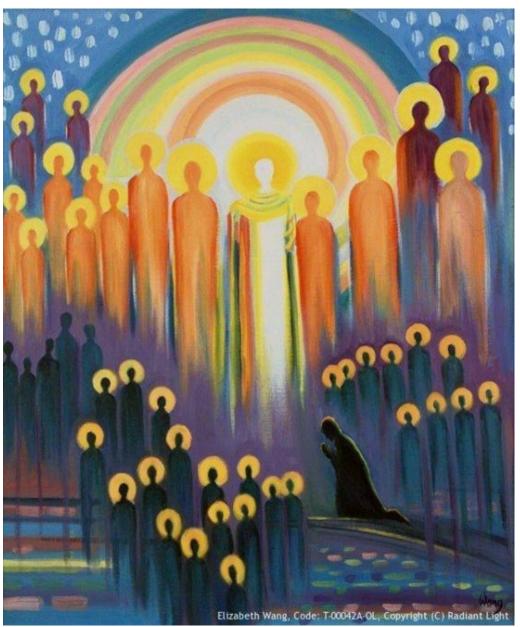
23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 5, 2023

Rite II, 10:30am



Radiant Light - by Elizabeth Wang

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

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

23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 26

Holy Eucharist

10:30am, Rite II

November 5, 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. <u>by computer or smartphone</u> (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.

At the conclusion of worship, there will be coffee hour in Cowans Hall across the courtyard.

Prelude

Benjamin Belew, piano

The bell tolls.

The Celebrant addresses the congregation.

Celebrant: At this time of the year, we gather to recognize the saints and souls that have gone before us. We understand that, in fact, the love of God binds the living and the dead, and so there is no ultimate separation. And though we grieve that we do not have them as they were, we do not grieve without hope, nor without communion. The saints and the dearly departed are among us. They intercede for us and guide us.

Let us name together the saints and the departed; let us ask them to pray for us...

The Collect for All Souls

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

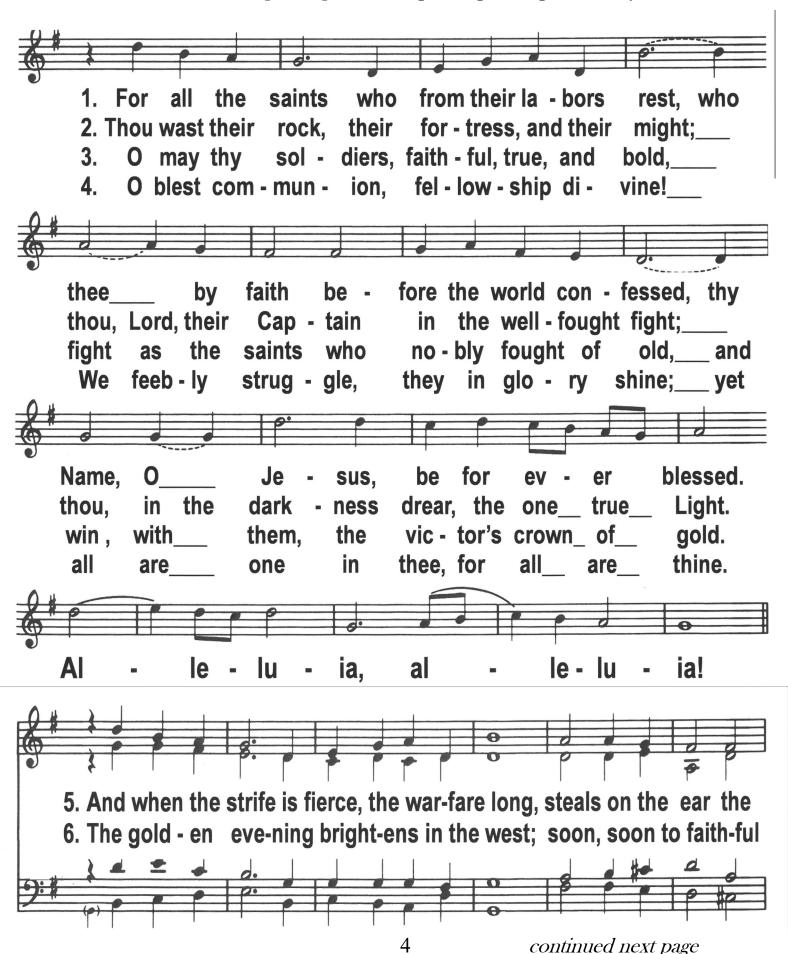
Celebrant: Let us pray.

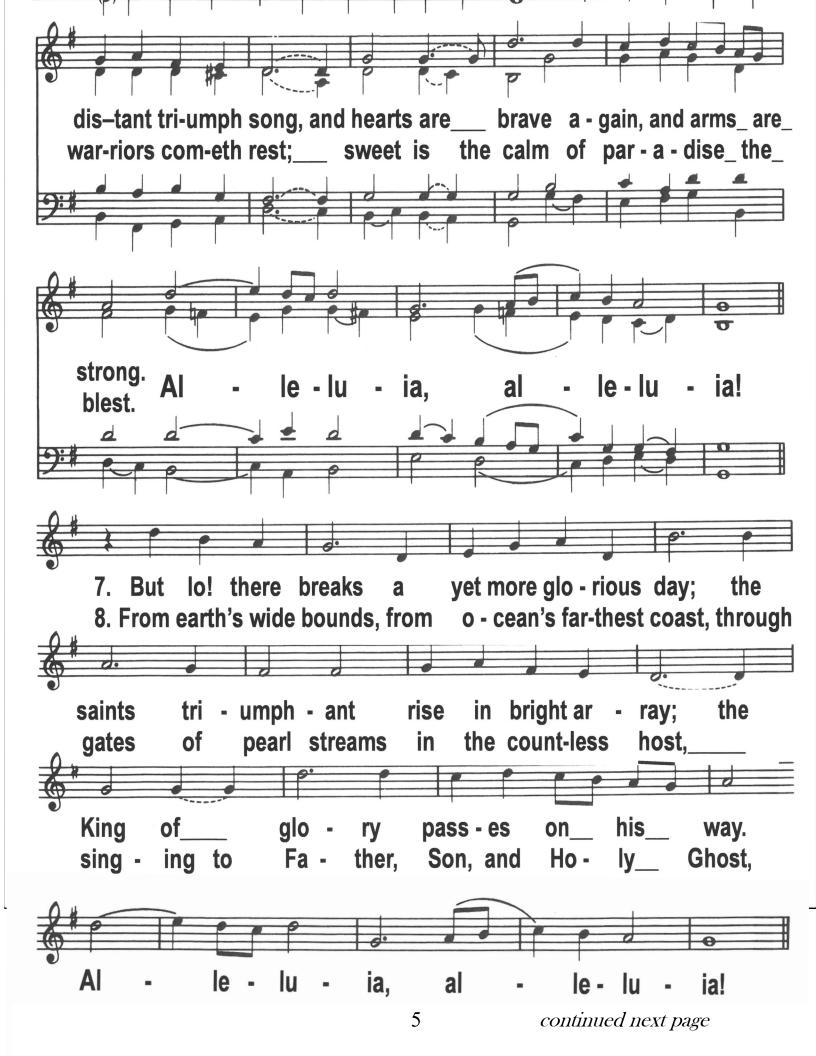
O God, the Maker and Redeemer of all believers: Grant to the faithful departed the unsearchable benefits of the passion of your Son; that on the day of his appearing they may be manifested as your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please come forward to place your picture of your saint or dearly departed on the table near the baptismal font.

For All the Saints

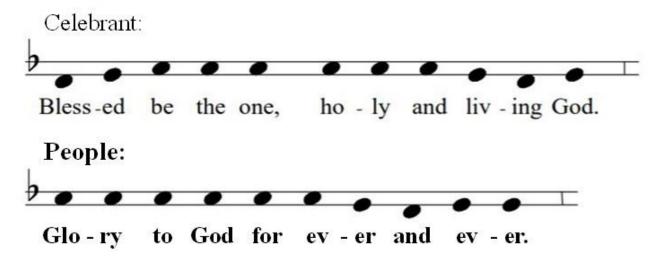
All are invited to sing along. Zoom participants, please stay muted.





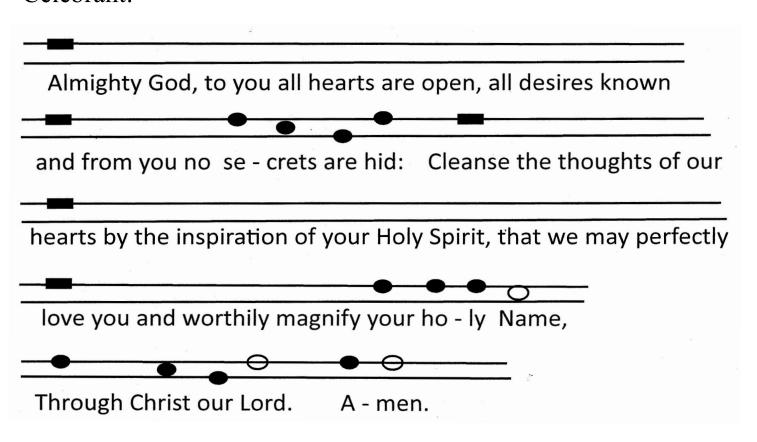
Music: Sine Nomine, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Greeting



Collect for Purity

Celebrant:



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 Lord God, earth heav'n-ly King, al - might-y God_ and Fa - ther, we wor-ship give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry Fa-ther, Son of the Fa-Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly ther, Fa-ther Fa-ther, Lamb of God, you take a - way_ the sin of the



Collect for the Feast of All Saints

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray.

.Celebrant: Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The First Lesson Joshua 3:7-17

The Lord said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so that they may know that I will be with you as I was with Moses. You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, 'When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan." Joshua then said to the Israelites, "Draw near and hear the words of the Lord your God." Joshua said, "By this you shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites: the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is going to pass before you into the Jordan. So now select twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. When the soles of the feet of the

priests who bear the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan flowing from above shall be cut off; they shall stand in a single heap."

When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, the waters flowing from above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing toward the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.

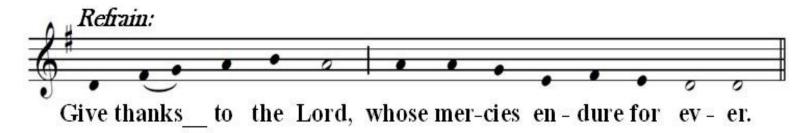
Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37

The congregation may join the choir in singing the refrain:.

Zoom participants please stay muted.



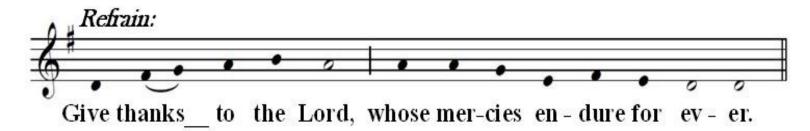
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever.

Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe. *Refrain* (as above)

He gathered them out of the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

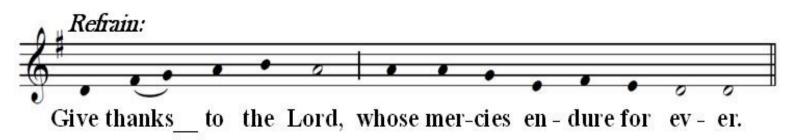
Some wandered in desert wastes; they found no way to a city where they might dwell.

They were hungry and thirsty; their spirits languished within them. *Refrain*



Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

He put their feet on a straight path to go to a city where they might dwell. *Refrain*



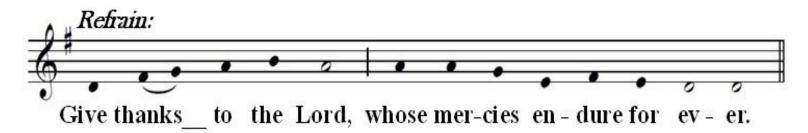
The Lord changed rivers into deserts, and water-springs into thirsty ground,

A fruitful land into salt flats, because of the wickedness of those who dwell there. *Refrain*



He changed deserts into pools of water and dry land into water-springs.

He settled the hungry there, and they founded a city to dwell in. They sowed fields, and planted vineyards, and brought in a fruitful harvest. *Refrain*



The Epistle 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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

People: Thanks be to God

By All Your Saints Still Striving vs. 1,2,3

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



- 1 By all your saints still stri-ving, for all your saints at rest,
- Ap os tles, pro-phets, mar-tyrs, and all the no-ble throng Then let us praise the Fa - ther and wor-ship God the Son



your ho-ly Name, O_ Je-sus, for ev-er-more_be blessed. who wear the spot-less_rai-ment and raise the_cease-less song: and sing to God the_ Spi-rit, e-ter-nal_three_in One,



You rose, our King vic- tor-ious, that they might wear the crown, for them and those whose wit-ness is known to on-ly you till all the ran-somed num-ber who stand be-fore the throne



and ev - er shine in splen-dor re - flect-ed from your throne.

by walk-ing in their_ foot-steps we give you_praise_a - new.

a - scribe all power and_ glo - ry and praise to_ God_ a - bove.

Words: Horatio Bolton Nelson (1823-1913); ver. Hymnal 1982 Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: Nyland, Finnish folk melody; adapt and harm. David Evans (1874-1948) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Matthew

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father-- the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted."

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 RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Celebrant: Dear People of God:

In Holy Baptism we have become part of that great fellowship of believers in all times and places, the

Communion of Saints. In Baptism God has adopted us as children and made of members of Christ's body and inheritors of God's kingdom with the saints in light. Let us now renew the vows of our own baptism by which

God has made us a holy people.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew

your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: I do.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: 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.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: 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.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and

fellowship, in the breaking of bread,

and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you

fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News

of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving

your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Prayers of the People

TENS

Celebrant: Gather us together, O God, that we might share the

prayers, intentions, and thanksgivings of our community.

People: We are generous with our gifts

Because we are Rooted in Abundance

Leader: I ask your prayers for the Church, for all who worship

God this day. For our clergy, our diocesan leaders, and for our congregation. We pray especially for this season in which we celebrate our stories of leadership and our

support for mission...

People: We are generous with our gifts of leadership,

Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

Leader: I ask your prayers for our Nation and all nations; for

refugees fleeing climate change and war; for conflicts of

resources and land; for lawmakers, peacekeepers, and informed citizens. We pray for a distribution of wealth

that helps the poor and the marginalized ...

People: We are generous with our gifts of peace,

Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

Leader: I ask your prayers for the sick, the lonely, the lost, and

those who grieve. We remember those on our parish prayer list, and those we name now in silence or aloud.

People: We are generous with our gifts of healing,

Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

Leader: I ask your prayers for those who have died, those who

are dying, and those who mourn. For those on our parish

list, and for those we name now in silence or aloud ...

People: We are generous with our gifts of support,

Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

Leader: I ask for your remembrances of thanksgivings and

blessings, for we are given time, talent, and treasure to

share with the world ...

People: We are generous with our gratitude,

Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

Celebrant: Hear the prayers of your people, Creator God. May we

who are blessed by so much wealth and wisdom, share

our works with a world in need. Amen.

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,

17

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.

The Presentation of our 2024 Pledges at the Altar

Celebrant: As you have chosen us, O God, and enriched our lives;

People: We offer you our pledges to proclaim and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ in and through St. Thomas.

Celebrant: For the particular ministries to which you have called us;

People: We offer you the time, energy, creativity and gifts we are giving to this parish, and to our neighbors in need.

Celebrant: For the sake of that day, when your kingdom shall come on earth;

People: We offer you ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a living sacrifice, our spiritual worship.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Offertory sentence

Offertory

Philip Paluszak

Lead Kindly Light
Members of the St. Thomas Choir
Benjamin Belew, piano

Celebrant:

All things come of you, O Lord.

People:

And of your own have we given you.

Sursum Corda

Eucharistic Prayer C



Celebrant: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy

of glory and praise.

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.





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

WLP #811

You Shall Cross the Barren Desert Zoom participants are invited to sing along. Please stay muted.







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.

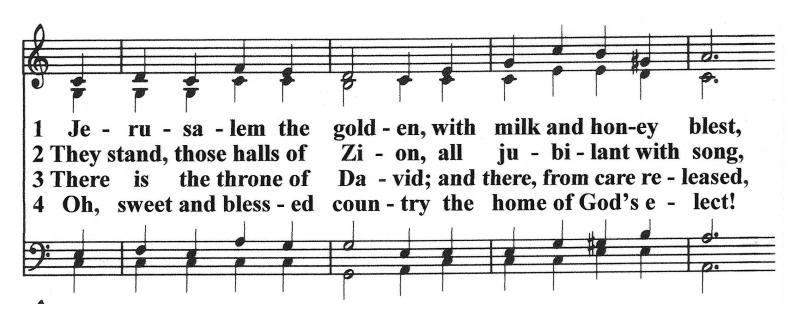
The Blessing

Closing Hymn

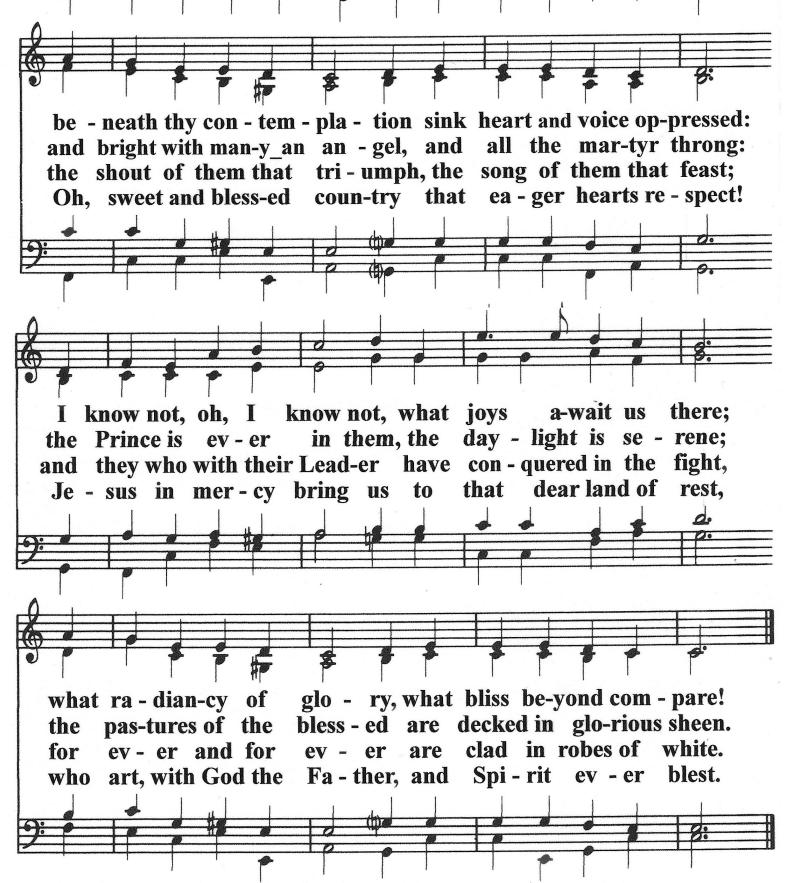
Hymnal #624

Jerusalem the Golden

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



continued next page



Words: Bernard of Cluny (12th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.

St. 4, Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861 Music: Ewing, Alexander Ewing (1830-1895)

76. 76. D

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please proceed to the church hall for the Chili Feed.

Postlude

Benjamin Belew, keyboard



Serving us at 10:30 am

The St. Thomas Altar Guild
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong
Eucharistic Minister: Jim Cobb
Greeters: MaryJane Johnson et al
Lectors: Dorothy Furgerson, tba

The St. Thomas Choir directed by Patricia Pietrzyk Benjamin Belew, accompanist

Tech lead: Tian Zhu **Zoom host:** Fulvia Govetto

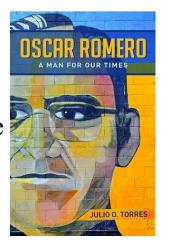
TODAY IN THE PARISH

Coffee hour Following worship, please join us for coffee and fellowship in Cowans Hall.

Library News:

Book of the Week November 5

Oscar Romero: a man for our times by Julio O. Torres. An in-depth portrait of Oscar Romero, the Fourth Archbishop of San Salvador, based on research of his diaries and sermons and on interviews with most of his surviving relatives, friends, and co-workers. This biography provides a unique insider/outsider perspective on both Romero and the plight and struggle of Central American immigrants and other migrant and impoverished populations.



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

Stewardship - Pledge Sunday

Reflection for November 5:



A conversation between the Very Rev. Matthew Woodward and Dr. Don Taylor

DEAN MATTHEW: Don, so good to see you, I have really enjoyed moments with the Sierra Leonean community. Even the somber moments. Most recently I have participated in funerals, but I recall a remarkable baptism last year. These events have been full of food, full of community, and full of generosity. The Sierra Leonean community is so generous when their members are in need, is that always the way?

DR. TAYLOR: Yes, it is sad that you have experienced this recently around grief, but the same generosity takes place around weddings and baptisms also. The community gathers, supports one another, and gives what it can. This flows from a sense of communalism, that I believe is at the root of humanity. Many believe that civilization spread out from Africa, and this generosity is at the heart of African culture.

DEAN MATTHEW: I remember when I was introduced at that baptism. Everyone who had been introduced had danced to the front of the Hall, I looked at you, and realized I had to dance as well. But as I did, drawing on dance experiences from my youth, you and other elders of the community joined me and danced as well. I felt deeply supported.

DR. TAYLOR: Yes, I had to dance and support you, you are the

priest of my church. Dancing is a manifestation of belonging. From this sense of belonging flows generosity. Everyone belongs, and everyone is supported, with food, with dancing, with fellowship and with financial support. To be rooted in abundance is to belong to a community who all want the best for you.

Questions for Reflection:

How does your family of origin express abundance at milestone events?

Dora Currea belongs to the Washington National Cathedral congregation where she is a Co-Chair of the Sanctuary Ministry advocating and supporting immigrants in partnership with diocesan and other faith groups in the DC area as well as the Church's Episcopal Migration Ministries. Dora currently serves the diocese as Chair of the Commission on Ministry.

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:

November 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

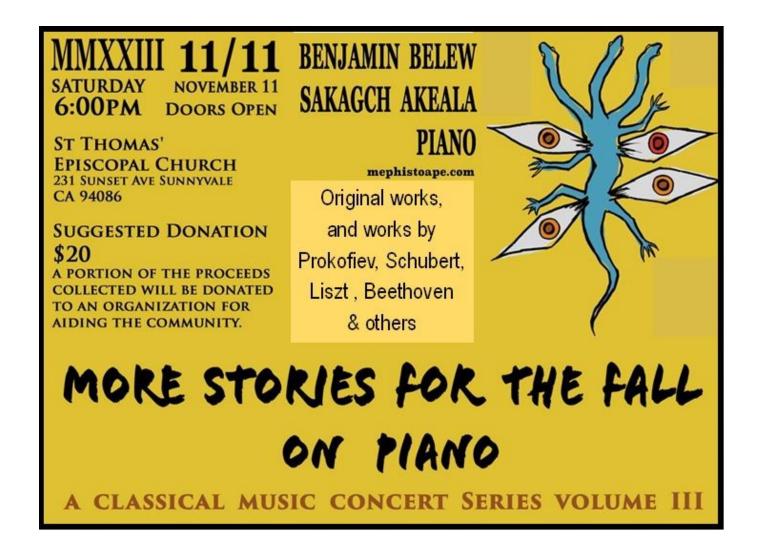
+16699006833,,84992277552#US (San Jose)

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.

CONCERT - Save the date: **November 11** see next page



Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Thomas



Celebrating Deacon Bertram Deacon Bertram Nagarajah will have his last Sunday at St. Thomas on **Sunday**, **November 26**. He will preach and there will be cake!

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

Agape Circle First Friday of each month (mostly!) at 6:30pm, Cowans Hall (we will observe "mask" protocols as necessary). There is **no Circle in December**—next time will be January 5, 2024!

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!

Also, as previously noted—Bishop Lucinda will visit December 17—see Pastor Salying **now** if you are seeking confirmation or reception—and Christmas Eve will feature a special original cantata, in support of which we are currently seeking donations.

Christmas Cantata Our accompanist, Benjamin Belew, will be presenting a choral concert for Christmas Eve. It will be his own composition. There will be four soloists and an additional conductor. **Thank you** to all who donated to the budget for this special event!

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.

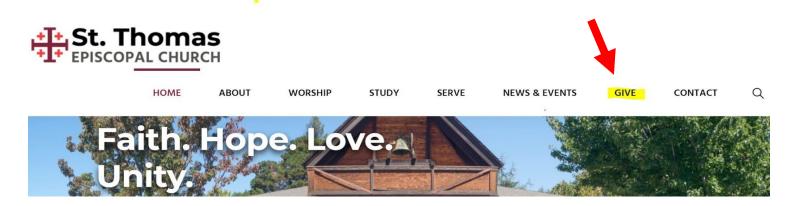
Pledges, Offerings & Donations

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 <u>or</u> 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=_sxclick&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 November 27 when we meet to discuss The Light We Carry by Michele Obama. Michelle Obama offers readers a series of fresh stories and insightful reflections on change, challenge, and power, including her belief that when we light up for others, we can illuminate the richness and potential of the world around us, discovering deeper truths and new pathways for progress. 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 war!

We are becoming whom Jesus calls us community dedicated to enter and our not in the second community dedicated community ded toward justice, compassion, and hope.

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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

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 2024 Nancy Allgeier Gage McKinney 2025 Joe Gutierrez Dena Ware

Gage McKinney, Clerk

Abby O'Connell

Rita Welsh

Emilee Wilhelm-Leen

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

Stephanie Daugherty

Mabel Cheng

Hugo Lopez-Laguna 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 **Parish Administrator:** Anne Buelteman..................office@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. Salving 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 prayerchain@stthomas-svale.org