

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 28, 2024

Rite II, 10:30am



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

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 28, 2024

Rite II, 10:30am

Welcome to worship this morning.

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.

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.

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.

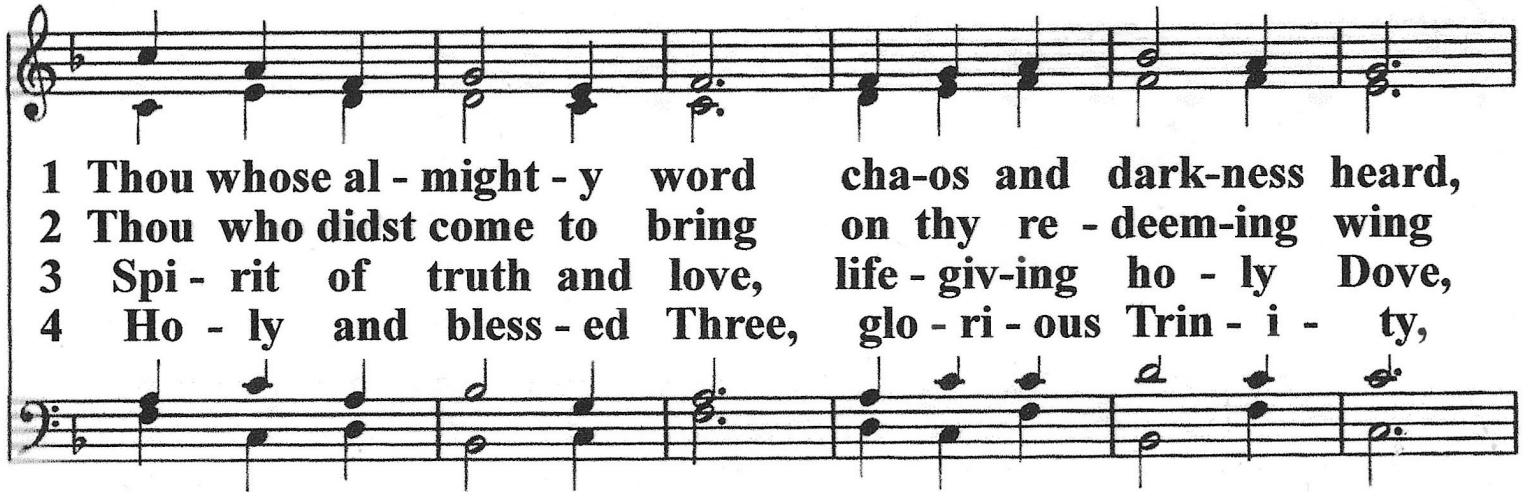
Prelude

Opening Hymn

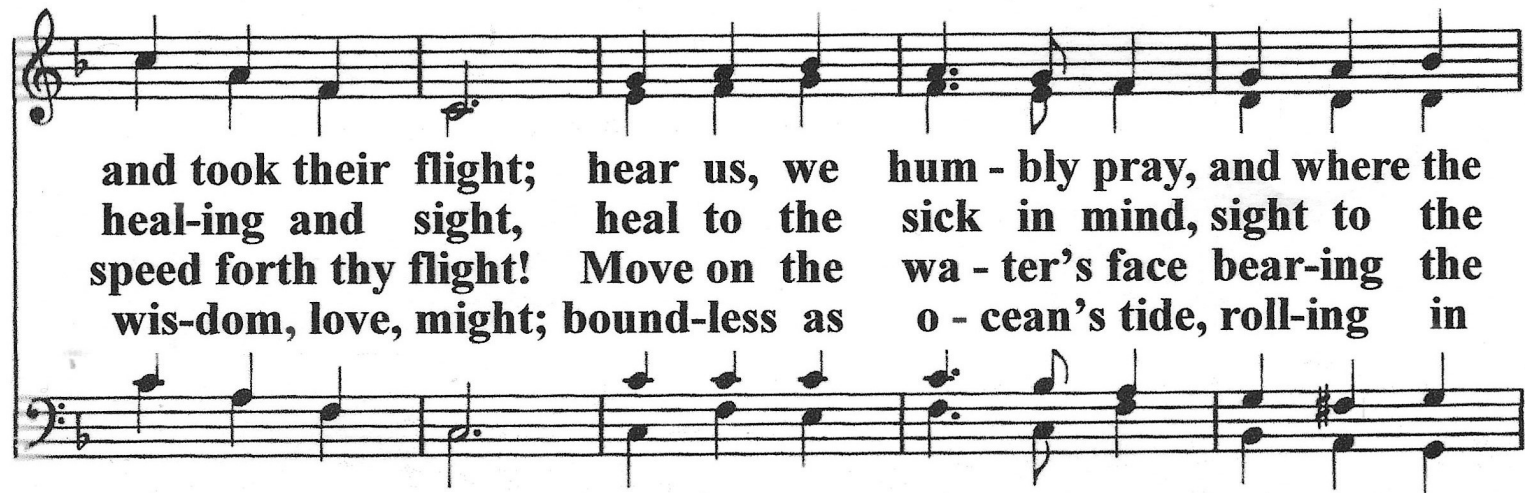
Hymnal #371

Thou Whose Almighty Word

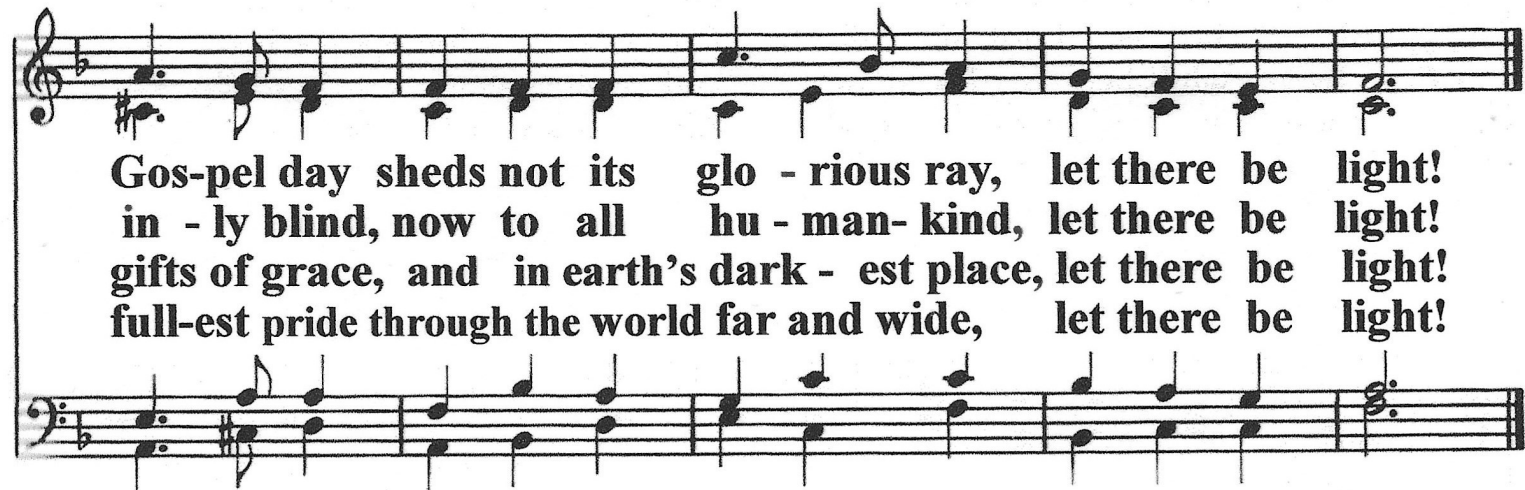
Please join in singing the hymn; zoom participants stay muted.



1 Thou whose al - might - y word cha-os and dark-ness heard,
2 Thou who didst come to bring on thy re - deem-ing wing
3 Spi - rit of truth and love, life - giv-ing ho - ly Dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight; hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal-ing and sight, heal to the sick in mind, sight to the
speed forth thy flight! Move on the wa - ter's face bear-ing the
wis-dom, love, might; bound-less as o - cean's tide, roll-ing in



Gos-pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light!
in - ly blind, now to all hu - man-kind, let there be light!
gifts of grace, and in earth's dark - est place, let there be light!
full-est pride through the world far and wide, let there be light!

Words: John Marriott (1780-1825), alt.

Music: *Moscow*, Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916,
based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

Opening Acclamation

EOW1

Celebrant:



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

People:



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

Greeting and Collect for Purity

Celebrant:

God be with you.

People:

And also with you

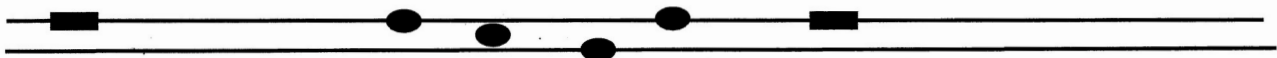
Celebrant:

Let us pray.

Celebrant:



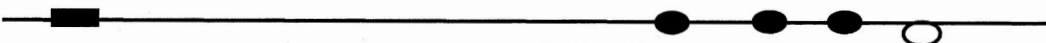
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known



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



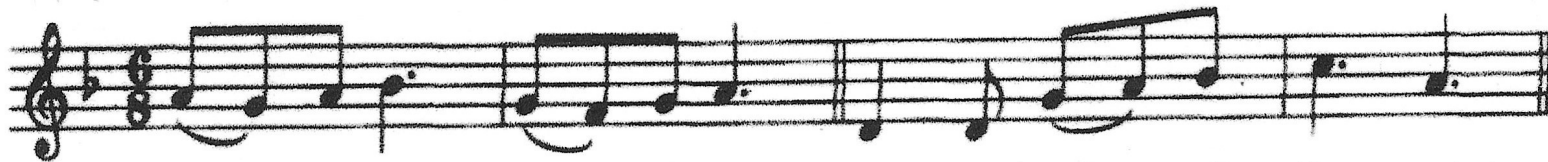
love you and worthily magnify your ho - ly Name,



Through Christ our Lord. A - men.

Gloria

Please join in singing the Gloria; zoom participants stay muted.



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



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

Collect for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; 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 Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my

God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” Then the Lord replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 111

The congregation joins the choir in singing the refrain.

Zoom participants please stay muted.

Refrain



The fear__ of the Lord__ is__ the be - gin - ning of wis-dom.

Hallelujah!

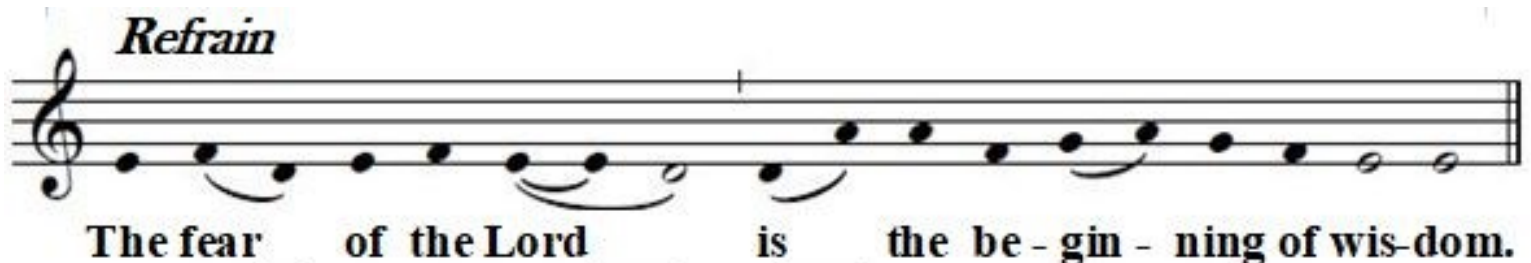
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the Lord! *

they are studied by all who delight in them.

Refrain

Refrain



The fear__ of the Lord__ is__ the be - gin - ning of wis-dom.

His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.

He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion. *Refrain*

Refrain




The fear__ of the Lord__ is__ the be - gin - ning of wis-dom.

He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works *
in giving them the lands of the nations. *Refrain*

Refrain




The fear__ of the Lord__ is__ the be - gin - ning of wis-dom.

The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity. *Refrain*

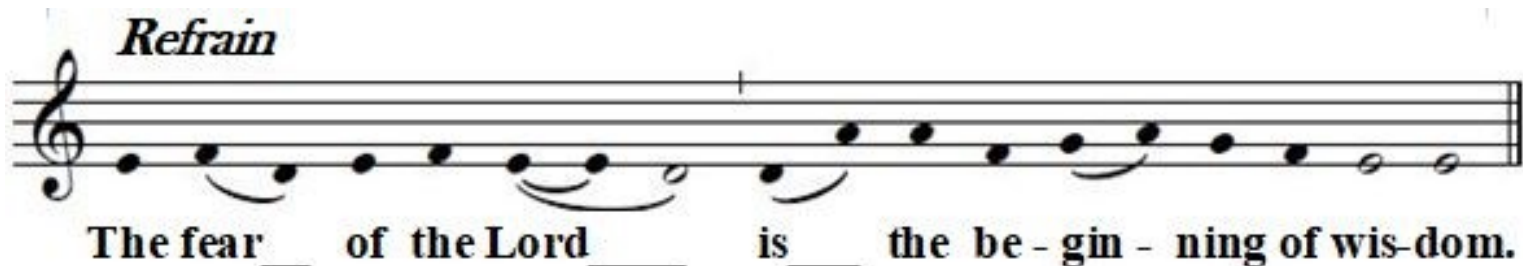
Refrain



The fear__ of the Lord__ is__ the be - gin - ning of wis-dom.

He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever. *Refrain*



The Epistle 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family,

and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal #577

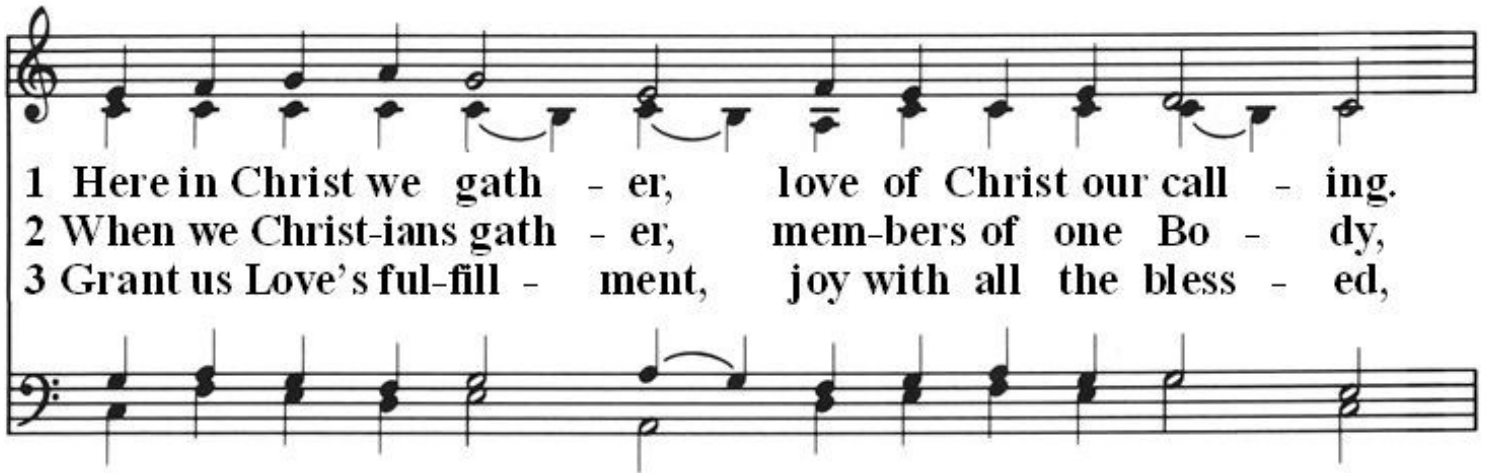
God Is Love

Please join in singing the hymn; zoom participants stay muted.

Refrain:



God is love, and where true love__ is, God him-self is there.



1 Here in Christ we gath - er, love of Christ our call - ing.
2 When we Christ-ians gath - er, mem-bers of one Bo - dy,
3 Grant us Love's ful-fill - ment, joy with all the bless - ed,



Christ, our love, is with us, glad-ness be his greet - ing,
let there be in us no dis - cord but one spir - it.
when we see your face, O Sa - vior, in its glo - ry.

Let us fear and love him, ho - ly God e - ter - nal.
 Ban-ished now be an - ger, strife and ev - ery quar - rel.
 Shine on us, O pur - est Light of all cre - a - tion,

Repeat Refrain

Lov - ing him, let each love Christ in one an - oth - er.
 Christ our God be al - ways pres - ent here a - mong us.
 be our bliss while end - less a - ges sing your prais - es.

Words: Latin; tr. James Quinn (b. 1919), alt.
 Music: *Ubi caritas* (Murray), A. Gregory Murray (b. 1905)

12. 12. 12. 12 with Refrain

The Gospel Mark 1:21-28

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of

Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you Lord Christ

*In lieu of a sermon, there will be a couple of reports.
These will be given in the hall during the annual meeting*

We continue worship with the Creed.

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.

The Prayers of the People

Marty Haugen

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

All: repeat continuously (under Leader)

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 6/8. It begins with a square box containing the letter 'A'. The melody starts with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note G3. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. It begins with a half note G2, followed by a quarter note F2, a quarter note E2, a quarter note D2, a quarter note C2, a quarter note B1, and a quarter note A1. The two staves are connected by a brace on the left and a slur on the right, indicating they are to be played together. The word '(Hmmm)' is written below the first measure of the bass staff.

Response

All: **B**

God of mer - cy, hold us in love.

Leader: **A**

B *Response (as above)*

1. In peace, in peace, we pray to you:

Leader: **A**

B *Response (as above)*

2. For peace and sal-va-tion, we pray to you:

Leader: **A**

3. For peace be-tween na-tions, for peace be-tween peo-ples:

Response

All: **B**

God of mer - cy, hold us in love.

continued next page

Response
above

Leader: A B

4. For us who are gathered to worship and praise you:
5. For all of your servants who live out your gospel:
6. For all those who govern, that justice might guide them:
7. For all those who labor in service to others:
8. Grant weather that nourishes all of creation:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from danger:
10. For all the beloved who rest in your mercy:

Leader:

Help us, comfort us, all of our days:

All:

Keep — us, hold — us, gra - cious God.

The Confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

All: **God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
 in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

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.

Announcements

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Offertory sentence

The Offertory Anthem

Mark Schweitzer

Prayer of St. Francis

Members of the St. Thomas Choir

Jean Platner, soloist



Benjamin Belew, accompanist



Celebrant: All things come of you, O Lord.


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


Sursum Corda

Eucharistic Prayer 3. *Enriching Our Worship 1*

Celebrant:  People: 
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant:  People: 
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: 
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant:

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places,
our true and loving God;

through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,

the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world

and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;

You brought forth all creatures of the earth

and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,

all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;

And so as the morning stars sing your praises

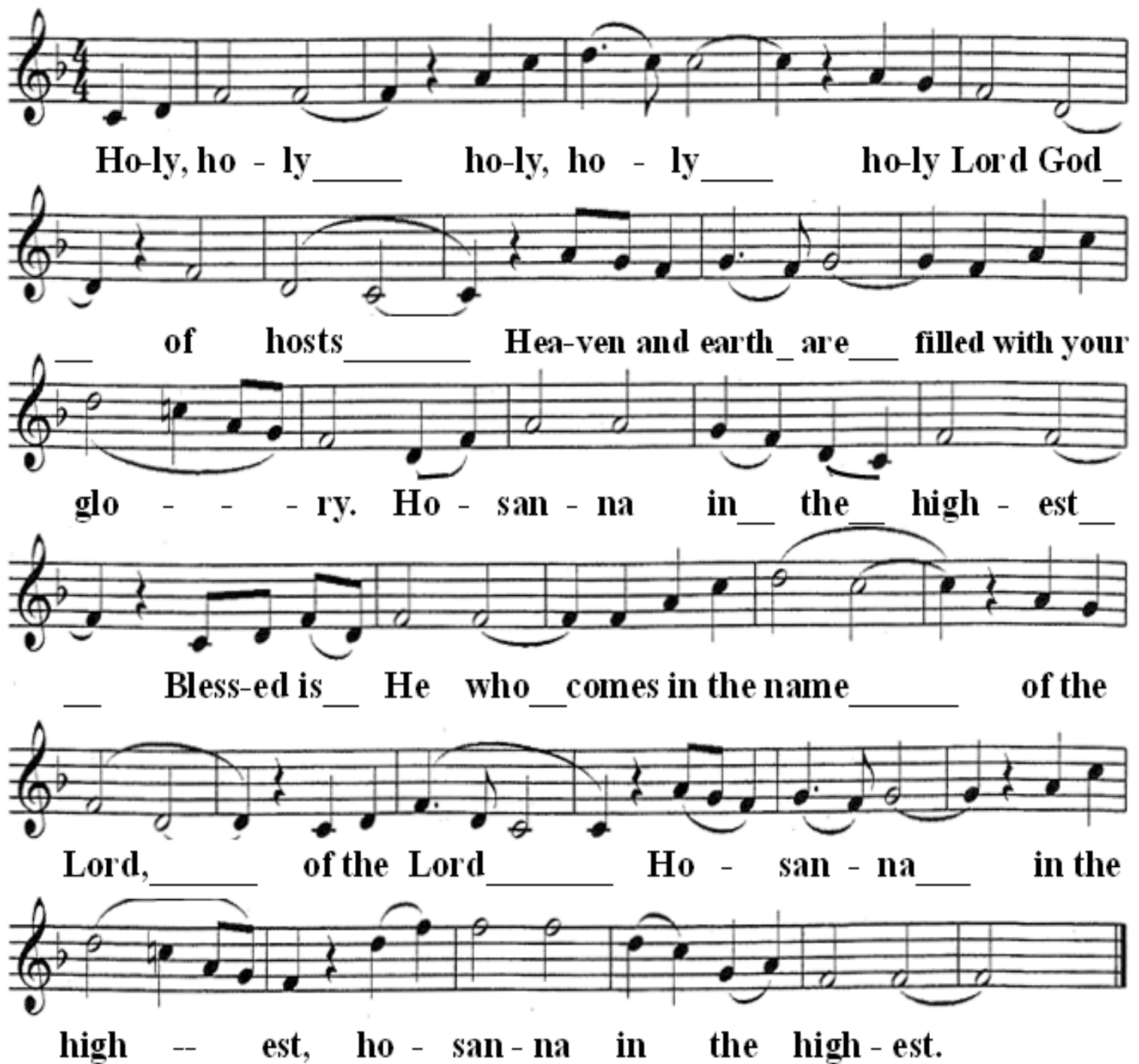
we join the heavenly beings and all creation
as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

LEVAS #255

Please join in singing. Zoom participants please stay muted.

Celebrant and **People:**



Ho-ly, ho - ly _____ ho-ly, ho - ly _____ ho-ly Lord God _____
of hosts _____ Hea-ven and earth are _____ filled with your
glo - - - ry. Ho - san - na in _____ the high - est _____
Bless-ed is _____ He who comes in the name _____ of the
Lord, _____ of the Lord _____ Ho - san - na _____ in the
high -- est, ho - san - na in _____ the high - est. _____

Celebrant: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,
your Word has never been silent;

you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,
you delivered them from bondage
and led them to a land of promise.
Of your grace, you gave Jesus
to be human, to share our life,
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign
and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
you have freed us from sin,
brought us into your life,
reconciled us to you,
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us
Jesus took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
gave it to his friends and said:
“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:
“Drink this, all of you:
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
longing for Christ’s coming in glory,
and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made,
we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Celebrant:

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be to us
the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,
and in the fullness of time gather us
with blessed Thomas, and all your people
into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.

Celebrant and People:

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

Celebrant: 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 Fraction Anthem

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

The Communion

Everyone is invited to come to the altar railing during Communion.

- *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 #593

see next page

Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

You are invited to join in singing the hymn.

Zoom participants please stay muted.

1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark

1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
 5 night to end - less day: Lord make us ser - vants of your

1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

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 #593

Spread, O Spread, Thou Mighty Word

Please join in singing the hymn; zoom participants stay muted.

1 Spread, O spread, thou might - y word, spread the king - dom of the Lord,
2 word of how the Fa - ther's will made the world, and keeps it, still;
3 word of how the Sa - vior's love earth's sore bur - den doth re - move;
4 word of how the Spi - rit came bring - ing peace in Je - sus' name;
5 Word of life, most pure and strong, word for which the na - tions long,

continued next page

1 that to earth's re - mot - est bound all may heed the joy - ful sound;
 2 how his on - ly Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;
 3 how for - ev - er, in its need, through his death the world is freed;
 4 how his nev - er - fail - ing love guides us on to heaven a - bove.
 5 spread a - broad, un - til from night all the world a - wakes to light.

Words: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier (1774-1841); tr. Arthur William Farlander (1898-1952)
 and Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), alt. St. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984)
 Music: *Gott sei Dank*, melody from *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704;
 adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)

77. 77

Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world as instruments of God's
 peace, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
 Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

*After the dismissal, please proceed to Cowan's Hall for the annual meeting.
 To make our meeting expeditious,
 please quickly fix a sandwich and find a seat.*



Serving us at 10:30 am
 The St. Thomas Altar Guild

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong
Eucharistic Minister: Jeannie Battagin
Greeters: Donna Cobb,
 Stephanie Daugherty, Pat Turnbull
Lectors: Cal Cornwell, Patricia Pietrzyk
Cantor: Patricia Pietrzyk
Accompanist: Benjamin Belew

Tech lead: Andrew Yeh
Zoom host: Lou Poulain

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Prayer for Annual Meeting

Celebrant and People:

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in St. Thomas for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Congregation Reads its Core Values

- **We follow Jesus. We study his life and teachings, so we might love God and do God's will.**
- **We welcome all. We respect the dignity of everyone.**
- **We serve those in need, whether physically or spiritually.**
- **We thrive in community. It gives us comfort, strength and joy.**
- **We embrace change so we can keep the church strong and relevant.**

Adoption of Minutes from Annual Meeting 2023

Pastor Salying

Reports

- Finances - 2023 Actuals and 2024 Budget
- Sustainability Project
- Rector's Report

Jim Cobb

Joe Gutierrez

Pastor Salying

Awards and Appreciations

Pastor Salying

- Vestry members Class of 2023
- Vestry Cross
- Rector's Award

Elections

- New vestry
- Delegates to convention
- Commissioning prayers

Announcement of Sr. Warden

Congregation Reads its 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.

Adjournment

The new vestry will meet immediately in the library after the service to vote for the Treasurer and Clerk and take a vestry picture.

Exit Hymn

We Are Marching in the Light of God / Siyahamba

You are invited to join in singing the hymn.

Zoom participants please stay muted.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. There are lyrics written below the treble staff. A triplet of notes is indicated by a bracket and the number '3' above it. The lyrics are: 'We are march - ing in the light of God, we are Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-khos', si - ya - Mar - cha - re - mos en la luz de Dios. Mar - cha -'. The score ends with a fermata over the final note of the melody.

march-ing in the light of God. We are march - ing in the
hamb' e - ku-kha - nyen' kwen-khos', *Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -*
re - mos en la luz de Dios. *Mar - cha - re - mos en la*

we are march-ing in the light of God
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
mar - cha - re - mos en la luz de Dios.

light of God, we are march-ing in the light of, the
nyen' kwen-khos', *si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-,* *kha -*
luz de Dios. *mar - cha - re - mos en la luz de,* *la*

we are march-ing in the light of God
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
mar - cha - re - mos en la luz de Dios.

continued next page

We are march-ing
Si - ya - ham - ba
Mar - cha - re - mos

light of God,
nyen' kwen-khos',
luz de Dios.

we are march-ing,
si - ya - ham - ba
mar - cha - re - mos

march-ing, we are
ham - ba, si - ya -
re - mos mar - cha -

Oo we are march-ing in the light of God
Oo si - ya - hamb' e - ku-kha-nyen' kwen - khos'.
Oo mar-cha-re-mos en la luz de Dios.

march-ing,
ham - ba,
re - mos

march-ing, we are march-ing in the light of, the
ham - ba si - ya - hamb' e - ku-kha-nyen' kwen - kha
re - mos mar-cha-re-mos en la luz de la

we are march-ing in the light of God
si - ya - hamb' e - ku-kha-nyen' kwen - khos'.
mar-cha-re-mos en la luz de Dios.

continued next page

We are march-ing
Si - ya - ham-ba
Mar-cha - re - mos

light of God,
nyen' kwen-khos',
luz de Dios.

we are march-ing,
si - ya - ham - ba
mar - cha - re - mos

march-ing, we are
ham - ba, si - ya -
re - mos mar-cha -

Oo

Oo

Oo

march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing in the light of God. _____
si - ya - ham-ba si - ya - hamb' e - ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'. _____
mar-cha - re-mos mar-cha - re-mos en la luz de Dios. _____

Words: South African; Spanish words, Bernardo Murray
 Music: *Siyahamba*, South African © 1984 Utryck, admin.
 Walton Music Corporation

Irr.

Today in the Parish

The Altar flowers today are given by the Campbell family in loving memory of David.

Annual Meeting Today at the conclusion of worship we will move into Cowans Hall. Lunch will be provided, including a deli-lunch setup with all the fixings for “Make it Yourself” sandwiches. Chips, fruit salad, and beverages will also be provided.

The Annual Report will be presented, consisting of budget information from the Treasurer and Finance group, as well as individual summations of the 2023 activities of all the groups at St. Thomas.

New vestry members and delegates have been nominated. They will be elected at the meeting. Their introductions may be found in the pages of the Annual Report.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Food, Friendship and Fun–Agape Circle! Join us for the next potluck dinner on **Friday February 2** at 6:30pm in Cowans Hall for a candle exchange in commemoration of Candlemas. Bring a candle to share and go home with something unexpected. We will also bless the candles with a short liturgy from *The Book of Occasional Services*.

Cantata Viewing Party Sunday February 4 If you wish to view the video of the Christmas Cantata by Benjamin Belew, please come to the hall around 1pm.

Transfiguration/Shrove Sunday Pancake Breakfast

Please put **Sunday, February 11** on your calendar for this (nearly-) annual event!



Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist Service will be on **February 14 at 12:15pm**. This will be available in-person and online.

Adult Lenten Series: MAKING SENSE OF THE CROSS

Lou Poulain will lead six sessions on Zoom, Wednesday Evenings, February 21, February 28, March 6, March 13, March 20 and March 27 (Wednesday of Holy Week). 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Class outline available upon request.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82982394735>

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,82982394735# US (San Jose)

The cross is at the very center of our understanding of Jesus, and what it means for us to be his followers. Paul wrote at the beginning of the First Letter to the Corinthians (I Cor 1:23-25):

“... but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.”

We have probably heard many sermons on the meaning of the Cross, and Jesus’ death. Some of the explanations probably make sense to you, and some might confuse and even disturb. There are important questions: What does it mean to say that Jesus “died for our sins”? Did God really demand a blood sacrifice of his only begotten Son in order to forgive sins? Was Jesus’ death a “ransom for many”, and what does that really mean? You certainly have your own questions.

This series will review what the Bible has to say about the meaning of Jesus' death. We will look at the ways (intentionally plural!) the church historically has explained the significance of Jesus' death, and how our worship shapes our understanding. We will also consider some contemporary efforts to make sense and re-articulate the meaning of the Cross and of salvation.

Each session will begin with Compline prayer at 7:00 pm. You do not need to register, it is best to do so to ensure you get class material: lpoulain@me.com.

General Announcements

Literature Rack – R side of Narthex

The current *Upper Room* and *Forward Day by Day* copies have arrived. They are available in the literature rack found in the Narthex of the church. The *Upper Room* also includes large print copies.

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.

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

Stewardship update: Pledges Gratefully Accepted

Through Friday, January 19th, we have received **54** pledges towards our goal of **60** pledges. If you have already submitted a pledge for 2024, **THANK YOU!**

If you are considering pledging to our annual budget for 2023, you can still do so. You may submit a pledge card by mail, by email at finance@stthomas-svale.org, and by hand-delivery to Jim Cobb.

Also, if you choose to donate securities, please contact the Treasurer, Jim Cobb, if you need the account number and transfer information. It is important to notify us when the transaction is submitted to ensure our prompt attention to your donation!

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. You can participate by becoming a pen-pal and/or visiting people in jail (requires special training).

Marilyn Winans and Naveen Prasad are the liaison to this ministry. Please request their contact information through the office.

The Prayer Chain 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.

Children's and Youth Ministry Pam Storrer is leading our children's Sunday School. Pastor Salying leads our youth ministry and is organizing a confirmation class for those who will be 14 years old by the time of confirmation. Please contact them through the church office.

Senior Ministry Pam Storrer and Carol Campbell lead our senior ministry, which means getting a weekly senior activity over email and an annual luncheon. If you wish to be included, please contact them through the office.

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. Note: Japanese ESL is on hiatus, resuming January 10, 2024.

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 January 29, 2024**, when we meet to discuss *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson, based on interviews with more than a thousand people, the story of America's Great Migration through the lives of three unique individuals: Ida Mae Gladney, who in 1937 left sharecropping and prejudice in Mississippi for Chicago; sharp and quick-tempered George Starling, who in 1945 fled Florida for Harlem; and Robert Foster, who left Louisiana in 1953 to pursue a medical career. The Pulitzer Prize-winning author brilliantly captures their first treacherous and exhausting cross-country journeys, as well as how they changed their new homes forever.

Please join us—contact Dorothy through our website www.stthomas-svale.org/contact for the Zoom link.

Weekly Worship at St. Thomas

Tuesdays, 6pm Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina

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

new link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82381715053?
pwd=UmN1QXZ4UjNWdWdZbmZFYk9Bd0VwQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82381715053?pwd=UmN1QXZ4UjNWdWdZbmZFYk9Bd0VwQT09)
Meeting ID: 823 8171 5053 Passcode: 189002
One tap mobile
+16699009128,,82381715053#,,,,*189002# 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*

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

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.us
or 510-478-3554

Treasurer: Jim Cobb.....Finance@stthomas-svale.org

Parish Administrator: Anne Buelteman.....office@stthomas-svale.org

Children’s Ministry Co-ordinator.: Pam Storrer.....family_ministry@stthomas-svale.org

Library and Resource Center Coordinator: Carol Campbellresourcecenter@stthomas-svale.org

Music Director: Patricia Pietrzyk,..... patriciapietrzyk@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Anne Buelteman.....office@stthomas-svale.org

Accompanist (organ/piano): Benjamin Belew

Our Daily Bread (ODB) Coordinator: David Barnes.....408-736-4108, odb@stthomas-svale.org

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

If you or a loved one is in urgent need of pastoral care (hospitalization, death in the family, etc.), PLEASE CALL US.

(The hospital does not always automatically notify the parish)

The Rev. Salying Wong, Rector.....510-478-3554

Parish Office.....408-736-4155

If there is no answer, please leave a message.

You may invite prayers online through The Intercessory Prayer Chain