

# Fourth Sunday in LENT

March 10, 2024

Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:30am



St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
231 Sunset Ave.  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086  
408-736-4155 [www.stthomas-svale.org](http://www.stthomas-svale.org)

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March 10, 2024

Holy Eucharist 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 #448

*O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*

*Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom participants stay muted.*



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing  
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught, for us his  
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked in  
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he  
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for Love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God the Son of  
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions  
3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and  
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed he bore the shame - ful  
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his  
6 deep so high, so broad the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.  
2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
3 ac - tions, this still seek - ing not him - self, but us.  
4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.  
5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.  
6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

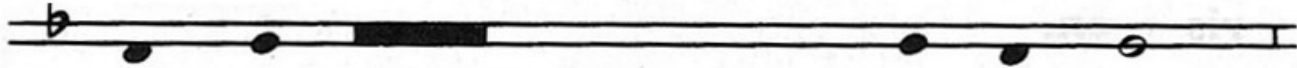
Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt.

Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

LM

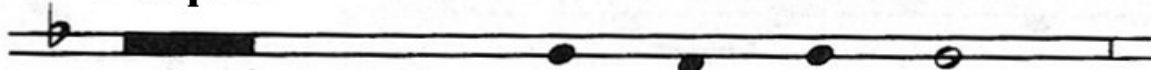
## Opening Acclamation

Celebrant:



Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People:



His mercy en - dures for ev - er.

Setting: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (b. 1933)

## The Decalogue

Celebrant: Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of  
bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not make for yourself any idol.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord  
your God.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: Honor your father and your mother.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not commit murder.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not commit adultery.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not steal.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not be a false witness.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant: Jesus said,

"The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

## **The Confession**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## The Absolution

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

## Kyrie

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



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord,

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

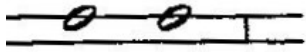
Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

**Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Celebrant:                      People:                      Celebrant:

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

Celebrant: Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



All:

A - men.

## The First Lesson      Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

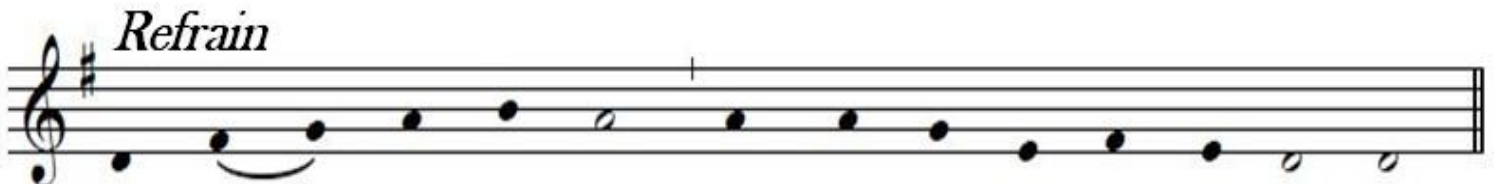
Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

*You are welcome to sing along with the refrain.*

*Zoom participants, please stay muted.*



Give thanks\_\_ to the Lord, whose mer-cies en - dure for ev - er.

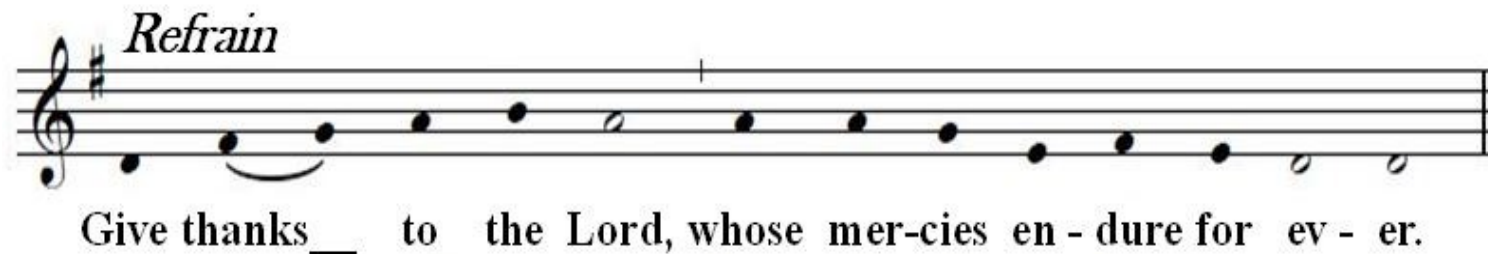


Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
and his mercy endures for ever.

Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim  
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

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

*Refrain*

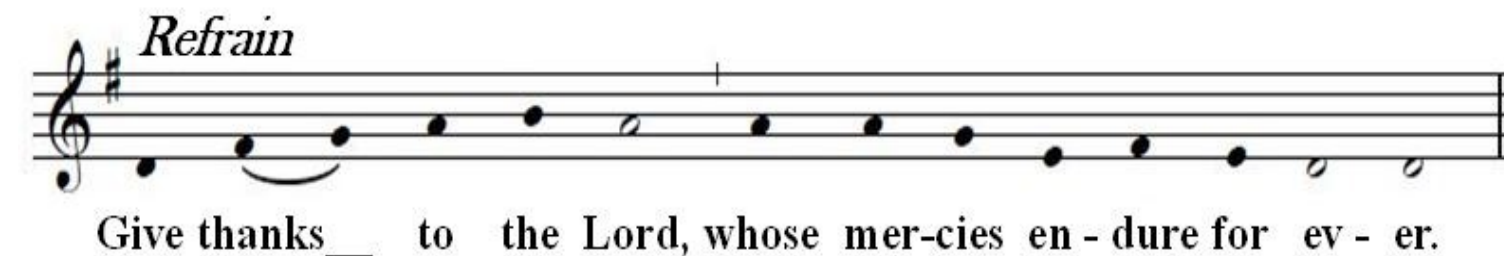


Give thanks\_\_ to the Lord, whose mer-cies en - dure for ev - er.

Some were fools and took to rebellious ways;  
they were afflicted because of their sins.

They abhorred all manner of food  
and drew near to death's door. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

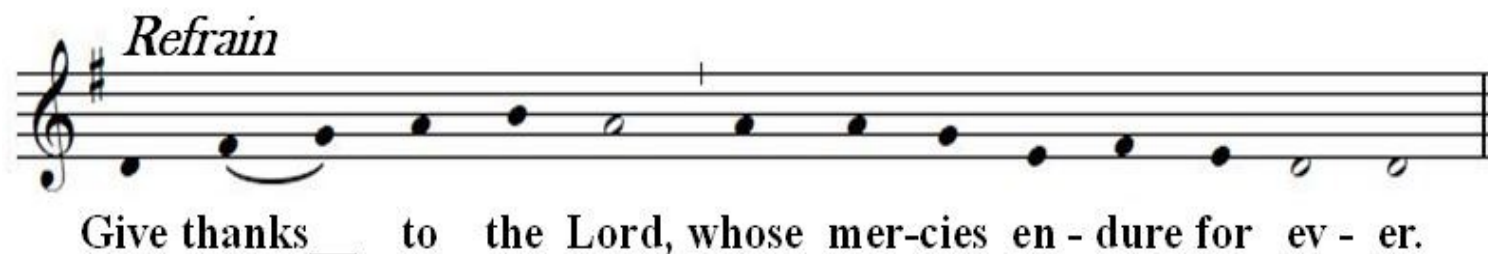


Give thanks\_\_ to the Lord, whose mer-cies en - dure for ev - er.

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

He sent forth his word and healed them  
and saved them from the grave. *Refrain*

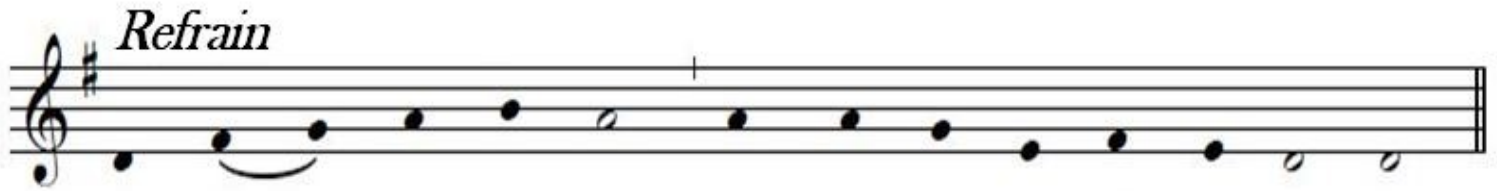
*Refrain*



Give thanks\_\_ to the Lord, whose mer-cies en - dure for ev - er.

Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy  
and the wonders he does for his children.

Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy. *Refrain*



Give thanks\_\_ to the Lord, whose mer-cies en - dure for ev - er.

## **The Epistle: Ephesians 2:1-10**

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ -- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

# Gradual Hymn

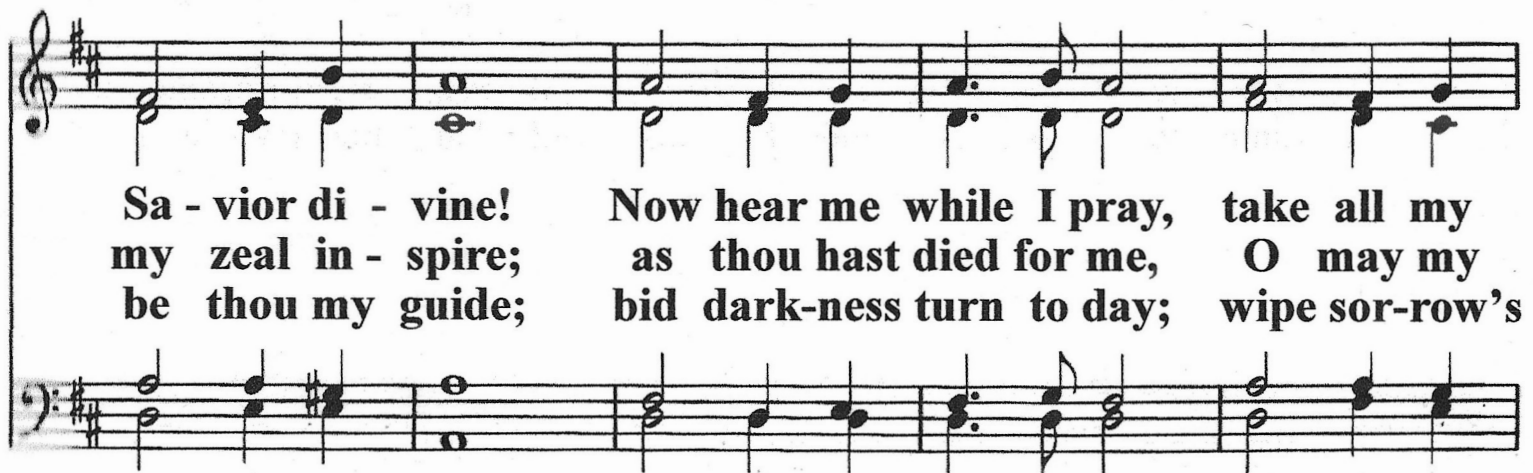
Hymnal #691

## *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

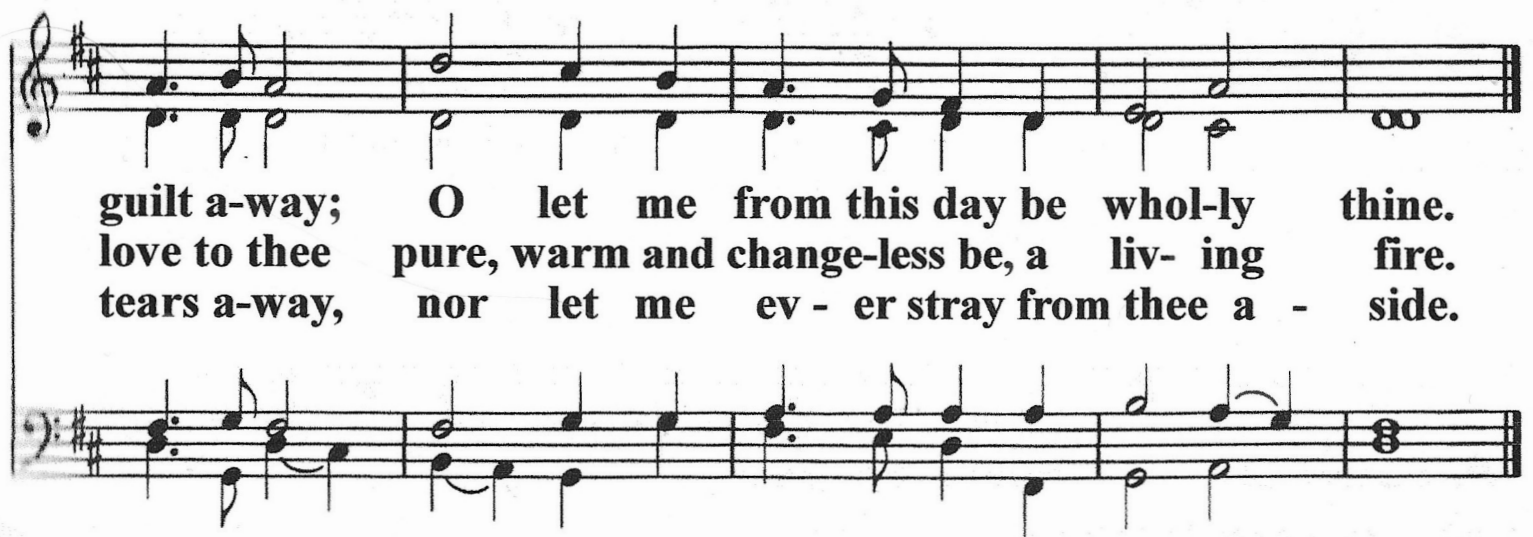
*Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom participants stay muted.*



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im-part strength to my faint-ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,



Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor-row's



guilt a-way; O let me from this day be whol-ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm and change-less be, a liv- ing fire.  
tears a-way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

Words: Ray Palmer (1808-1887)

Music: *Olivet*, Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

664. 6664

## **The Gospel: John 3:14-21**

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

**People:** **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus said, “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

**Gospeler:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*There will be a time of silence for meditation.*



## **The Nicene Creed**

*said in unison*

**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

Form III

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**People: That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader: Give to the departed eternal rest.

**People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

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

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

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

*Silence*

*The people may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Let us greet one another with a wave and a namaste of peace.*

## Announcements

*Since By Man Came Death*  
 Members of the St. Thomas Choir  
 Benjamin Belew, organ



**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**Celebrant:** All things come of you, O Lord.

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

**Sursum Corda**

**Eucharistic Prayer A**

**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:** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.


*Here follows a seasonal preface.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

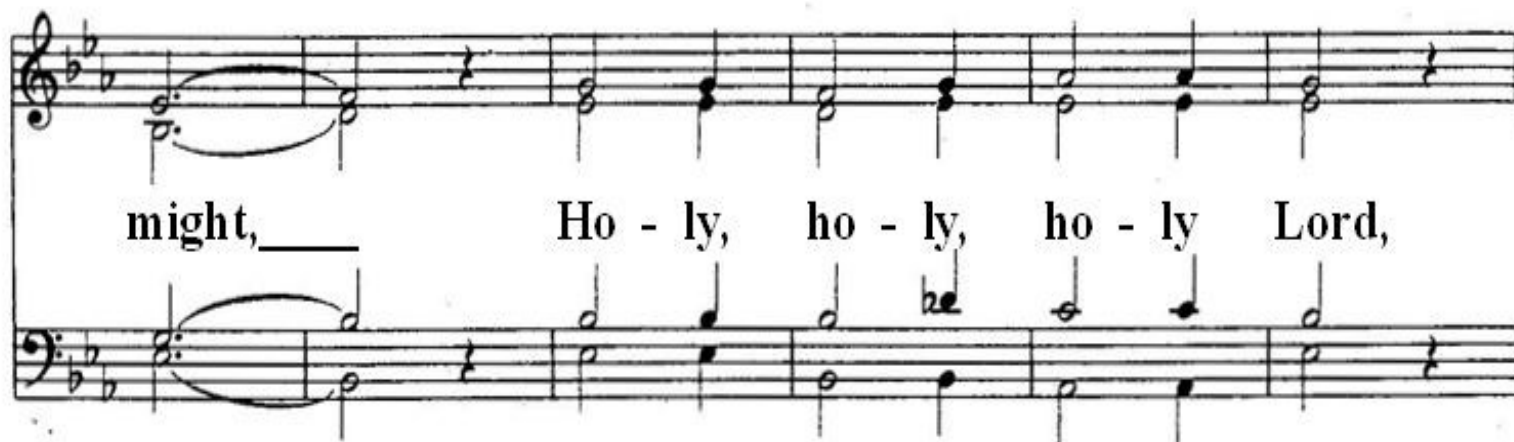
**Sanctus**

Hymnal S-130, F. Schubert

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



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



might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of power and might, hea-ven and earth are

*continued next page*



full, \_\_\_\_\_ full \_\_\_\_\_ of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ in the name of the Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Celebrant and People:**

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Celebrant:

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**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:** Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

### **Agnus Dei**

Hymnal S-164, F. Schubert

*See next page*

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



Je-sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on\_\_ us.



Je-sus, bear-er of our sins: have mer - cy on\_\_ us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of\_\_ the world:

give \_ us your peace, give \_ us \_ your peace.

The image shows a musical score for two staves, treble and bass clef, in G major. The lyrics are 'give us your peace, give us your peace.' The melody is simple and repetitive, with a focus on the words 'give us your peace'.

Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

## 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 Music

Hymnal #671  
*see next page*

### *Amazing Grace*

*Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom participants stay muted.*

1 A - maz - ing\_\_ grace! How sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that\_\_ taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 The Lord has\_\_ prom - ised good to me, his  
 4 Through man - y\_\_ dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a\_\_ wretch like me! I once\_\_ was\_\_ lost but  
 2 grace my\_\_ fears re - lieved; how pre - cious\_\_ did that  
 3 word my\_\_ hope se - cures; he will\_\_ my\_\_ shield and  
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace\_\_ that\_\_ brought me  
 5 shin - ing\_\_ as the sun, we've no\_\_ less\_\_ days to

1 now\_\_ am\_\_ found, was blind but\_\_ now I see.  
 2 grace\_\_ ap - pear the hour I\_\_ first be - lieved!  
 3 por - tion\_\_ be as long as\_\_ life en - dures.  
 4 safe\_\_ this\_\_ far, and grace will\_\_ lead me home.  
 5 sing\_\_ God's\_\_ praise than when we'd\_\_ first be - gun.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, John Rees (19th cent.)

Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921);  
harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919)

CM

**Post Communion Prayer**      *led by the Celebrant, said in unison*

**All:**      **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**  
**you have graciously accepted us as living members**  
**of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,**  
**and you have fed us with spiritual food**  
**in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**  
**Send us now into the world in peace,**  
**and grant us strength and courage**  
**to love and serve you**  
**with gladness and singleness of heart;**  
**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

*Book of Occasional Services*

Celebrant:      Bow down before the Lord.

*Please bow or kneel.*

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize  
their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength,  
so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of  
your loving providence; through Christ our Lord.

**All:**      **Amen.**


**Closing Hymn**

Hymnal #473  
*See next page.*

*Lift High the Cross*

*Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom participants stay muted.*

*Descant:*



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

*Refrain:*



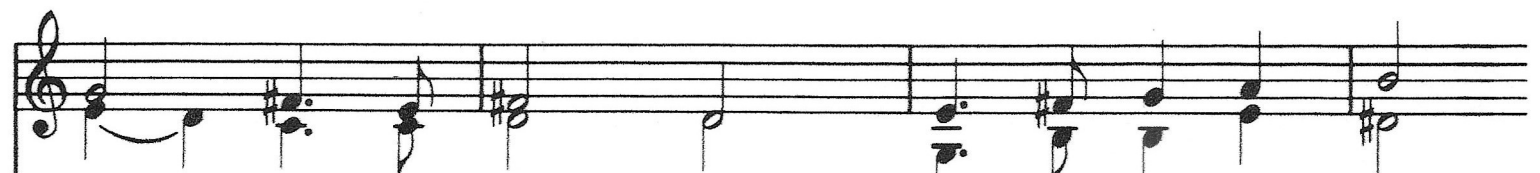
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim



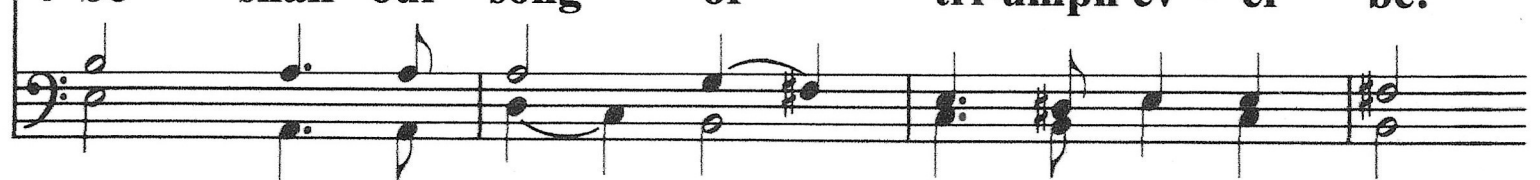
till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.



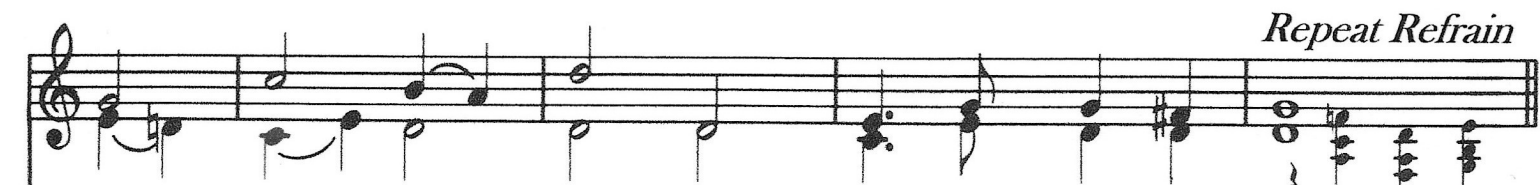
till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.



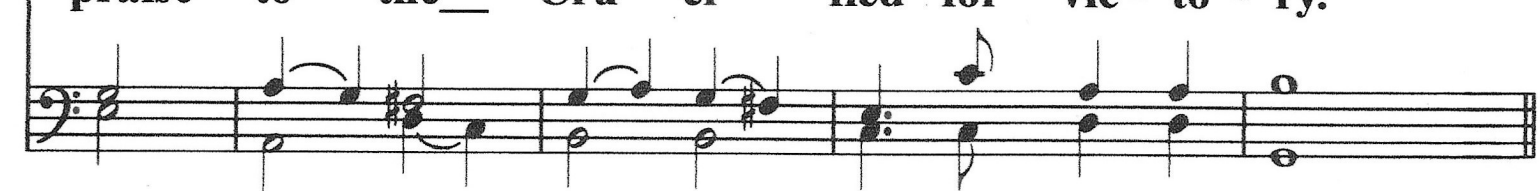
1 Led on their way by this tri - umphant sign,  
 2 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied  
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



*Repeat Refrain*



the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.  
 bears on the brow the seal of him who died.  
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.  
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.





## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.



## Serving today

### The St. Thomas Altar Guild

**Officiant and Preacher:** The Rev. Salying Wong

**Eucharistic Minister:** Jim Cobb

**Lectors:** Susan McVey, John McVey

**Cantor:** Dorothy Furgerson

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

Members of the **St. Thomas Choir**

**Director:** Patricia Pietrzyk

**Accompanist:** Benjamin Belew

**Tech team lead:** Tian Zhu

**Zoom Host:** Fulvia Govetto

## Today in the Parish

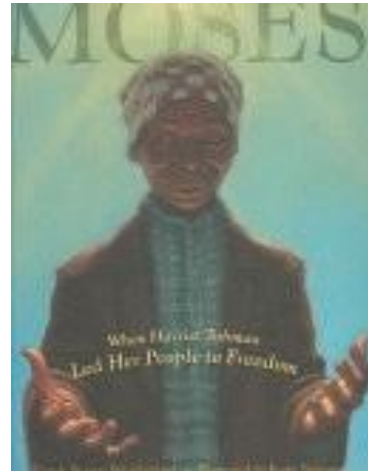
**Coffee hour today** will be in Cowans Hall. Please be mindful of Covid protocols.

## Library News: March 10, 2024

In memory of Harriet Tubman who died on this day in 1913.

**Moses: When Harriet Tubman led her People to Freedom** by Carole Boston Weatherford.

Describes Tubman's spiritual journey as she hears the voice of God guiding her north to freedom on that very first trip to escape the brutal practice of forced servitude. Tubman would make nineteen subsequent trips back south, never being caught, but none as profound as this first one.



**The Flower Book** has returned. Flower dedications may be requested by using the Flower Book which has returned to its location in the narthex to the left of the entrance as you come in.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Funeral Planning Workshop** Planning your funeral is a great help to those you leave behind. Pastor Salying would like to host a workshop on zoom on a weekday morning, perhaps a Thursday at 10:30am in March. If you're interested, please contact her at [pastorsalying@stthomas-svale.us](mailto:pastorsalying@stthomas-svale.us).

**Adult Lenten Series: MAKING SENSE OF THE CROSS**  
**Wednesday evenings.** Led by Lou Poulain, the next session will be **March 13** and continuing 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](mailto:lpoulain@me.com).

## **Parish Events - Save the Dates**

- **Festive Easter Brunch – Noon, March 31**, Cowans Hall

The celebration of Christ’s resurrection on Easter morning continues with a festive Easter brunch in Cowans Hall after the 10:30 am Service. The brunch menu will include juicy slices of roasted ham and turkey, carved and served right at the buffet. If meat is not for you, we can also serve you vegetarian quiche. Salad, rolls and other garnishes will also be available to dress your plate, as well as a selection of beverages for your consumption.

But there is more! In Agape Circle fashion, we invite you to bring something to share in the celebration, to bring either a special hors d'oeuvre or dessert to add to the festivities. **Please note that you are not required to bring anything to come to the brunch.** However, if you are moved to bring something to share, in order to minimize duplications please indicate what you will bring. A signup sheet for this will be in the narthex, as well as a signup sheet for volunteers to help with clean-up afterward.

- **Agape Circle for Food, Fun and Friendship – Friday, May 3**

Please note that Agape Circles are no longer a monthly engagement, but are scheduled in months with fewer parish events.

## General Announcements

**Forum at the National Cathedral** An important forum was held on February 21, 2024. It is available for viewing on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8SFSkWxUxco>

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

SCAN FOR DIGITAL PROGRAM

EVENING FORUM

**With Malice Toward None,  
With Charity for All**

Reclaiming Civility in American Politics

Available to stream on the Cathedral's YouTube channel, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8SFSkWxUxco>

## **Library notes:** Memorial books for Sue

The next time you are in the library, look at the memorial books on display. They can be found along with the mini orchids from her service.

## **New Item in Literature Rack** – right side of the narthex

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.

**The Flower Book** is located in the narthex, to the left as you enter the church. Your requests for dedications may also be recorded there.

## **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](mailto: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](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](mailto:prayerchain@stthomas-svale.us).

**Children's 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.

**Craft Group Announcement!** The Craft Group is back, and will continue meeting on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the library. The next meetings will be **Thursday, March 14** and **Thursday, March 28\***.

\*This date may be canceled or adjusted (Holy Week).

**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 March 25**, when we meet to discuss *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce, a novel of charm, humor, and profound insight, which tells the story of Harold Fry, determined to walk six hundred miles from Kingsbridge to a hospice in Berwick-upon-Tweed because, he believes, as long as he walks, his dying friend Queenie will live. Along the way he meets many characters who unlock his long-dormant spirit and sense of promise, even as his indifferent wife Maureen begins to miss him.

Please join us—contact Dorothy through our website [www.stthomas-svale.org/contact](http://www.stthomas-svale.org/contact) for the Zoom link



## **Weekly Worship at St. Thomas**

**Tuesdays, 5pm Centering Prayer & 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**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82381715053?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82381715053?pwd=UmN1QXZ4UjNWdWdZbmZFYk9Bd0VwQT09)

[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)

+16694449171,,82381715053#,,,,\*189002# US

**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

## 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.



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](http://www.stthomas-svale.org)**

# All Are 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 Campbell .....resourcecenter@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  
at [prayerchain@stthomas-svale.org](mailto:prayerchain@stthomas-svale.org)

## THE VESTRY OF ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SUNNYVALE

Joe Gutierrez, <b>Senior Warden</b>	2024	2025	2026
Emilee Wilhelm-Leen, <b>Junior Warden</b>	Ann Kopischke	Joe Gutierrez	Jeannie Battagin
	Gage McKinney	Dena Ware	Naveen Prasad Durairaj
Gage McKinney, <b>Clerk</b>	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](http://www.stthomas-svale.org)