

Last Sunday after the Epiphany
Transfiguration

February 11, 2024

Rite II, 10:30am



Transfiguration - Andrew Gray

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

231 Sunset Avenue

Sunnyvale, CA. 94086

408-736-4155

www.stthomas-svale.org

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February 11, 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.

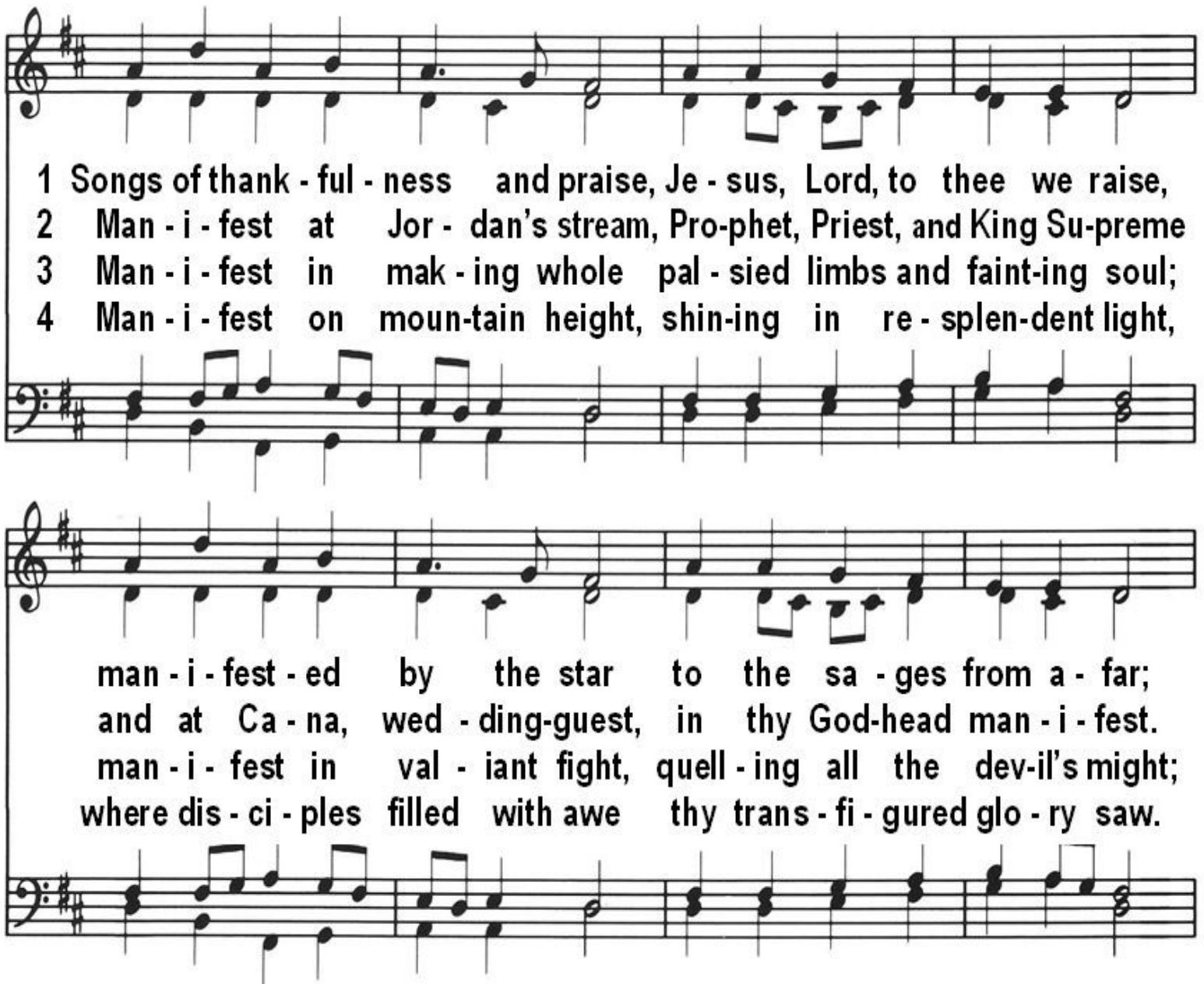
Prelude

Opening Hymn

Hymnal #135

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

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



The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King Su-preme
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint-ing soul;
4 Man - i - fest on moun-tain height, shin-ing in re - splen-dent light,
man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;
and at Ca - na, wed - ding-guest, in thy God-head man - i - fest.
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev-il's might;
where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.

continued next page

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;
 man - i - fest_ in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest_ in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
 When from there_ thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,

an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 cross and Eas - ter Day at - test, God in man made man - i - fest.

Words: Sts. 1-3, Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885); st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984)

Music: *Salzburg*, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

77. 77. D

Opening Acclamation

EOW1

Celebrant:



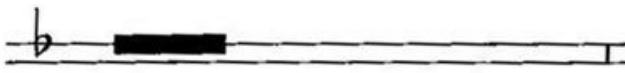
Bless - ed be the one, ho - ly and liv - ing God.

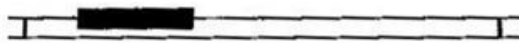
People:



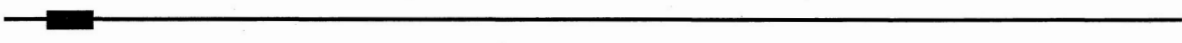

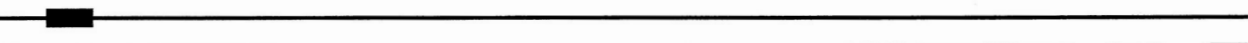
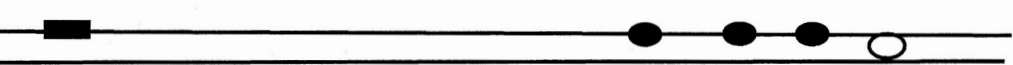
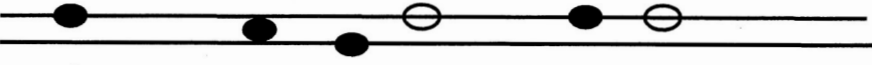
Glo - ry to God for ev - er and ev - er.

Greeting and Collect for Purity

Celebrant: 
God be with you.

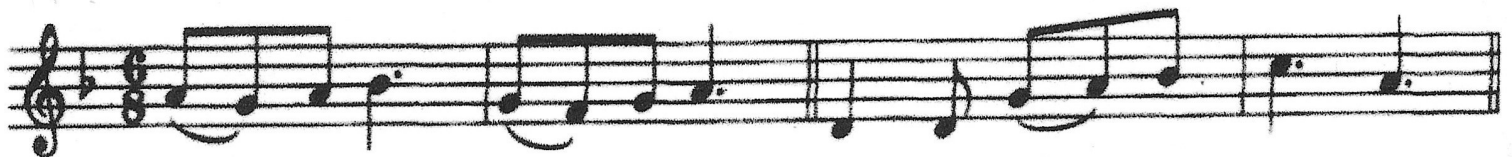
People: 
And also with you

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 Last Sunday after the Epiphany

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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 Kings 2:1-12

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his

mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 50:1-6

The congregation joins the choir in singing the refrain.

Zoom participants please stay muted.

Refrain

The ___ Lord ___ the God ___ of gods, has spo - ken.

The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken;
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. *Refrain*

Refrain

The ___ Lord ___ the God ___ of gods, has spo - ken.

Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God reveals himself in glory.

Our God will come and will not keep silence;
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.

Refrain

Refrain



The ___ Lord ___ the God ___ of gods, has spo - ken.

The musical notation for the first refrain is on a single staff in G major (one sharp). It consists of a sequence of notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), and C4 (half).

He calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgment of his people.

"Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."

Refrain

Refrain



The ___ Lord ___ the God ___ of gods, has spo - ken.

The musical notation for the second refrain is on a single staff in G major (one sharp). It consists of a sequence of notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), and C4 (half).

Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause;
for God himself is judge.

Refrain

Refrain



The ___ Lord ___ the God ___ of gods, has spo - ken.

The musical notation for the third refrain is on a single staff in G major (one sharp). It consists of a sequence of notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), and C4 (half).

The Epistle 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

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

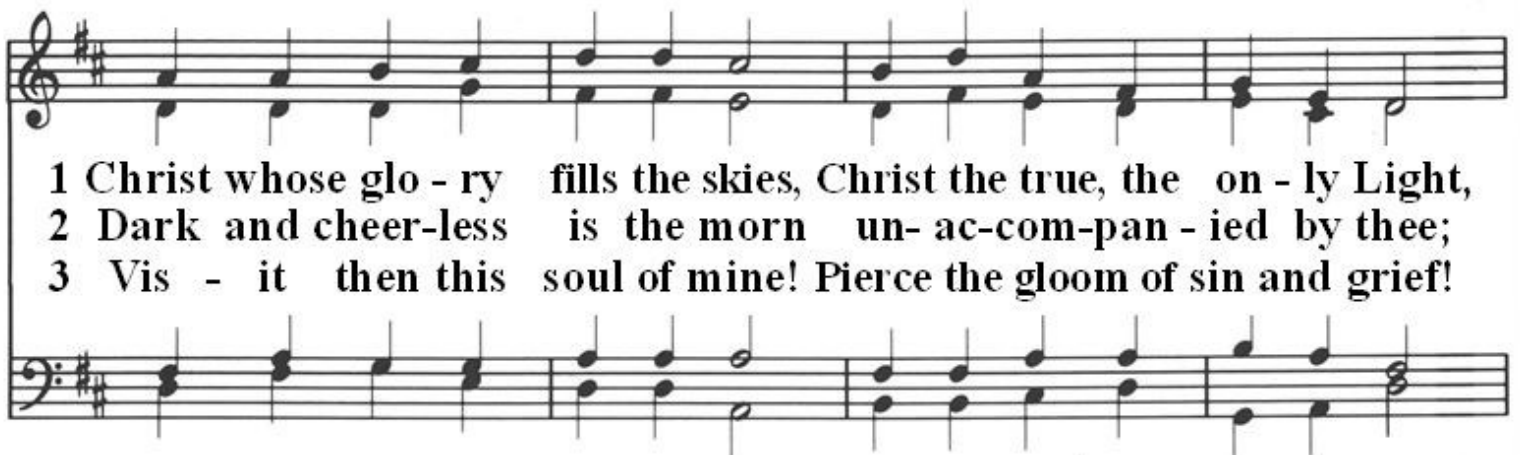
People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal #7

Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies

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



The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is written in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the staves.

1 Christ whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ the true, the on - ly Light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un- ac-com-pan - ied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!

continued next page

Sun of Right-eous-ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:
 joy- less is the day's re- turn, till thy mer- cy's beams I see,
 Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat- ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star in my heart ap - pear.
 till they in- ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
 more and more thy - self dis - play, shin- ing to the per- fect day.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Ratisbon*, melody from *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, 1524; adapt. att. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870); harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

77. 77. 77

The Gospel Mark 9:2-9

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses,

and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you Lord Christ

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.

The Prayers of the People

Marty Haugen

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

All: repeat continuously (under Leader)

(Hmmm)

Response

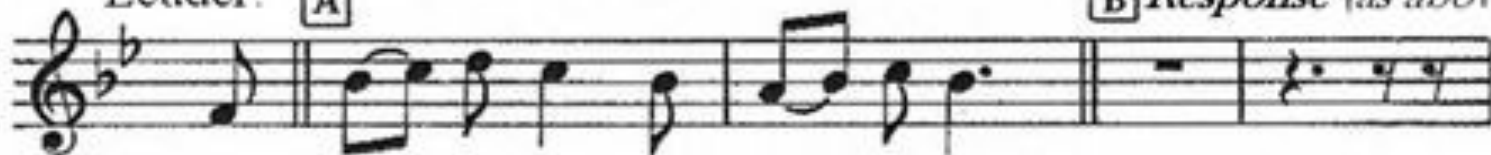
All: **B**



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-vation, 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. *(to verse 4)*

[Response (after each verse below):]

All: B

God of mer - cy, hold us in love.

Leader: A B *Response above*

4. For us who are gath-ered to wor-ship and praise you:
5. For all of your ser-vants who live out your gos-pel:
6. For all those who gov-ern, that jus-tice might guide them:
7. For all those who la-bor in ser-vice to oth-ers:
8. Grant weath-er that nour-ish - es all of cre - a - tion:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan-ger:
10. For all the be - lov - ed who rest in your mer-cy:

Leader:

Help us, com - fort 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

and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;
You brought forth all creatures of the earth
and gave breath to humankind.

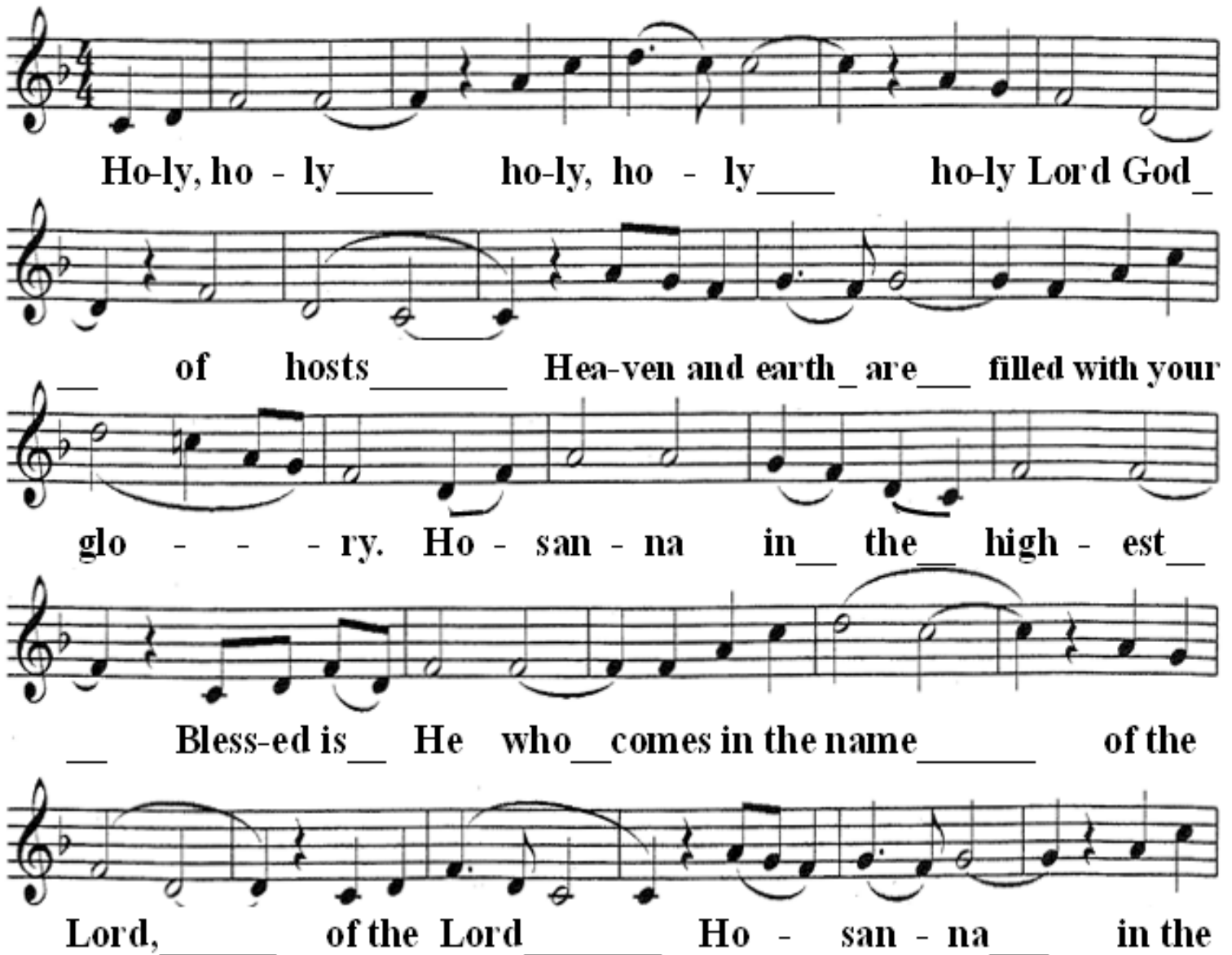
Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;
And so as the morning stars sing your praises
we join the heavenly beings and all creation
as we shout with joy:

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

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.*

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

You are invited to join in singing the hymn.

Zoom participants please stay muted.

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, — Com-ing for to car-ry me home.

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, — Com-ing for to car-ry me home. Fine

1. I looked o - ver Jor - dan, and what did I see —
 2. If you get — there be - fore — I do, —
 3. The bright - est day that — ev - er I saw —
 4. I'm some - times up and — some - times down, —

1. Com-ing for to car - ry me home. A band — of an - gels
 2. Com-ing for to car - ry me home. Tell all — my friends I'm
 3. Com-ing for to car - ry me home. When Je - sus wash'd my
 4. Com-ing for to car - ry me home. But still — my soul feels

1. com-ing af-ter me, — Com-ing for to car-ry me home. O,
 2. com - ing too, — Com-ing for to car-ry me home. O,
 3. sins a - way, — Com-ing for to car-ry me home. O,
 4. heaven - ly bound, — Com-ing for to car-ry me home. O,

Words: Traditional

Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. R. Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943)

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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

O Wondrous Type, O Vision Fair

Please join in singing the hymn; zoom participants stay muted

Descant

4 And faith - ful hearts are raised_ on high by this great

1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair of glo - ry
 2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in - car - nate
 3 With shin - ing face and bright_ ar - ray, Christ deigns_ to
 4 And faith - ful hearts are raised_ on high by this great
 5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son, and Ho - ly

vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which in joy - ful

1 that_ the Church_ may share which Christ_ up - on the
 2 Lord_ holds con - verse high; and from_ the_ cloud the
 3 man - i - fest_ to - day what glo - ry_ shall be
 4 vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which_ in_ joy - ful
 5 Spi - rit, ev - er One, vouch - safe_ to_ bring us

continued next page

strains_ we raise the voice_ of prayer_ the hymn_ of praise.

1 moun-tains shows where bright-er than_ the sun__ he glows!
 2 Ho - ly One bears_re - cord to__ the on - ly Son.
 3 theirs a - bove who__ joy in God_ with per - fect love.
 4 strains we raise the__ voice_ of prayer, the hymn of praise.
 5 by thy grace to__ see__ thy glo - ry face to face.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.
 Music: *Wareham*, melody William Knapp (1698-1768), alt.; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875,
 after James Turler (1802-1882); desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)

LM

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!

Serving us at 10:30 am

The St. Thomas Altar Guild

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong

Eucharistic Minister: Ann Kopischke

Lectors: John McVey, Susan McVey

Cantor: Chris Schmidt

Greeters: MaryJane Johnson, Donna Cobb,
 Stephanie Daugherty, Pat Turnbull

The St. Thomas Choir

Patricia Pietrzyk, director

Accompanist: Benjamin Belew

Tech lead: Tian Zhu

Zoom host: Abby O'Connell

Today in the Parish

Today after worship we will enjoy the annual **Shrove Sunday Pancake Brunch** as present by Parish Event Planners in Cowans Hall. Please be mindful of recommended Covid protocols.

This weekend also marks the beginning of the Lunar New Year or the **Chinese New Year of the Dragon!** We will celebrate it with a table of new year's treats for you to sample.

In appreciation for the Pancake Breakfast and the Lunar New Year treats, we are collecting **donations for Our Daily Bread**. In addition to being our partners in sharing the kitchen, ODB has been very generous to us by sharing their supplies, and the extra food pickups from their contributors. So, we would like to help them offset rising costs, which have been felt by everyone. Thank you for your support in coming to the breakfast and donating to ODB!



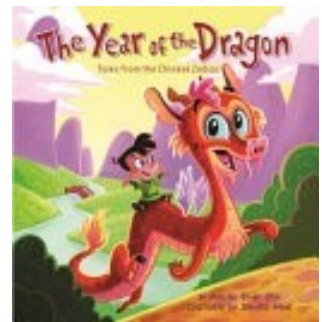
Library News:

Book of the Week *encore*

[The Year of the Dragon: tales from the Chinese zodiac](#)

by Oliver Clyde Chin. 2023

2024 is the year of the dragon. Tales from the Chinese Zodiac is an annual children's book series showcasing the twelve charming animals that embody the Chinese New Year. It also lists the characteristics of individuals born in the Chinese Year of the Dragon.



Lenten Meditations booklets

As we approach Ash Wednesday this week, please consider picking up a booklet of daily meditations for Lent. They are available on the table in the narthex, at the back of the church.

These daily meditations are also available on-line as a



daily email into your personal inbox by registering here:

<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/#lent-landing-subscribe>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Reminder: Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina Service now meets on Mondays at **5pm** (moved from 6pm). Also, we've added the component of Lectio Divina following Centering Prayer. The zoom link remains the same. Please join us!

Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes & 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.

Craft Group Announcement! The Craft group is emerging from hibernation after several years absence. All are welcome to join us on **Thursday, February 29th** in the St. Thomas Library **from 1 to 3pm**. (*If this time and/or date does not work for you please let me know – Peg*). We all bring our own projects to work on and share time together. Any ideas of items to make for the Christmas boutique are always welcome. Looking forward to being together in person once again. A decision about further scheduling will be made by the group. Thank you! ~ Peg Prior

General Announcements

Literature Rack – R side of Narthex

Join the Journey through Lent – found in the narthex on the table to the right. (A Forward Movement publication)

Join the Journey through Lent invites spiritual reflection and is a wonderful companion for the Lenten season. Keep this poster on your

table for daily coloring or simple reflecting.

The latest *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.

New Archives Display The Library Committee is now featuring the Altar Guild in the Archives Display Case. Two large albums contain pictures of past Altar Guild members and administrative matters such as schedules and guidelines.

There is a small green Altar Guild Manual copyright from 1947. The Altar Guild Handbook is a valuable resource. ~ Stephanie Daugherty

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

If you are considering pledging to our annual budget for 2024, 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 Salyng 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.

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 February 26, 2024**, when we meet to discuss *A Single Thread* by Tracy Chevalier., the story of Violet, one of a generation doomed to a life of spinsterhood after the Great War killed so many young men. Yet Violet rebels, saving enough to move out of her mother's place and to the great Cathedral city of Winchester, where she is drawn into a society of broderers--women who embroider kneelers for the Cathedral, carrying on a centuries-long tradition of bringing comfort to worshippers—and finds support and community. Please join us—contact Dorothy through our website www.stthomas-svale.org/contact for the Zoom link.

Weekly Worship at St. Thomas

Tuesdays, 5pm 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*

Parish Mission Statement

St. Thomas is joyfully on the way!

We are becoming whom Jesus calls us to be:

a spiritually-centered community dedicated to creating connections

with God, each other, and our neighbors,

so that we might walk together with love toward justice, compassion, and hope.

THE VESTRY OF ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SUNNYVALE

Joe Gutierrez, Senior Warden	2024	2025	2026
Emilee Wilhelm-Leen, Junior Warden	Ann Kopischke	Joe Gutierrez	Jeannie Battagin
	Gage McKinney	Dena Ware	Naveen Prasad Durairaj
Gage McKinney, Clerk	Rita Welsh	Emilee Wilhelm-Leen	Tian Zhu

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

Mabel Cheng Stephanie Daugherty Susan Durham Powers Angela Rausch

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