

21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 22, 2023

Rite II, 10:30am



CAESAR AVGVSTVS DIVI PATER PATRIAE
or Caesar Augustus the divine, father of the country.



TI CAESAR DIVI AVGVSTVS F AVGVSTVS
or Tiberius Caesar son of the divine Augustus.

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

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

21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 24

Holy Eucharist

10:30am, Rite II

October 22, 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

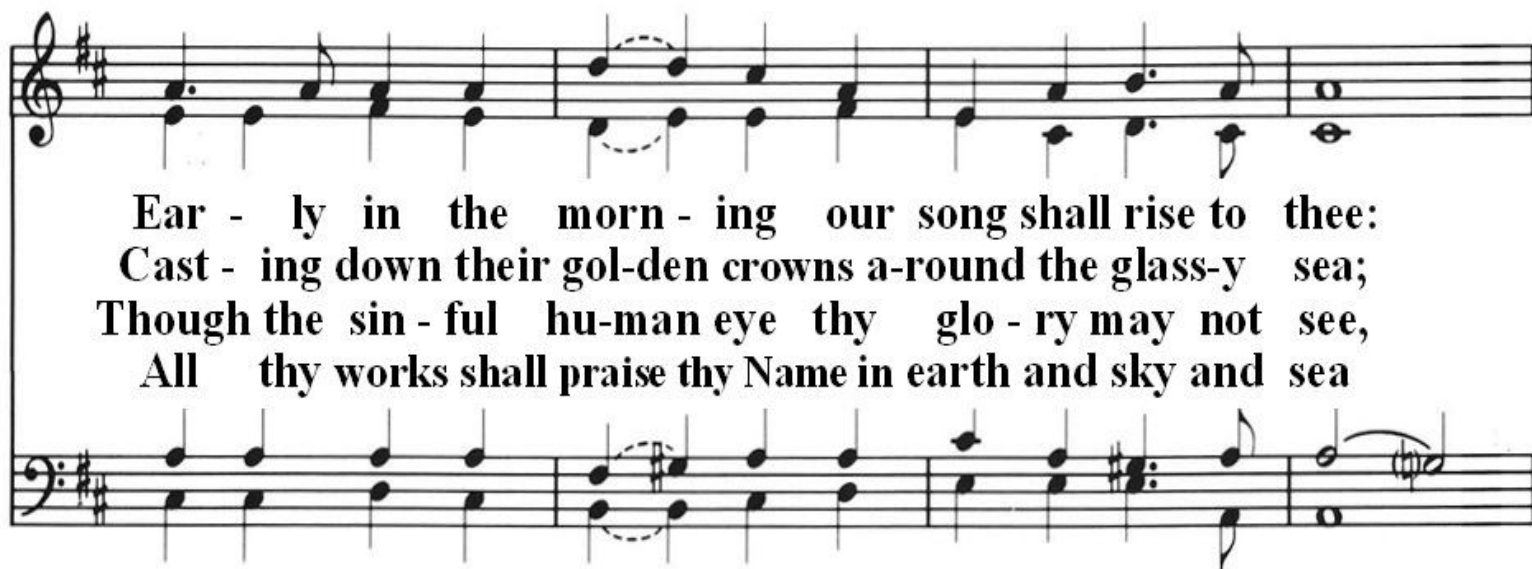
Hymnal #362

Holy, Holy, Holy

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



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord_ God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord_ God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee:
Cast - ing down their gol-den crowns a-round the glass-y sea;
Though the sin - ful hu-man eye thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy Name in earth and sky and sea

continued next page

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 On - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.
 which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in power, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826), alt.
 Music: *Nicaea*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

11 12. 12 10

Greeting

Celebrant:

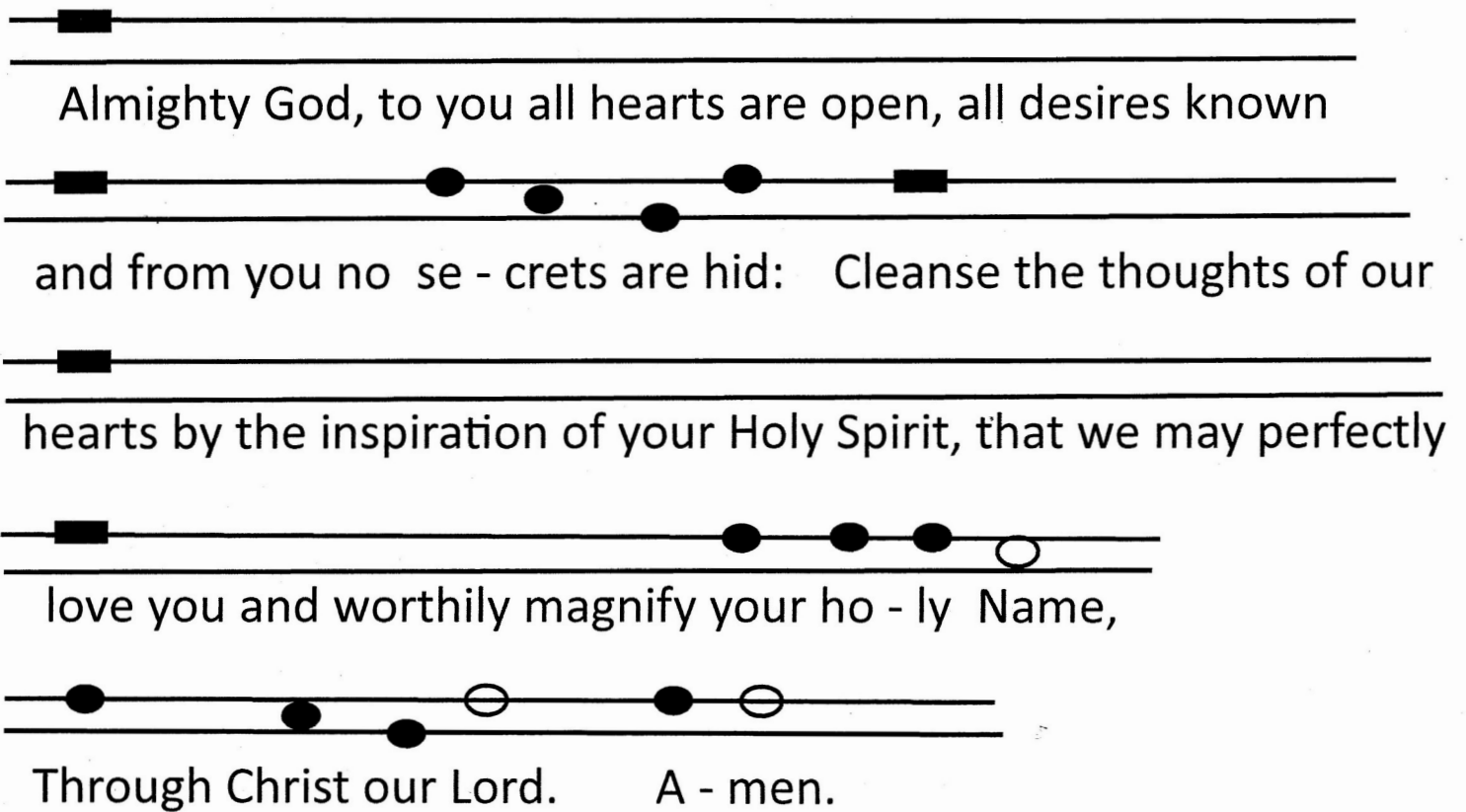
Bless - ed be the one, ho - ly and liv - ing God.

People:

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

Collect for Purity

Celebrant:



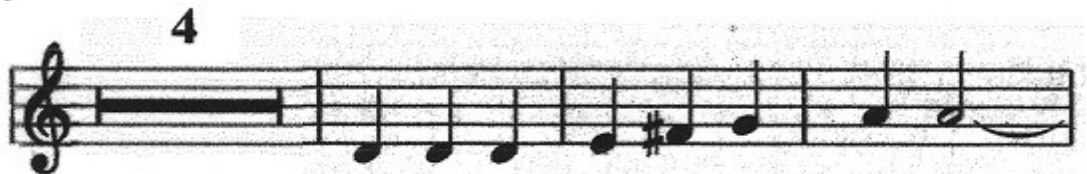
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known
and from you no se - crets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly
love you and worthily magnify your ho - ly Name,
Through Christ our Lord. A - men.

Gloria

WLP #900

*Please join in singing
the Gloria.*

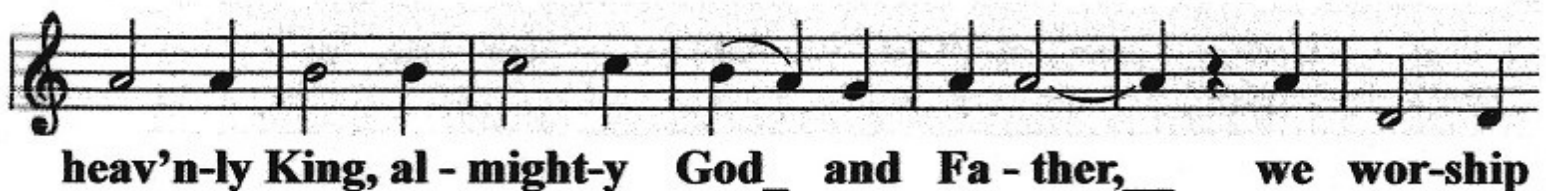
*Zoom participants
please stay muted*



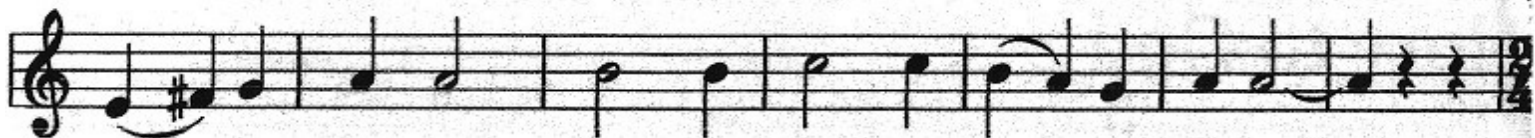
Glo-ry to God in the high-est,



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__

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

Fa-ther, __

Fa-ther

Fa-ther, __

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

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

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

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

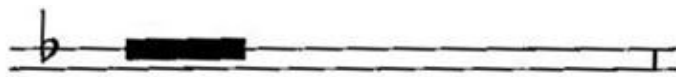
Fa - ther : re - ceive

Fa - ther : re - ceive

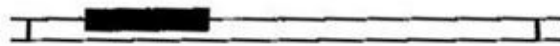
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you a - lone are the Ho-ly One, you a - lone are the
 Lord, you a - lone are the Most High
 Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect for the Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost Proper 24



Celebrant: God be with you.



People: And also with you



Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout

the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession 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 33:12-23

Moses said to the Lord, “See, you have said to me, ‘Bring up this people’; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”

The Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” Moses said, “Show me your glory, I pray.” And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The Lord’; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.” And the Lord continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

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

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 99

The congregation may join the choir in singing the refrain.

Zoom participants please stay muted.:

Refrain:



Pro-claim the great-ness of the Lord__ our__ God!__ who is the Ho - ly One.

The LORD is King; let the people tremble;
he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

The LORD is great in Zion;
he is high above all peoples.

Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome;
he is the Holy One.

Refrain

Refrain:



Pro-claim the great-ness of the Lord__ our__ God!__ who is the Ho - ly One.

"O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and fall down before his footstool;
he is the Holy One.


Refrain (as above)

Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name,
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

Refrain

Refrain:




Pro-claim the great-ness of the Lord _ our _ God! _ _ who is the Ho - ly One.

O LORD our God, you answered them indeed;
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and worship him upon his holy hill;
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

Refrain

Refrain:



Pro-claim the great-ness of the Lord _ our _ God! _ _ who is the Ho - ly One.

The Epistle 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians
in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in
our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your
work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord
Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that

he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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

People: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal #706

In Your Mercy, Lord, You Called Me

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

1 In your mer - cy, Lord, you called me, taught my
2 Lord, I did not free - ly choose you till by
3 Now my heart sets none__ a - bove you, for your

continued next page

sin - filled heart and mind,___ else__ this__ world had
 grace_ you set me free;___ for__ my__ heart wpi;d
 grace_ a - lone I thirst,___ know - ing__ well, that

still_ en-thralled me, and to glo - ry kept_ me blind.
 still_ re - fuse you had your love not cho - sen me.
 if I love you, you, O Lord, have loved_ me first.

Words: Josiah Conder (1789-1855); alt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920)
 Music: *Halton Holgate*, William Boyce (1711-1779)

87. 87

The Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-22

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful

to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you Lord Christ

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.**

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:

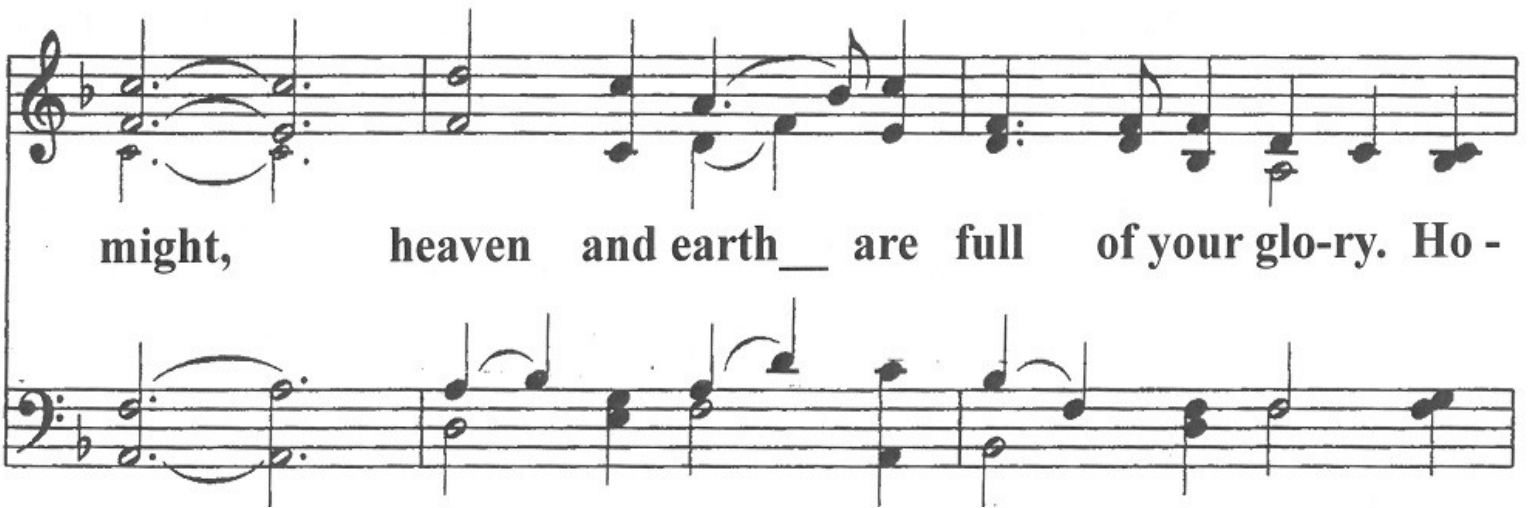
Sanctus

WLP #858

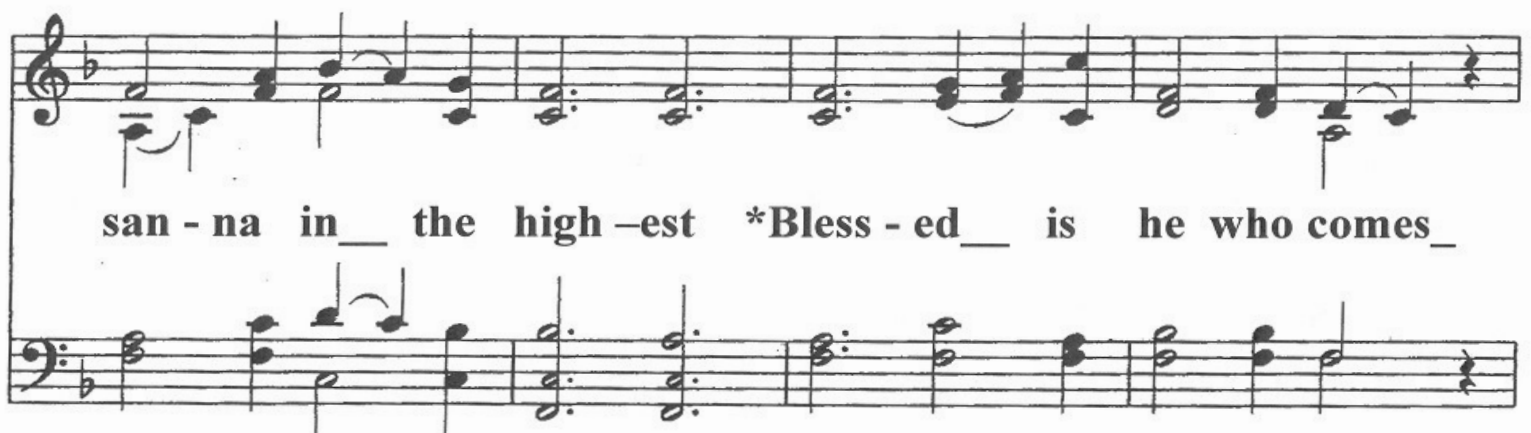
All are invited to sing along, Zoom attendees please stay muted.



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



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



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

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Hosanna in the Highest'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The music is in a simple, folk-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature.

Setting: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner;
 harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983)
 © Church Pension Fund

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

Hymnal #345

Savior Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

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

1 Sa - vior, a - gain to thy dear Name we raise
2 Grant us thy peace up - on our home-ward way;
3 Grant us thy peace through - out our earth - ly life;
4 thy peace in life, the balm of ev - ery pain;

21 *continued next page*

with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
 with thee be - gan, with thee shall end the day:
 peace to thy Church from er - ror and from strife;
 thy peace in death, the hope to rise a - gain;

guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
 from harm and dan - ger keep thy chil - dren free,
 peace to our land, the fruit of truth and love;
 then, when thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,

that in this house have called up - on thy Name.
 for dark and light are both a - like to thee.
 peace in each heart, thy Spi - rit from a - bove.
 call us, O Lord, to thine e - ter - nal peace.

Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893), alt.
 Music: *Ellers*, Edward John Hopkins (1818-1901)

10 10. 10 10

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 #573

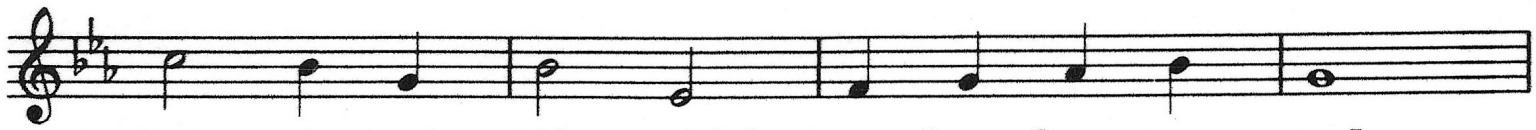
Father Eternal, Ruler of Creation

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



- 1 Fa - ther e - ter - nal, Ru - ler of cre - a - tion,
- 2 Rac - es and peo - ples, lo, we stand di - vid - ed,
- 3 En - vious of heart, blind - eyed, with tongues con - found - ed.
- 4 Lust of pos - ses - sion work - eth des - o - la - tions;
- 5 How shall we love thee, ho - ly hid - den Be - ing,

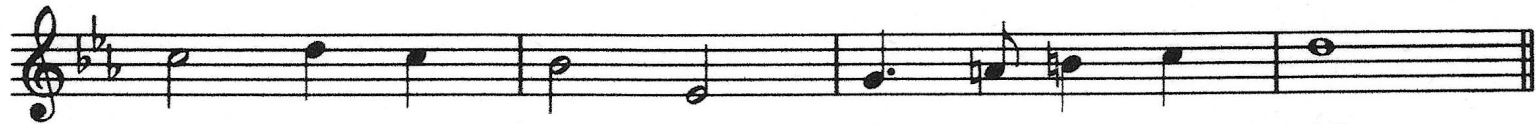
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1 Spi - rit of life, which moved ere form was made,
2 and, shar - ing not our griefs, no joy can share;
3 na - tion by na - tion still goes un - for - given,
4 there is no meek - ness in the powers of earth,
5 if we love not the world which thou hast made?

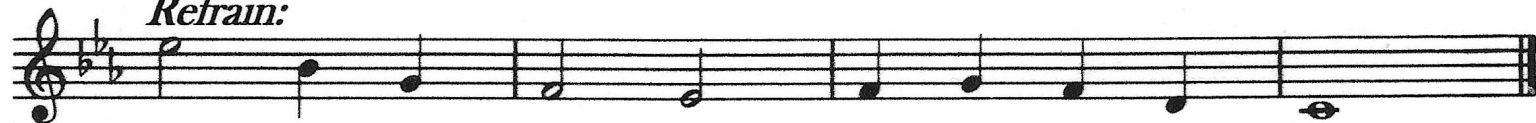


1 through the thick dark-ness cov - ering ev - ery na - tion,
2 by wars and tu - mults love is mocked, de - rid - ed;
3 in wrath and fear, by jea - lous - ies sur - round - ed,
4 led by no star, the ru - lers of the na - tions
5 Bind us in thine own love for bet - ter see - ing



1 light to our blind - ness, O be thou our aid:
2 his sav - ing cross no na - tion yet will bear:
3 build - ing proud towers which shall not reach to heaven:
4 still fail to bring us to the bliss - ful birth:
5 thy Word made flesh and in a man - ger laid:

Refrain:



thy king - dom come, O Lord, thy will be done.

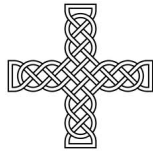
The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Benjamin Belew, piano



Serving us at 10:30 am

The St. Thomas Altar Guild

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong

Eucharistic Minister: Joe Gutierrez

Greeters: MaryJane Johnson et al

Lectors: Susan McVey, John McVey

Cantor: TBA

The St. Thomas Choir

directed by Patricia Pietrzyk
Benjamin Belew, accompanist

Tech lead: Andrew Yeh

Zoom host: Fulvia Govetto

TODAY IN THE PARISH

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

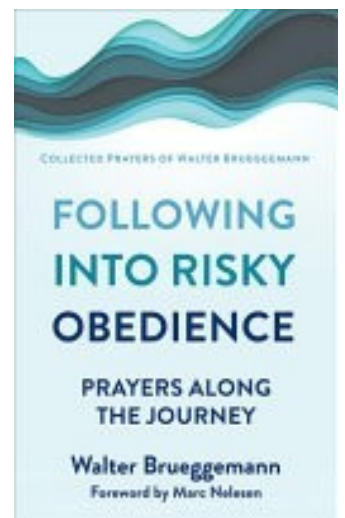
Library News:

Book of the Week October 22

[Following into Risky Obedience: prayers along the journey](#)

by Walter Brueggemann, WJ, 2023.

A collection of prayers by noted Hebrew Bible scholar Walter Brueggemann that can be used in both public worship and private devotion. These prayers run the



gamut from days in the church year to special moments in the lives of worshiping communities to events playing out on the world stage. In all cases, the prayers show us how God accompanies us through all the moments and stages of our life, while simultaneously calling us to do the same for all those whom God has placed alongside us in the journey.

Literature Rack – R side of Narthex

The November/December issues of Forward Day by Day and The Upper Room have arrived. They are available in the literature rack found in the Narthex of the church. The Upper Room also includes a Large Print issue.

New Archives Display- Sunday School Treasures

The Archives Display is featuring treasures from the Sunday School. There is a large Noah's Ark altar cloth from the Children's Chapel made by Alice Bell. Also there is a painting by Alexandra Wallace, a former student, painted in 2008. Lastly, a colorful fabric wall hanging is displayed.

This display is dedicated to our beloved **Sue Beckham** who donated these treasures to the Archives.

Submitted by Stephanie Daugherty



October is Stewardship Month

Reflection for October 22:



Jack Wood is a co-founder of Growing Together Community Gardens, a group of eight sustainable gardens in the Fargo, ND and Moorhead,

MN community. The gardens address food insecurity by cultivating volunteers, mentors, and leaders who respect and honor the integrity of one another and the earth. For Wood, the idea of being Rooted in Abundance means, “Being thankful for the gifts that God gives me and being able to share these talents with my family as well as the larger community. When I think about the word rooted, I think about something that is at the core of our existence, the thoughts and actions that are part of our everyday life and that grow from God as the source of life.”

From this trust that our lives are deeply rooted in God, Wood believes we can give ourselves fully and abundantly to others without holding back. He sees this in the volunteers who work in the community gardens. Through planting, nurturing, and harvesting, they discover in fresh ways how they are rooted in a source of life that they did not create but that they do share and participate in. This, in turn, makes them generous and giving people throughout their lives.

From long-time community residents to new immigrant citizens, Wood says, “I have seen an amazing abundance, gratitude, and generosity in people who, before they came together to garden, didn’t know each other but now have grown into a family that cares for one another and shares their life with each other. I think that gratitude and generosity work together to make us better human beings.”

+ + +

More information on Jack Wood and Growing Together Community Gardens is available at www.growingtogetherfm.org



Questions for Reflection:

Talk about a time in your life when working as a volunteer exposed you to new ideas and skills. How did meeting new people within the context of ministry add to your own gifts?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Adult Formation - Bible Study

“WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?”: A deep dive into the Gospel of Mark on Zoom (link below)

The next sessions on Wednesday are these: **October 25**

November 1, 8, & 15 **7:00 to 8:30 PM**

You are encouraged to purchase the book.

The Gospel of Mark: A Beginner's Guide to the Good News by Amy-Jill Levine

Join the class on **Zoom**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84992277552> Meeting ID: 849 9227 7552

One tap mobile: +16694449171,,84992277552#US

+16699006833,,84992277552#US (San Jose)

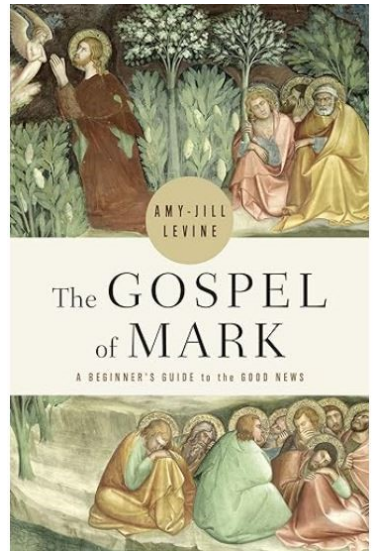
also

Confirmation - A Visit from the Bishop - December 17

On December 17 Bishop Lucinda Ashby will visit St. Thomas.

If you wish to be confirmed, reaffirmed in your baptismal vows and commitment to the church, or, if you wished to be received into membership of the Episcopal Church, please let Pastor Salying know.

Christmas Cantata Fundraising Our accompanist, Benjamin Belew, will be presenting a concert for Christmas Eve. It will be his own composition. There will be four soloists and an additional conductor, and we want to raise \$2500 to pay them for four rehearsals and the day of performance. Consider supporting a soloist, half a soloist, or any amount you can give. Write a check to St. Thomas and put on the memo line: Christmas Cantata. Or, contribute online at our website.



The next Vestry Meeting will be **Tuesday November 28 at 7pm.** Please contact Pastor Salying if you wish to attend. All regular business meetings are on Zoom..

Getting ready for Advent - October 28 Parish Workday - Funday

Plan on lots of opportunities for the workday on October 28th (starting at 9 AM) including:

- Lunch! A chance to share time and successes with all the volunteers
- A large team cleaning the outside of the Ed building to shine it up.
- Some painting projects - all the supplies set ready for you.
- Preparing our gardens for the fall - including tackling some of the summer growth.
- And - a few "some assembly required" projects to update our facilities.

Thank you! Our campus looked so much better following our July workday. The education center is now empty, clean, and ready for viewing by a prospective tenant. The next steps will be taken on **Saturday, October 28, 9AM to about 2PM** Save the date!

Agape Circle First Friday of each month (mostly!) at 6:30pm, Cowans Hall (we will observe "mask" protocols as necessary). Join us **Friday, November 3 at 6:30 pm.** Please bring a dish to share along with serving utensils. Remember, we're trying to reduce waste, so if you can bring your own table ware (dishes, glasses, utensils), that's great too! See you there!

CONCERT - Save the date: November 11

MMXXIII 11/11

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11
6:00PM DOORS OPEN

ST THOMAS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
231 SUNSET AVE SUNNYVALE
CA 94086

SUGGESTED DONATION
\$20

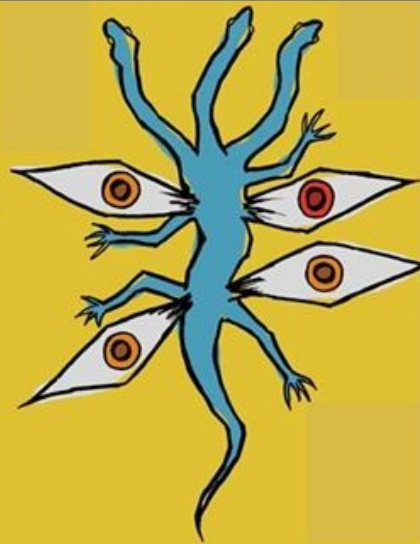
A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS
COLLECTED WILL BE DONATED
TO AN ORGANIZATION FOR
AIDING THE COMMUNITY.

BENJAMIN BELEW
SAKAGCH AKEALA

PIANO

mephistoape.com

Original works,
and works by
Prokofiev, Schubert,
Liszt, Beethoven
& others



MORE STORIES FOR THE FALL ON PIANO

A CLASSICAL MUSIC CONCERT SERIES VOLUME III

Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Thomas

 **St. Thomas**
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*You're invited to
Thanksgiving Dinner
Thursday, November 23, 2023
2:00 pm
in Cowans Hall*

*Traditional turkey and trimmings will be
provided.*

*You are more than welcome to bring a
dish to share.*

Please RSVP to: denaware@gmail.com

Looking ahead—December It’s really not so very far away! Just a reminder that following Stewardship month and All Saints/ Pledge Sunday, we will arrive again at the beginning of our church year—**Advent**. The first weekend in December will feature our **Greening of the Church** for the Season AND our **Advent Festival/ Holiday Boutique & Bake Sale, Saturday, December 2, 10a-2p and Sunday, December 3, 9a-1p** (which this year will be entirely in person - no on-line catalogue or sales).

The organizers encourage you to start thinking about what you might contribute to sell during this fundraising event. Thank you!

General Announcements

Thanksgiving and Memorial Donations to Altar Guild

Our altar guild appreciates your support in making our space holy and beautiful. You can make a donation for fresh flowers on a designated date or a general donation for supplies, like communion wine and bread and oil for the candles. You can make this donation online or by check, with “altar guild” on the memo line. If applicable, **please also include** (1) the date for the commemoration and (2) the person or occasion to be commemorated.

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. 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.

Coming soon - Christmas gift drive for the children of inmates As described in the recent newsletter, we will again this year be collecting gifts for kids who have an incarcerated parent.

This year, St. Thomas has paired up with Angel Tree – a national organization that does the required background checks of incarcerated inmates and their relationship with their families. After the family information is verified and vetted, St. Thomas will be notified with the names of children and their caregivers. Sign-ups will begin **November 19**.

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 us 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 chapel. A class for Japanese speakers meets Wednesdays at 1:00pm in the chapel.

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 October 30**, when we meet to discuss *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. In this extraordinary and beloved Pulitzer Prize winner, 13-year-old New Yorker Theo Decker miraculously survives an accident that kills his mother. Grieving, abandoned by his father, he is taken in by a wealthy family, where he clings to the one thing that reminds him of his mother: a small, mysteriously captivating painting that ultimately draws the adult Theo into a wealthy and insular art community. Please join us—contact Dorothy 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 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
and

10:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II in the church
(Hybrid format: with simultaneous livestream on Zoom)

Zoom link for livestream: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82690025101>

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

Both Sunday services led by Pastor Salying

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