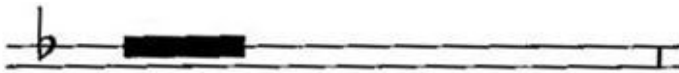
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right

hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For
Fa - ther : re - ceive
Fa - ther : re - ceive

you a - lone are the Ho-ly One, you a - lone are the
 Lord, you a - lone are the Most High
 Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect for the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 16

Celebrant: 

God be with you.



People: **And also with you**



Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to

the glory of your Name; 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 Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.” But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let

every girl live.”

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

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

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 124

If the Lord had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;

If the Lord had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;

Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;

Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.

Blessed be the Lord! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the Name of the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

The Epistle: Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

People: Thanks be to God

Gracious Spirit, Give Your Servants

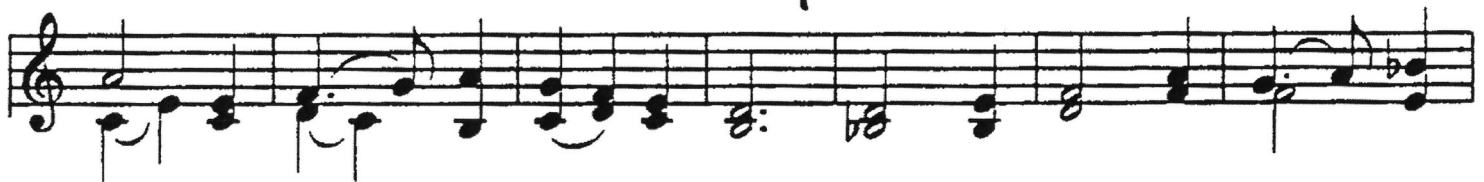
All are invited to sing along. Zoom participants, please stay muted.



1. Gra - cious Spir-it, give__ your ser-vants joy to set__ sin's
2. Word made flesh who gave__ up glo-ry to be-come__ our
3. Lov - ing God, who birthed__ cre-a-tion from the noth - ing -
4. Tri - une God, e - ter - nal Be - ing, nev - er end - ing,



cap - tives free, hope to heal the bro - ken - heart-ed,
 great__ high priest, tak - ing on our hu - man na - ture
 ness__ of space, kin - dling life where all__ was emp - ty,
 un - be - gun, bound-less grace and per - fect jus - tice,



peace to share__ love's li - ber-ty. Through us bring your balm__ of
 to re - deem__ the last__ and least, let your cour-age and__ com-
 turn-ing cha - os in - to grace when we feel con-fused__ and
 right-eous and__ for - giv - ing One: so en - fold us in__ your



glad-ness to the wound-ed and op-pressed: help__ us claim and
 pas-sion shape and guide__ our min - is - tries: as__ our Sav-ior
 fruit-less, dawn up - on__ our rest - less night; give__ us faith's im-
 mer- cy that our wills__ and yours u - nite; through__ us may the

continued next page

The Sermon

After the sermon 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

Form III

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Leader: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Leader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Leader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People: That they may be delivered from their distress.

Leader: Give to the departed eternal rest;

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Leader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Leader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence.

The people may add their own petitions

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Confession

**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.

The people and the ministers greet one another.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People: By your will they were created and have their being.

Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People: Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Celebrant: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**People: By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

WLP #858

All are invited to sing along, Zoom attendees please stay muted.



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

continued next page

might, heaven 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. Ho - san - na in_ the high - est.

Celebrant: And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**People: We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Celebrant: Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, and Jacob;

Lord God of our Mothers: God of Hagar, Sarah, Rebecca, and Rachel;
God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People: Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Celebrant: Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

Celebrant and **People: AMEN**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now 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 Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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.*
- *The wine will be served in the chalice and in the small cups. The chalice will precede the cups. If you do not reach for the chalice, it will pass and the cups will follow. (Please place the empty cup on one of the trays near the aisles.)*
- *Please, do not dip the bread in the wine.*
- *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

WLP #831

Ubi Caritas

Zoom participants are invited to sing along. Please stay muted.

Descant

U - bi ca - ri - tas _____ et a - mor _____
 Ai - a no e loa'a _____ ke a - lo - ha _____

A

U - bi ca - ri - tas _____ et a - mor _____
 Ai - a no e loa'a _____ ke a - lo - ha _____

u - bi ca - ri - tas, _____ De - us i - bi est.
 Ai - a no e loa'a _____ ke A - kua no.

B

u - bi ca - ri - tas, _____ De - us i - bi est.
 Ai - a no e loa'a _____ ke A - kua no.

Translation: Where true charity and love abide, God is there.

Post-Communion Prayer

Please stand.

Celebrant and People:

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

Hymnal #525
See next page

The Church's One Foundation

Zoom participants are invited to sing along. Please stay muted.

1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
 4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,

1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word:
 2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;
 4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
 5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.

1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 3 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
 4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,
 5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 2 and to one hope she presses, with every grace endowed.
 3 and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.
 4 and the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.
 5 like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900)

Music: Aurelia, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

76. 76. D

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Benjamin Belew, piano



Serving us at 10:30 am

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong

Deacon: The Rev. Bertram Nagarajah

Eucharistic Minister: Ann Kopischke

Greeters: MaryJane Johnson et al

Lectors: Fulvia Govetto, Clare Au

Acolytes: Michaelia Paulkandasamy, Clare Au

Pianist/Organist: Benjamin Belew

Zoom Host: Pam Storrer

Stream/Tech team: Breno DeMedeiros, Sophia DeMedeiros

TODAY IN THE PARISH

Coffee Hour today will be inside Cowans Hall.

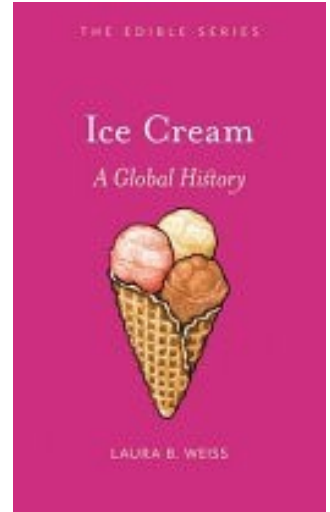
Family Ministry Ice Cream Social This annual event will take place **TODAY** following 10:30am worship.

Library News:

Book of the Week August 27

[Ice Cream: a global history](#) by Laura Weiss

Food writer Laura B. Weiss takes the reader on a vibrant trip through the history of ice cream from ancient China to modern-day Tokyo to tell the lively story of how this delicious indulgence became a global sensation.



NEW on Literature Rack – R side of Narthex

The September/October issue of *The Upper Room* is now also available. The August/September copies of *Forward Movement: Day by Day* are available.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Season of Creation September 3-October 8.

The bishops of the Episcopal Church have offered a liturgy for the stewardship of creation. We will be following this liturgy and will focus on celebrating God's creation. You will notice that the epistle will be replaced by a suggested non-scriptural reading.

Worship schedule:

Sunday, September 3 14th Pent. proper 17	8am - in person 10:30am - Zoom only	Holy Eucharist Rite I Morning Prayer
Sunday, September 10 15th Pent. proper 18	8am - in person 10:30am - Hybrid	Holy Eucharist Rite I Holy Eucharist Rite II
Sunday, September 17 16th Pent. proper 19	8am - in person 10:30am - Hybrid	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer
Sunday, September 24 17th Pent. proper 20	8am - in person 10:30am - Hybrid	Holy Eucharist Rite I Holy Eucharist Rite II

Agape Circle First Friday of each month (mostly!) at 6:30pm, Cowans Hall (we will observe "mask" protocols as necessary). Join us **Friday, September 8 at 6:30 pm** in Cowans Hall to share a pot-luck meal and have some fun, theme tba! Please bring a dish to share and serving utensils.

Patronal Feast and Fall Follies Revue

Sunday, September 10

The Patronal Feast and the Fall Follies Revue will be held on Sunday, September 10. We transfer St. Thomas' feast day to the fall, as his official feast day of Dec 21 is often overlooked during the busy Christmas season. It is also due time for another Follies Revue show since our Spring Follies had been canceled. Our follies revue program allows everyone, including our Zoom participants, to connect and share their talents in a fun way! We are inviting volunteers to participate by singing a song, playing some music, reading poetry, doing dramatic readings, or any other activity that can be shared both live and on Zoom for entertainment. The theme for the Fall Follies Revue will focus either on our patron, St. Thomas, or on current and seasonal issues. Please contact Pat Dare at pdare5@comcast.net to provide information about your performance. If your performance is

pre-recorded, we will also need the on-line link to access it. And as part of the program, we will also be putting together another session of Improv Theater. If you are interested in that, please contact Dena Ware at denaware@gmail.com. You are also welcome to participate by just being part of the audience and share by showing your appreciation to the performers.

Event: Re-Homing in Beloved Community

We are blessed to have the Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton come to our diocese on **September 16** to lead us in “awakening to our roots,” a process of orienting ourselves to be in loving relationship to the earth and those who were on the land before us. The church has not always had policies that reflect beloved community in this way. The Rev.

Rachel is Vice President of the House of Deputies and Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, Everett, Washington. Her heritage includes the Shackan Nation of the British Columbia interior, so she is well qualified to lead this orientation. At this meeting at St. Paul/San Pablo Episcopal Church (1071 Pajaro St, Salinas, CA 93901) at **9:30am on September 16**, we will hear from indigenous voices as we seek to restore continuity with the lands we occupy.

Register here: <https://www.realepiscopal.org/blog/diocesan-workshop-re-homing-our-diocese-into-beloved-community5599/?occurrence=112>



The next Vestry Meeting will be **Tuesday September 19 at 7pm**. Please contact Pastor Salying if you wish to attend. All regular business meetings are on Zoom.

General Announcements

Announcing Summer Reading Program winners!

Our theme for 2023 was *Build A Bouquet of Books!*
This annual tradition concluded Sunday, August 13.
Gift certificates were awarded in both adult and child categories.
Congratulations to the winners:.

Faye Rosgen who read *Olivia, a guide to being a big sister.*
Carl Beckham who read *Column of Fire.*

Education for Ministry

Our diocese offers the Education for Ministry class for people interested in going deeper with their faith. The first year participants reading the Old Testament, the second year the New Testament, the third year Church history and the fourth year more generally about the church. People from all four years meet in weekly discussions from September through May that deepen their understanding of what they believe and what their calling is. This coming year will have groups meeting in person and on zoom. If you'd like to know more, please email course coordinator Katy Dickinson - katy.dickinson@gmail.com

Pronoun buttons and map to gender neutral bathroom – St Thomas welcomes all, including transgender and nonbinary siblings in Christ. To make that visible, pronoun buttons are now available in the rear of the church. You can choose one to show your preferred pronoun in English. As well, it shows our hospitality to those who choose to be identified by less usual pronouns. And did you know we have bathrooms for all genders? By the buttons you'll find a map to guide you.

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.

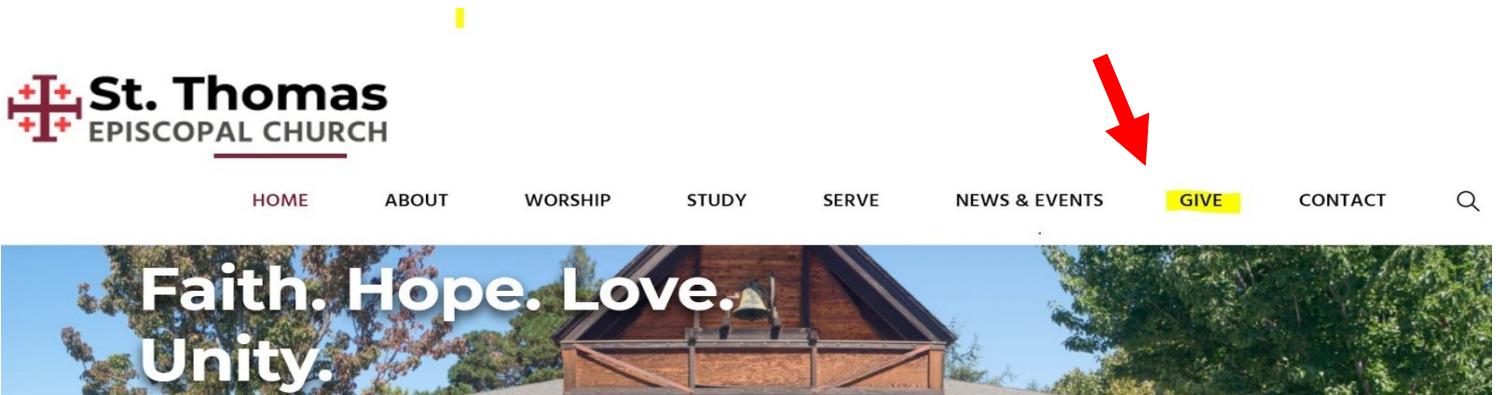
Pledges, Offerings & Donations

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.

As always, we want to say “Thank You!”

Peace, Jim Cobb

St. Thomas Library The church library will be open on Sundays after the 8 a.m. service, and again after the 10:30 service (on the Sundays when we worship in person). Carol or a member of the Library Committee will be available to answer questions on Fridays from 10-12; after 12:00 our administrator Anne will be available until 4:00 to open the door for you. Call 408-736-4155 for access, or knock loudly! We request that you remember to wear your mask.

Small Groups and Spiritual Formation Ministries

St Thomas Stepping Stones Jail Ministry

Get proximate to the pain and you will make the deepest connection. Join the St. Thomas Stepping Stone Jail ministry and get proximate to those who are in need of community and love. We began by sending out pen-pal letters and the coming weeks we will try to organize going in person into the jail (only for persons who want/agreed to do this work).

Please contact Deacon Bertram (bertramemail@gmail.com) 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 Contact Sue Beckham through our website for information: www.stthomas-svale.org/contact/

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 through our website for information: www.stthomas-svale.org/contact/

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.

St. Thomas offers English Language Classes. A class for Chinese speakers meets most Fridays at 10:00am in the Disciples room. A class for Japanese speakers meets Wednesdays at 1:00pm in the Disciples room.

Please note: The class for Japanese speakers is on hiatus, and will begin again in September.

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 August 28: *Under the Whispering Door*** by TJ Klune and Kirt Graves. Charon's Crossing: where the tea is hot, the scones are fresh, and the dead are just passing through. When Wallace is given one week to cross over, he sets about living a lifetime in seven days. Hilarious, haunting, and kind, this is an uplifting story about a life

spent at the office and a death spent building a home.
Please join us—contact Patricia through our website
www.stthomas-svale.org/contact for the Zoom link.

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.

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

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

Meeting ID: 896 9918 8717 Passcode: 225424

One tap mobile: +16699009128,,89699188717#,,, *225424# US (San Jose)

Sundays: 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I in the church

with masks and social distancing protocols

and

10:30am Holy Eucharist (Hybrid) or Morning Prayer (online),

led by Pastor Salying, in person in the church or on Zoom

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

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

Please see website for week-to-week information:

www.stthomas-svale.org



THE VESTRY OF ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SUNNYVALE

Abby O’Connell, **Senior Warden**
Joe Gutierrez, **Junior Warden**

2023
Pat Dare
Breno DeMedeiros
Abby O’Connell

2024
Nancy Allgeier
Gage McKinney
Rita Welsh

2025
Joe Gutierrez
Dena Ware
Emilee Wilhelm-Leen

Gage McKinney, **Clerk**

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.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

Accompanist: Benjamin Belew.....

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 Office408-736-4155

If there is no answer, please leave a message.

You may invite prayers online through The Intercessory Prayer Chain
at prayerchain@stthomas-svale.org