

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024

Rite II, 10:30am

*I Am the Vine
and you are the branches
apart from me
you can do nothing*



JOHN 15:5

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

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Holy Eucharist

Rite II—10:30am

April 28, 2024

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 #492

Sing, Ye, Faithful

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



1 Sing, ye faith-ful, sing with glad - ness, wake your no-blest
2 Sing how he came forth from hea - ven, bowed him-self to
3 So, he tas - ted death for mor - tals, he, of hu - man
4 Now on high, yet ev - er with_ us, from his fa - ther's



sweet - est strain, with the prais-es of your Sa - vior
Beth-lehem's cave, stooped to wear the ser-vant's ves - ture,
kind the head, sin - less one, a - mong the sin - ful,
throne the Son, rules and guides the world he ran - somed,



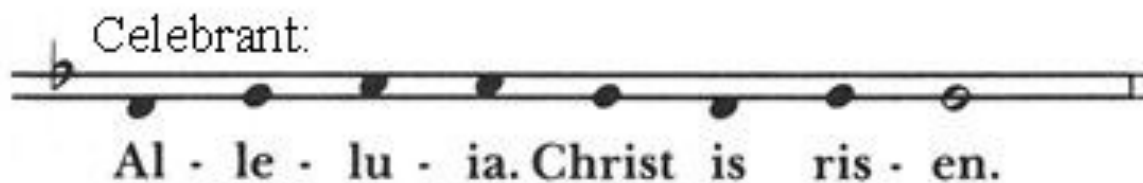
let his house re - sound a - gain; him let all your
bore the pain, the cross, the grave, passed with - in the
Prince of life, a - mong the dead; thus he wrought the
till the ap-poin-ted work be done, till he see, re -



mu - sic hon - or, and your songs ex - alt his reign.
gates of dark - ness, thence his ban-ished ones to save.
full re-demp - tion, and the cap - tor cap - tive led.
newed and per - fect, all things gath-ered in - to one.

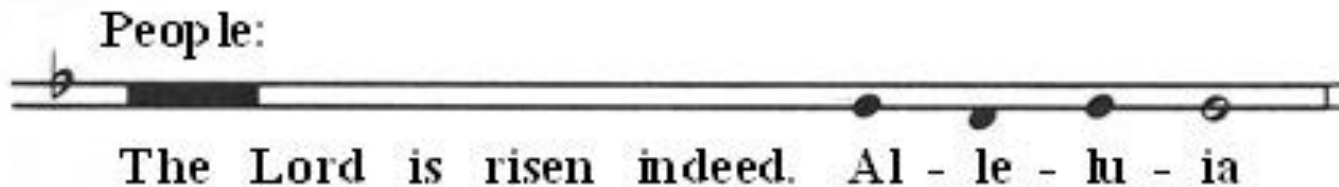
Greeting

Celebrant:



Al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en.

People:

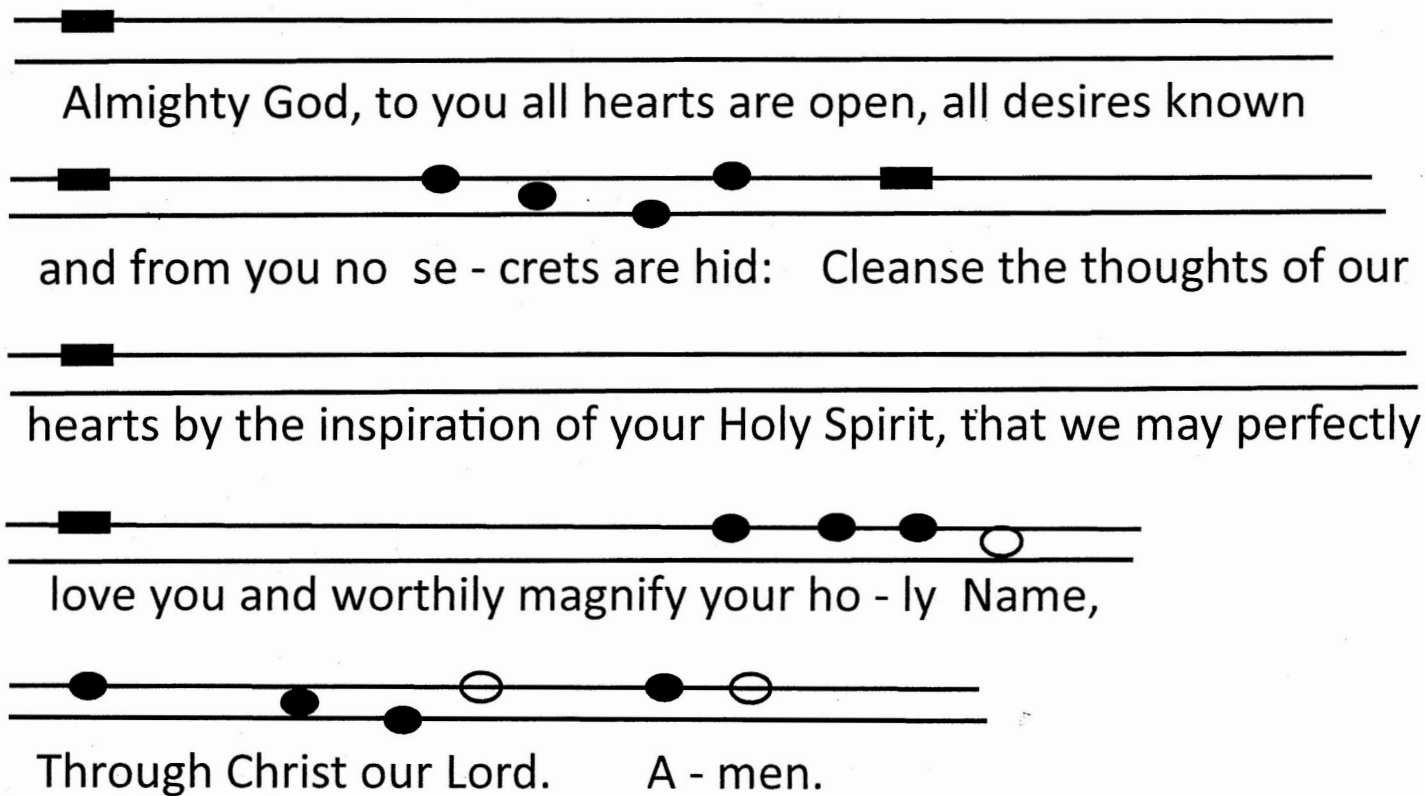


The Lord is risen indeed. Al - le - lu - ia

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

Collect for Purity

Celebrant:



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

Gloria

Hymnal S-280 Robert Powell

Please join in singing the Gloria. Zoom participants please stay muted.

1. Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and
peace ___ to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly
King, al - might - y_ God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you_ for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God Lamb_ of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

continued next page

you a - lone_ are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most_

High, Je - sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

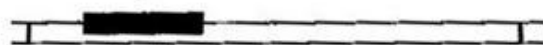
glo - ry of God___ the Fa - ther. A - men.

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Collect for the Fifth Sunday of Easter



Celebrant: God be with you.



People: And also with you



Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.


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

People: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 22:24-30

*The choir and the congregation sing together the refrain.
Zoom participants please stay muted.*

Refrain




Make ___ known the sav - ing deeds ___ that ___ God has ___ done.

My praise is of him in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship
him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him:

"May your heart live for ever!" *Refrain*

Refrain




Make ___ known the sav - ing deeds ___ that ___ God has ___ done.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the LORD;
he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before him. *Refrain*

Refrain



Make ___ known the sav - ing deeds ___ that ___ God has ___ done.

reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

People: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal #529

In Christ There Is No East or West

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

Unison or harmony

1 In Christ, there is no East or West, in
2 Join hands, disciples of the faith, what
3 In Christ, now meet both East and West, in

him no South or North, but one great fel - low -
e'er your race may be! Who servss my Fa - ther
him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are



The Gospel: John 15:1-8

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

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

People: Thanks be to God

The Sermon

*After the sermon there will be a time of silence
for reflection.*

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

from *Sundays and Seasons*

Leader: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence

Leader: We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters [*local bodies of water may be named*]. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness.

God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign.

God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or

unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering (especially _____).

God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world.

God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered

Leader: With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table.

God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **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

Your Spirit moved over the deep
 and brought all things into being:
 sun, moon, and stars;
 earth, winds, and waters;
 and every living thing.
 You made us in your image,
 and taught us to walk in your ways.
 But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;
 and yet, as a mother cares for her children,
 you would not forget us.
 Time and again you called us
 to live in the fullness of your love.
 And so this day we join with Saints and Angels
 in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,
 lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus

Hymnal S-129

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly__ Lord, God of pow-er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.____

Celebrant: Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
To deliver us from the power of sin and death
and to reveal the riches of your grace,
you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant,
that she might conceive and bear a son,
Jesus the holy child of God.
Living among us, Jesus loved us.
He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,
healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.
He yearned to draw all the world to himself
yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.
Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross
the sacrifice of his life,
and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us,
Jesus was at table with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:
“Take, eat:
This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

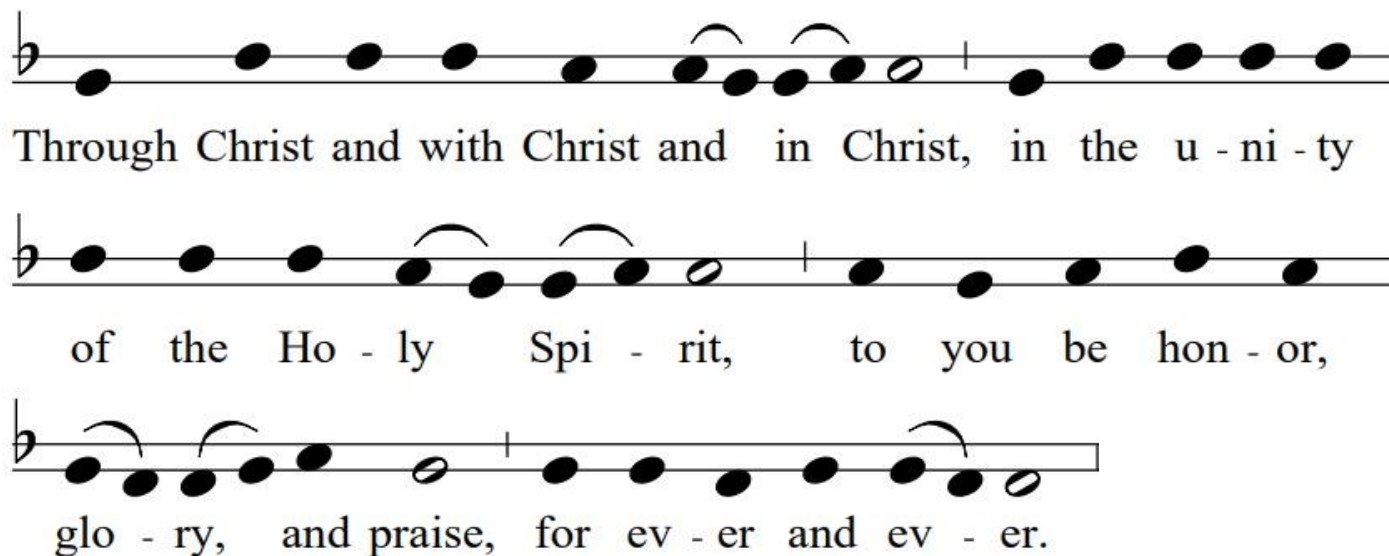
As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
Again, he gave thanks to you,
gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,
who was and is and is to come,

we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine,
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.
Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth
and make us your new creation,
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us,
with Thomas and all your saints,
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
to feast at the banquet prepared
from the foundation of the world.

Celebrant:



Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the u - ni - ty
of the Ho - ly Spi - rit, to you be hon - or,
glo - ry, and praise, for ev - er and ev - er.

Celebrant and People:



A - MEN.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,**

on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen

The Breaking of the Bread


The Fraction Anthem

WLP #875

Be Known to Us

The Choir will lead the Fraction Anthem. All are invited to sing the responses.
Zoom attendees please stay muted

Choir: (1st time; Congregation repeats)



Be ___ known to ___ us, Lord ___ Je - sus, in the
 Be ___ known to ___ us, Lord ___ Je - sus, **in the**




1. Congregation: 2. Choir:
 break-ing ___ of the bread. Be ___ bread. The ___
 break-ing ___ of the

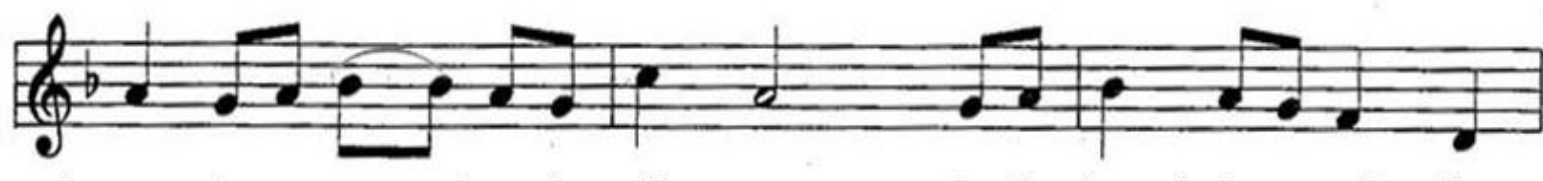


bread which we break al - le - lu - ia is the com -

Congregation:



mun-ion of the bod - y of Christ. Be__




known to__ us Lord__ Je - sus, in the break-ing_ of the

Choir:




bread. One_ bod - y are we al - le - lu - ia, for though

Congregation:



man-y, we share_ one_ bread. Be__ known to_ us, Lord__



Je - sus, in the break-ing_ of the bread.

Setting: Gary James (b. 1957)
© 1992 MorningStar

The Communion

Everyone is invited to come forward to receive Communion.

Please come to the rail.

- *You may stand or kneel at the altar rail, as you are able.*
- *The wine will be served in the chalice and in the small cups. The chalice will precede the cups. If you do not reach for the chalice, it will pass and the*

cups will follow. (Please place the empty cup on one of the trays near the aisles.)

- *Please, do not dip the bread in the wine.*
- *If you do not wish to receive communion, you may receive a blessing: please cross your arms over your chest as a sign that you wish to be blessed.*
- *Gluten free bread is available upon asking.*

Communion Hymn

Hymnal #487

Come, My Way

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



1 Come, my Way, my Truth, _ my Life: such a
2 Come, my Light, my Feast, _ my Strength: such a
3 Come, my Joy, my Love, _ my Heart: such a



way as gives _ us breath; such a truth as ends all
light as shows _ a feast; such a feast as mends in
joy as none _ can move; such a love as none can



strife; such a life as kill - - - eth death.
length; such a strength as makes _____ his guest.
part; such a heart as joys _____ in love.

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633)

Music: *The Call*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright ©1911 by Stainer and Bell, Ltd. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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 #213

Come Away to the Skies

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

Unison or harmony



1 Come a - way to the skies_ my be - lov - ed, a - rise_ and re -
2 Now with sing - ing and praise,_ let us spend all the days,_ by our
3 For the glo - ry we were_ first cre - a - ted to share,_ both the
4 We with thanks do ap - prove_ the de - sign of that love_ which hath
5 Hal - le - lu - jah we sing,_ to our Fa - ther and King_ and his

1 joice in the day__ thou wast born;__ on this fes - ti - val day,
 2 hea - ven - ly Fa - ther be - stowed,__ while his grace we re - ceive
 3 na - ture and king - dom di - vine!__ Now cre - a - ted a - gain
 4 joined us to Je - sus'__ Name;__ so u - ni - ted in heart,
 5 rap - tu - rous prais - es re - peat:__ to the Lamb that was slain,

1 come ex - ult - ing a - way, and with sing - ing to Zi - on re - turn.__
 2 from his boun - ty, and live to the hon - or and glo - ry of God.__
 3 that our lives may re - main through - out time and e - ter - ni - ty thine.__
 4 let us nev - er - more part, till we meet at the feast__ of the Lamb.__
 5 hal - le - lu - jah a - gain, sing, all hea - ven and fall__ at his feet.__

Words: Anon., *The Southern Harmony*, 1835, alt.

Music: *Middlebury*, melody from *The Southern Harmony*; harm. Jack W. Burnam (b. 1946)

669. 669

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!
 Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Benjamin Belew

Serving today

The St. Thomas Altar Guild

Officiant & Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong

Eucharistic Minister: Ann Kopischke

Lectors: Dorothy Furgerson, Fulvia Govetto

Cantor: Fulvia Govetto

Greeters: MaryJane Johnson,
Pat Turnbull, Stephanie Daugherty

Members of the **St. Thomas Choir**

Director: Patricia Pietrzyk

Accompanist: Benjamin Belew

Tech lead: Steve Williams

Zoom host: Aer van de Water



Today

Introductions to Lectionary Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

from Sundays and Seasons

John 15:1-8

In the first half of the Gospel of John, Jesus enacts a sign and then explains its meaning in a discourse. In the second half, often called the Book of Glory, the order is reversed, and in the discourses of chapters 14–17, John explains the meaning of the sign that is narrated in chapters 18–21, which is the death and resurrection of Christ. Here John uses the common Jewish metaphor of the vineyard to proclaim Christology: Christ is the vine. Another Johannine feature is the poetic portrayal of extremes: fruit or fire.

Acts 8:26-40

In this episode in Acts 8, Luke includes three details that illustrate the Christian mission as separate from Judaism and spreading out from the Twelve and from Jerusalem. (1) Philip is the Hellenistic evangelist, not the Philip of the Twelve. (2) He preaches the good news in Samaria, an

area that Jews considered heterodox, near the border of Egypt. (3) He evangelizes, instructs, and baptizes a eunuch: castrated men, employed in some cultures as servants of a queen, were prohibited from participating in Jewish temple worship (Deut. 23:1). In an example of early Christian interpretation of the Hebrew Scriptures, Luke uses Isaiah 53:7-8 to describe Jesus' crucifixion, at which he was not present.

1 John 4:7-21

In this Johannine passage, the love of the triune God for us is manifested by the love shared within the community. Love replaces "fear of judgment" at the second coming, which the author of 1 John considered imminent.



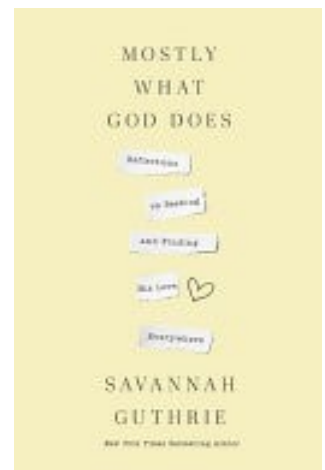
Coffee Hour today will be in Cowans Hall.

Library News:

Book of the Week April 28, 2024

[*Mostly What God Does: reflections on seeking and finding his love everywhere*](#) by Savannah Guthrie.

The book is centered on the essentials of God's love, a love needed now more than ever. Savannah Guthrie turns her journalistic eye toward the power of faith in everyday life. Using personal stories of motherhood, love, her career, being a daughter, grief, and even the mundane moments that have shaped her faith, she illustrates the profound role that belief in God has in helping us find real hope in this life. Journey with her through the six essentials of faith: love, presence, praise, grace, hope, and purpose, to rediscover your spiritual connection with your creator.



- publisher.

Savannah Clark Guthrie (born December 27, 1971) is an Australian-born American broadcast journalist and attorney. Since July 2012, she is a main co-anchor of the NBC morning show **Today**.

Upcoming Events

Agape Circle Food, Fun and Friendship is **this Friday, May 3 at 6:30 in Cowans Hall**.

The activity we will enjoy is, “Who’s that baby?”

Please bring one or two pictures of you as a baby (not a whole album). These will be placed on a table without a label and we will see if we can guess who it is.

Please bring food or drink to share. Also, please bring your own dinnerware and serving utensils to lower our garbage and washing.

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



COMMUNITY, FAITH, AND RACIAL JUSTICE

Please join us on **May 8, 2024**, for the second of several speakers in a series offered to the community by St. Mark’s Episcopal Church and co-sponsored by St. Thomas:

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Cooper-White, Episcopal Priest, Clinical Psychologist, and Retired Christiane Brooke Johnson Professor of Psychology and Religion at Union Theological Seminary will speak

on

*Confronting Christian Nationalism: Why People Are Drawn in
And How to Talk Across the Divide*

7 p.m. – St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto
No charge for admission – donations appreciated.

Please register at: tinyurl.com/may8speaker

The series explores the role of Christianity, including the white

Christian Nationalist movement, in racial injustice and seeks to define a path toward racial justice, healing, and reconciliation. Rev. Dr. Cooper-White's recent book on the topic will be available for purchase and signing.

For more information on the series, its co-sponsors, and future speakers, please visit: tinyurl.com/stmarkseries.



CONCERT in May

Piano and violin

Sunday, May 19, 3:30pm (doors open 3pm)

Please put this date on your calendars.

There is a suggested donation of \$20. Half of the proceeds will benefit Navajoland, an Area Mission of the Episcopal Church and a partner of the Diocese of El Camino Real.

Spring Renewal

Don't miss the opportunity to join us for our annual in-person Spring Renewal on **May 17th and 18th** in Salinas. Unlike the Diocesan Convention, this event is open to everyone in the diocese.

Event prices and options

\$175 Full Event

\$80 Friday Night only

includes banquet dinner and awards program

\$100 Saturday only

includes lunch and program with **Bishop Michael Hunn**

The Right Reverend Michael Hunn is the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande. He was raised in New Mexico and Texas and has over twenty years of experience in ordained ministry. His



various roles have included serving as a parish priest, a school chaplain, a college chaplain, and a Canon to Bishop Michael Curry. Prior to being consecrated as Bishop of the Diocese of the Rio Grande, he led Presiding Bishop Curry's transition team, and a staff-wide restructure and culture transformation process.

As a lecturer, keynote speaker, and preacher, Bishop Hunn has shared his insights on public speaking, nonviolent communication, canon law, stewardship, and nonviolent approaches to conversations about race. He brings fresh perspectives to traditional subjects.

To register or for additional information see:

<https://www.realepiscopal.org/blog/spring-renewal-2024/>

Summer Reading program begins **June 15, 2024.**

Watch this space and the May *Beyond A Doubt* newsletter for details!



Dinner Theatre: *An Italian Café* August 3

Actors needed:

1 male lead (a customer in the café)
and 2-3 bit parts, about 5 lines, male or female

Also needed:

someone to help paint and measure.
a typist would be great - to type scripts
stage crew (very easy) - must be able to move tables



If interested, contact Linda Sutton
at averagewithaflair@gmail.com

General Announcements

Library notes:

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 timelines of St. Thomas Church and world events. The timelines are divided into decades from 1911 to 2010. On one side of the poster board are the timelines of St. Thomas Church. On the other side are the timelines of world events that coincide. There has been a monumental amount of history that has occurred since 1911.

Please read and think about the history of our church and world.

The Little Free Library

The library needs adult books to supply the Little Free Library. Paperback and hardcover are welcome including fiction and nonfiction.

Please place the books either in the library box in the narthex, the drop slot by the office door, or in the library.

Submitted by The Library Committee

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 in honor of a person or occasion, by noting your dedication in the flower book at the back of the church, to the left as you enter.

Donations may be made online (PayPal/credit card) or by check, noting “altar guild”, the date for the commemoration, and the person or occasion to be commemorated.

A general donation for supplies, like communion wine and bread, and oil for the candles is also welcome and we thank you!

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 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, creating a weekly activity via email, as well as an occasional gift for our special church friends. If you wish to be included, please contact them through the church 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 12:45pm in the chapel.

Craft Group 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 **Thursdays, May 9 and May 23.**

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 April 29**, when we meet to discuss *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi, a best-selling novel that makes history visceral and captures, with singular and stunning immediacy, how the memory of captivity came to be inscribed in the soul of a nation. In 18th-century Ghana two half-sisters are separated by circumstance, one married off to an Englishman and living in comfort in palatial rooms in Cape Coast Castle, the other sold into slavery and shipped off to America. One's descendants live through centuries of warfare in Ghana, the other's through the Civil War and its lingering aftermath. 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 & 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

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**



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!

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.

Rector: The Rev. Salying Wong.....pastorsalying@stthomas-svale.us
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

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