

First Sunday in LENT

March 9, 2025

Holy Eucharist

Rite II, 10:30am



Photo by Dena Ware

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

First Sunday in LENT

March 9, 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 who have vulnerable health issues, our 10:30am services always offers 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.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The service begins in silence.

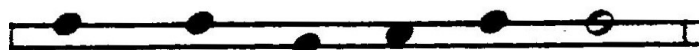
Please stand.

The Great Litany

The Litanists will lead. The congregation may sing the responses.

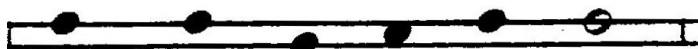
Zoom participants, please stay muted.

Litanist: O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,



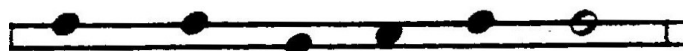
People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,



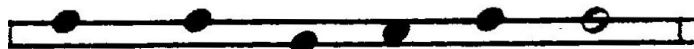
People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful,



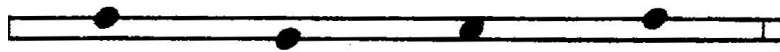
People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,



People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy preserve us, for ever.

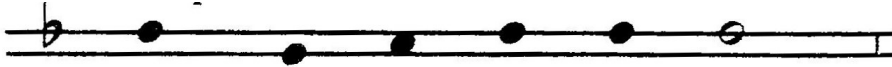


People:

Spare us, good Lord.

Litanist:

From all evil and wickedness; from sin;
from the crafts and assaults of the devil;
and from everlasting damnation,

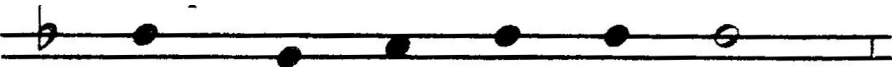


People:

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist:

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory,
and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and
from all want of charity,

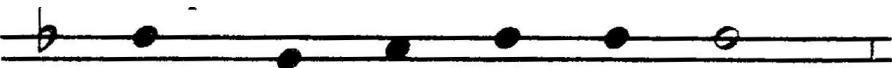


People:

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist:

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all
the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,



People:

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist:

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism;
from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and
commandment,



People:

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist:

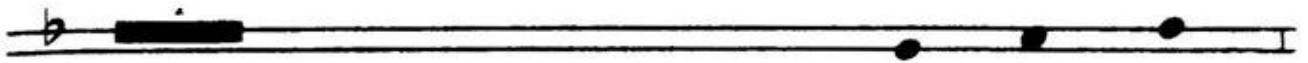
From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire,
and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,



People:

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

Litanist: That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they may set it forth, and show it accordingly,



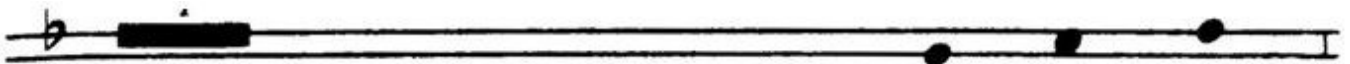
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people



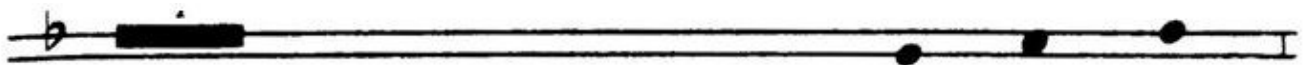
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,



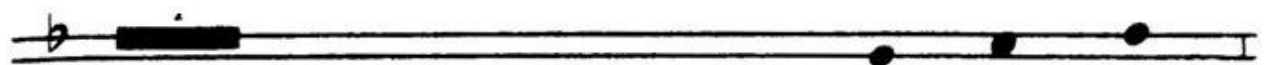
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,



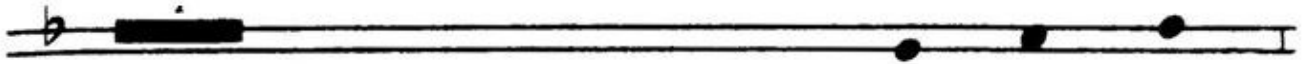
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,



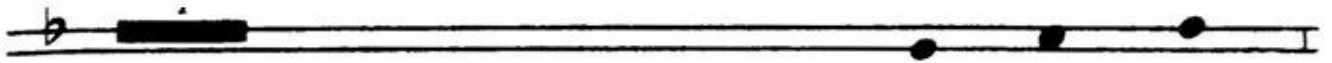
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,



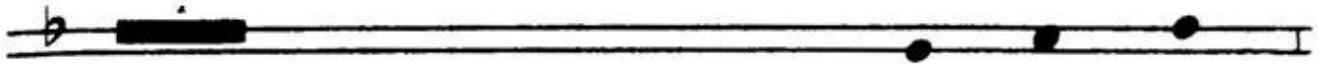
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,



People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,



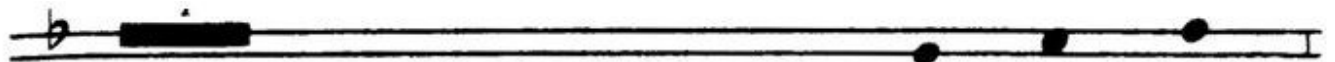
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,



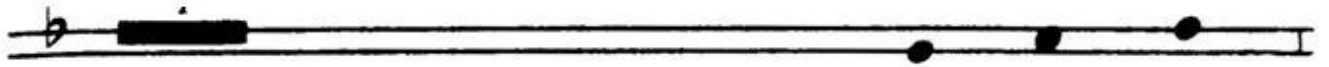
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,



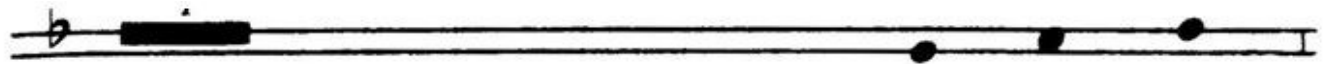
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,



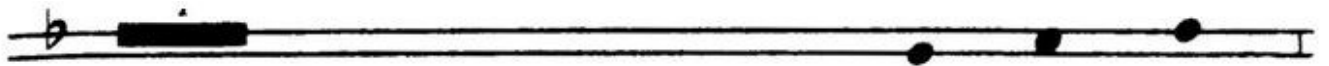
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,



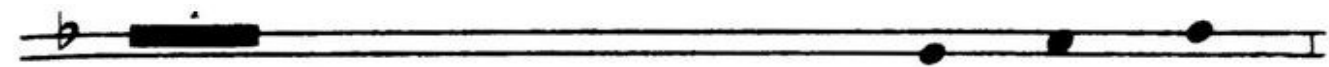
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,



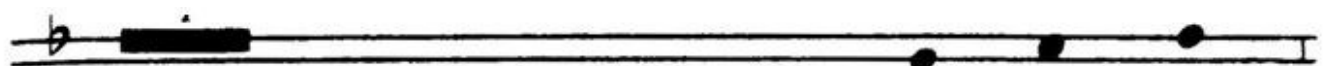
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,



People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,



People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to have mercy upon all mankind,



People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,



People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,



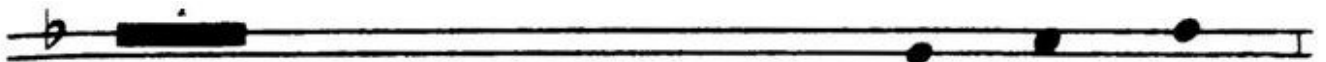
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,



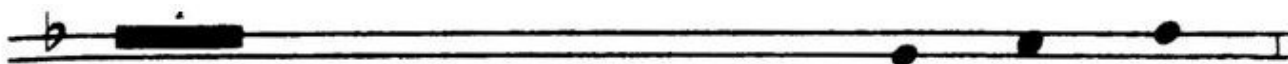
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,



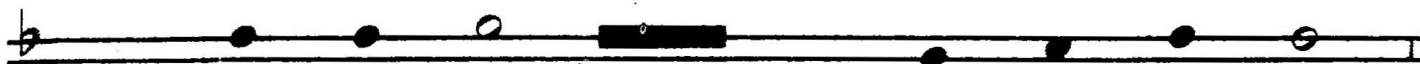
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of Thomas and all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,



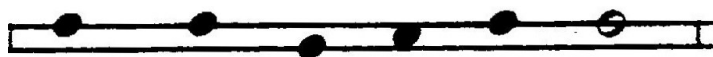
People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Litanist: Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.



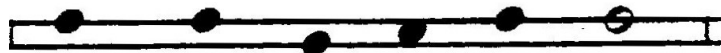
People: Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

Litanist: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,



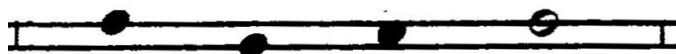
People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,



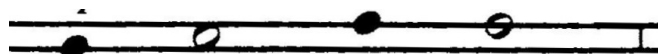
People: Have mer-cy up-on us.

Litanist: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,



People: Grant us thy peace.

Litanist: O Christ, hear us.



People: O Christ, hear us.

Acclamation

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **His mercy endures forever.**

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

Hymnal #S-96 F. Schubert
see next page

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.

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

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

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

continued next page

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

Collect for the First Sunday in Lent

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: **Let us pray.**

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the

basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

You are welcome to sing along with the refrain.

Zoom participants, please stay muted.



God_ shall give the an- gels charge_ o- ver_ you, to keep you in__ all your_ ways.

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, *
abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

You shall say to the Lord,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust." *Refrain*

Refrain:



God_ shall give the an- gels charge_ o- ver_ you, to keep you in__ all your_ ways.

Because you have made the Lord your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,
There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling. *Refrain*

Refrain:



God_ shall give the an- gels charge_ o- ver_ you, to keep you in__ all your_ ways.

For God shall give the holy angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.

Refrain

Refrain:



God_ shall give the an- gels charge_ o- ver_ you, to keep you in__ all your_ ways.

Because they are bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver them; *

I will protect them, because they know my Name.

They shall call upon me, and I will answer them; *

I am with them in trouble;

I will rescue them and bring them to honor.

With long life will I satisfy them, *

and show them my salvation.

Refrain



God_ shall give the an- gels charge_ o- ver_ you, to keep you in__ all your_ ways.

The Epistle: Romans 10:8b-13

"The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart"

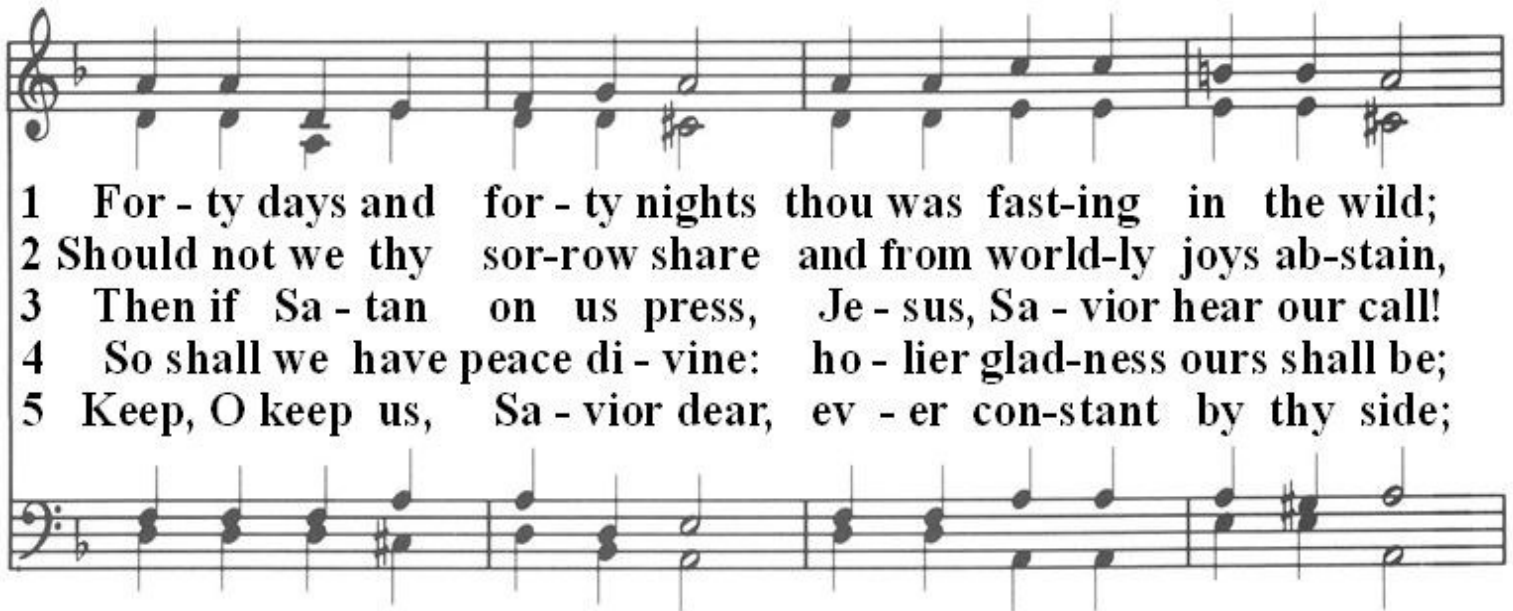
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

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

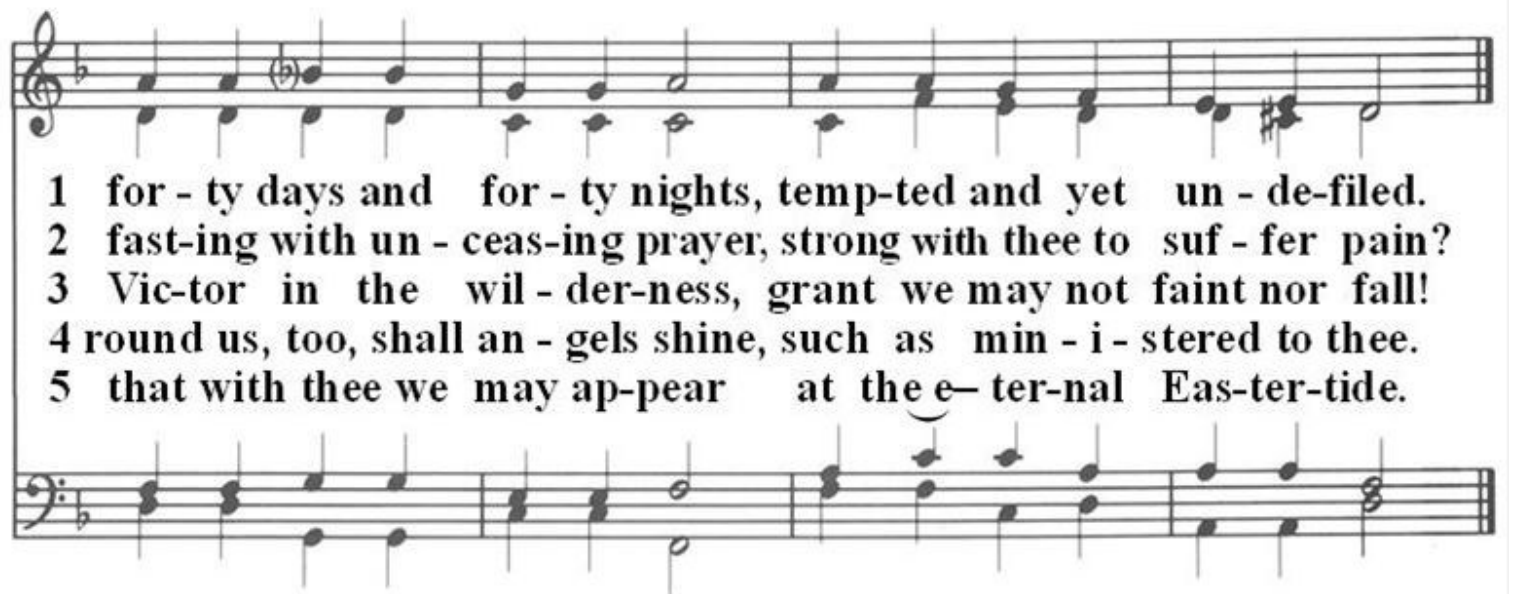
People: Thanks be to God.

Forty Days and Forty Nights

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



1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou was fast-ing in the wild;
 2 Should not we thy sor-row share and from world-ly joys ab-stain,
 3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior hear our call!
 4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad-ness ours shall be;
 5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con-stant by thy side;



1 for - ty days and for - ty nights, temp-ted and yet un - de-filed.
 2 fast-ing with un - ceas-ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
 3 Vic-tor in the wil - der-ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
 4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - i - stered to thee.
 5 that with thee we may ap-pear at the e - ter-nal Eas-ter-tide.

Words: George Hunt Smyttan (1822-1870), alt.

Music: *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, melody att. Martin Herbst (1654-1681), alt.;
 harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

77. 77

The Gospel: Luke 4:1-14

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

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

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,'

and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

*For Lent, following the sermon
there will be an extended period 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 Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The people and the ministers greet one another.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Announcements

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Offertory sentence

Offertory

Palestrina

Sicut Cervus

Members of the St. Thomas Choir

Patricia Pietrzyk, director

Benjamin Belew, piano

Celebrant: All things come of you, O Lord.

People: And of your own have we given you.

Sursum Corda

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give God 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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:

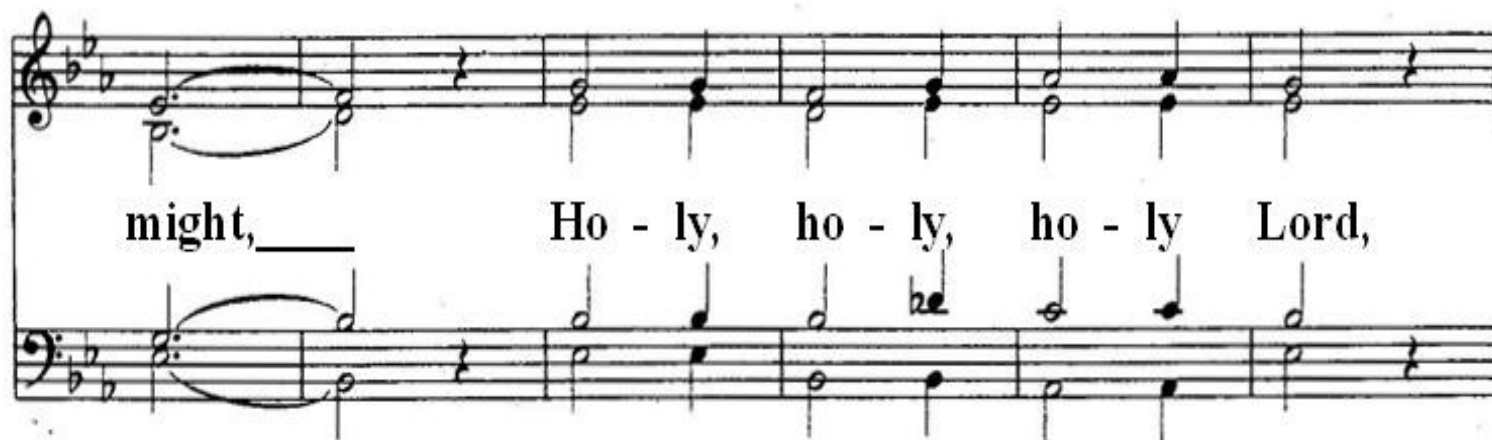
Sanctus

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, heaven and earth are

full, full of your glory. 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

continued next page

The image shows a musical score for a vocal part, likely a soprano or alto. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est."

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

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.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Agnus Dei

Hymnal S-164, F. Schubert

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:

continued next page



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

Lift Every Voice and Sing #188

see next page

When Peace, Like a River (It Is Well With My Soul)
Please join in singing the hymn. Zoom participants stay muted.

1 When peace, like a riv - er at - tend - eth my
 2 Though sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should
 3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous
 4 And, Lord, haste the day when the faith__ shall be

1 way, When sor - rows like sea - bil - lows roll;
 2 come, Let this blest as - sur - ance con - troll,
 3 thought— My sin— not in part, but the whole—
 4 sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll.

1 What - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
 2 That Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es =
 3 Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
 4 The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de -

1 say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 2 tate, And has shed His own blood for my soul.
 3 more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 4 scend, "E - ven so" - it is well with my soul.

continued next page

It is well with my soul, with my
 It is well with my
 soul. It is well, it is well with my soul.
 soul. It is well, it is well with my soul.

Words: Horatio Spafford (1828-1888)

Music: Philip P. Bliss (1838-1876)

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 #142

Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days

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

1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,
2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con-tend and didst the vic-tory win,
3 As thou didst hun-ger bear and thirst, so teach us, gra-cious Lord,
4 And through theses days of pen-i-tence, and through thy Pas-sion - tide,
5 A - bide with us, that so, this life of suf-fering o - ver - past,

1 teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.
2 O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con-quer sin.
3 to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.
4 yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.
5 an Eas-ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last!

Words: Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838-1898)

Music: *St. Flavian*, melody from *Day's Psalter*, 1562; adapt. and harm. Richard Redhead (1820-1901)

CM

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Serving today

Celebrant: The Rev. Barbara Stewart

Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong

Eucharistic Minister: Peg Prior

Litanists: Chris Schmidt, Karen Huyser

Lector: John McVey, Dorothy Furgerson

Psalmist: Abby O'Connell

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

Members of the St. Thomas Choir

Patricia Pietrzyk, director

Benjamin Belew, accompanist

Tech lead: Steve Williams

Zoom Host: Abby O'Connell

Introductions to Lectionary readings

from *sundaysandseasons.com*

1 Lent Year C

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The book of Deuteronomy, presented as Moses' final speech to the Israelites while still in the wilderness, was written sometime in the seventh century bce, its authors encouraging the Jews to remain faithful to the covenant, despite the power of Assyria. The passage describes an offering of first fruits made to the priests at the temple and includes a creed that summarizes Israelite myth-history. The offering occurred at a festival, probably that of Unleavened Bread, that historicized the Canaanite celebration of the barley harvest. In keeping the covenant, the people are to worship God in gratitude.

Romans 10:8b-13

Paul's letter to the Romans, written in about 57, includes an early Christian creed: the community acknowledges faith in God's unlimited salvation for both Jew and Greek, offered to all through the death and resurrection of Christ. Paul applies the divine title *kyrios*—which for Jews could refer only to God—to Jesus when he writes of calling “on the name of the Lord.”

Luke 4:1-13

As we expect from Luke, the Spirit fills Jesus during his testing. Like Israel, Jesus is in the wilderness. Like Moses, Jesus is on a high mountain and fasts for forty days and nights (Deut. 9:9). The temptation is presented as an eschatological moment, Jesus as Son of God confronting the devil. Jesus' responses come from Deuteronomy 8:3, 6:3, and 6:16. The narrative depicts Jesus' rejecting messiahship as a position of power. Instead, for Luke, the third temptation is in Jerusalem, where Jesus' pinnacle will be on the cross, at the “opportune time.”



Today in the Parish

The Altar Flowers are replaced by greens at this season of Lent.

After worship today please join us in Cowans Hall across the courtyard for coffee hour.

At 12:00 noon, the first class of Episcopalianism 101 will take place in the Library. Please join us! [additional details p. 22]

Nametags are appreciated by newcomers and others, too. You are welcome to write your name on one of the blanks available at the table at the back of the church OR bring your own from the glove compartment in your car or wherever you may stash them.

Daily devotionals booklets from Luther Seminary are also

available. Please pick one up from the table at the back of the church.

Calendars for Lent from Creative Communications

Short daily Scripture reflections on soul-building themes. These will be available on the table in the narthex beginning today. Please let us know if you would like one mailed to you - Library@stthomas-svale.us

Upcoming Events

Important Dates for Your Calendar

Liturgical Year C (the Year of the gospel of Luke):

- **Sundays in Lent**, 12 pm: EPISCOPALIANISM 101
- **April 13 to April 19**: HOLY WEEK
- **April 20**: EASTER SUNDAY

FOR LENT:

daily meditations from Episcopal Relief & Development



Episcopal
Relief & Development



Titled *A Commonplace Lent*, these meditations reflect on daily experiences: prayer, worship, grace, love, community, service, and our connection to nature. They draw on monastic wisdom to emphasize the gifts of community.

To have these daily meditations arrive in your inbox beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing each day through Lent, subscribe by scanning the QR code.

Adult Formation in Lent: Episcopalianism 101 – begins today

Episcopalianism 101 will run for 5 weeks in Lent (March 9-April 6), with an instructed Eucharist on 3rd and 4th Lent, in lieu of a sermon. This class will happen after the 10:30am service at 12pm in the library. Participants bring their own lunch. (If the group ends up being big, we can move to the hall.) Baptism, confirmation, reaffirmation, and reception candidates ought to come. All others who desire to know more are invited.

1 Lent	The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion; the parish and the diocese.
2 Lent	Worship: Book of Common Prayer and other resources for worship.
3 Lent	Baptism (and related sacramental rites of confirmation and reception). Discussion on what is a sacrament.
4 Lent	The three-legged stool of authority: scripture, tradition, reason.
5 Lent	The Bible: hermeneutics and meta-narratives.

Prayers for a Peaceful World - Thursdays in Lent

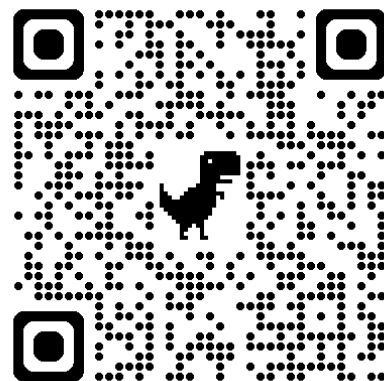
Our country is going through dramatic changes at a truly unprecedented pace. Regardless of how you feel about the policies

behind these changes, change is unsettling and challenging. The impacts of these changes, both intended and unintended, are just beginning to be seen. The Social Justice Committee of El Camino Real is concerned about the impacts of these changes on people around the world and the role of the United States in the world.

Please join us on Zoom for Prayers for a Peaceful World on **Thursdays in Lent at 12:00 pm Pacific** starting next week on March 13 and ending April 21 (the day before Earth Day). We will discuss our concerns and pray for just and peaceful outcomes and for all of God's creation.

The diocese has created a fund to provide legal assistance to those in need in our diocese. To donate online, please click here "[Love Our Neighbors](#)." Also, checks may be sent to the diocese payable to the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real with Love Our Neighbor Fund on the memo line. Bishop Lucinda will get these funds to where they are needed most in our diocese.

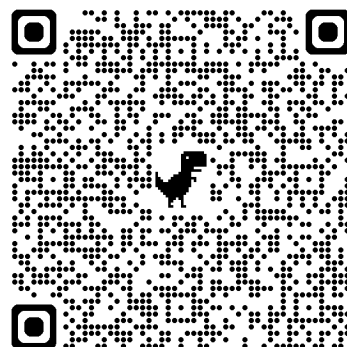
[JOIN THE ZOOM](#) Scan the QR code to join.



Love Our Neighbors - Tuesdays

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (**ICE**) has the mission to protect America from cross-border crime and illegal immigration. Under the new administration, ICE has orders to deport many more people. Our neighbors in the diocese who came here to escape violence and find work now live in fear that their families will be separated by deportations. They need our help. They have legal rights. They need legal help creating the papers to exercise their rights. If they are arrested and detained, they also need money to post bond. For details on this rapidly changing situation, join the weekly Episcopal Migration Ministries webinars **every Tuesday at 10:00 am Pacific**.

[REGISTER HERE](#) Scan the QR code to register.



Schedule for Lent to Easter

Date	Time	Event
Lent		
March 16, 23, 30, April 6	8am and 10:30am	Sundays in Lent; Episcopalianism 101 after 10:30am service
Holy Week		
April 13	8am and 10:30am	Palm Sunday (no Passion); Pick up Holy Week Kits
April 14-16		Mark Holy Monday-Holy Wednesday with Holy Week Kit
April 17	6pm	Maundy Thursday: Agape Meal, Foot-Washing, Holy Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar and Altar of Repose (in-person only)
April 18	12:15pm-1:30pm	Good Friday: Proper Liturgy (hybrid)
April 18	6pm	Good Friday: Stations of the Cross—online only
April 19	6pm	Holy Saturday Contemplative Vigil: Awaiting the Third Day
Easter		
April 20	10:30am (no 8am)	Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist and Baptism; Egg Hunt and festive brunch

Save the Date: Sunday, March 16th at 2 pm, St. Mark's Episcopal Church will host Pangea Legal Services' Rapid Response Training for ICE actions. This event is specific training for ICE actions that occur in Santa Clara County.

Schedule for Lent to Easter

Save the Date: Salying and Andrew's Marriage Blessing will be on **June 21st** at 3:00pm. All of St. Thomas is invited. An RSVP form will be forthcoming.

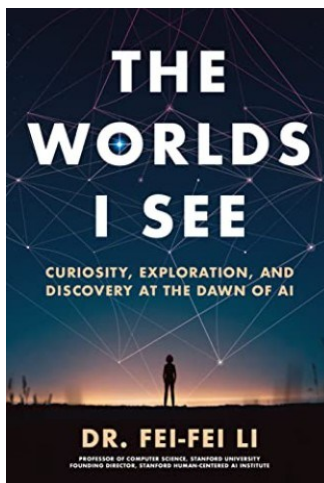
General Announcements

Library notes - March books & magazines:

The Christian Century, Thoughtful, Independent, Progressive. (Magazine)

Since 1900, *The Christian Century* has published reporting, commentary, poetry, and essays on the role of faith in a pluralistic society. - Wikipedia

Debie Thomas has written an article in the March issue: *Progressive Christians should read the Bible*, found on page 31.



The Worlds I See: curiosity, exploration, and discovery at the dawn of AI by Dr. Fei-Fei Li.

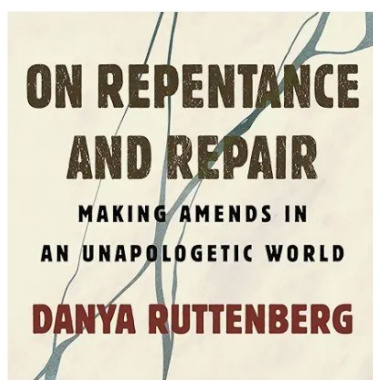
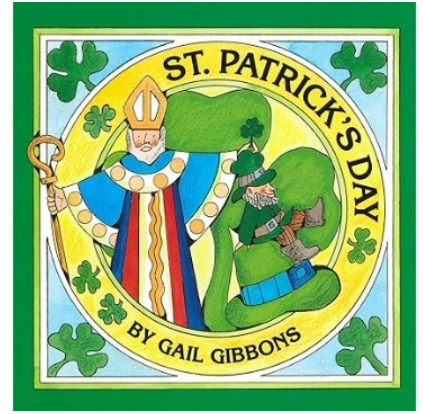
”The moving memoir of a girl coming of age as an immigrant in America who finds her calling as a scientist at the forefront of the AI/Machine Learning revolution.” - Publisher.

St. Thomas Book Club, Feb. 2025. The club members thought the immigrant part of Dr. Li's history was very interesting. Most felt the technical part of the writing was beyond our understanding. The group discussed the AI search feature on Zoom and found “Dr. Li has authored over 400 scientific articles, held a position at Google Cloud, and received

numerous awards, including being named one of Time Magazine's top influencers.”

[St. Patrick's Day](#) by Gail Gibbons, 2024 (Picture Book)

Who was St. Patrick? Why do we wear green on March 17th? Vetted by an expert, this new edition brings readers the most accurate and recent historical understanding of St. Patrick and the holiday celebrating him. Learn the story of Patrick's life, legends about the saint, and the history of the holiday.



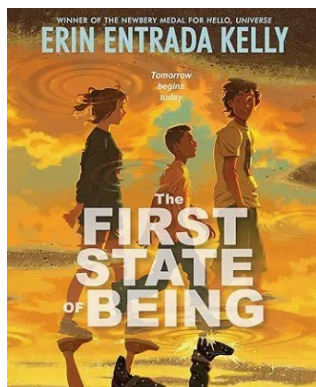
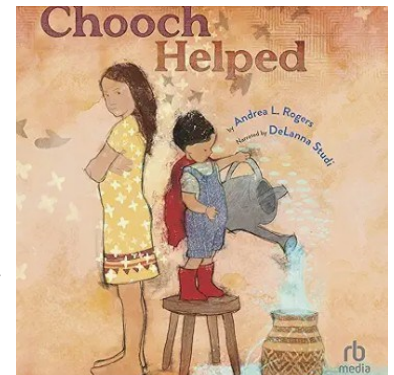
[On Repentance and Repair: making amends in an unapologetic world](#) by Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg.

Pastor Salying mentioned this book in her sermon on Feb. 23. "[the book] applies an ancient framework of repentance and repair to our personal lives today, to the contemporary public square, to institutions, and to national policy in ways that could transform our society and our culture" - Publisher.

Caldecott Medal Winner 2025

[Chooch Helped](#) by Andrea L. Rogers; illustrated by Rebecca Lee Kunz.

Chooch Helped is a universal story of an older sibling learning to make space for a new child, told with grace by Andrea L. Rogers and stunning art from Rebecca Lee Kunz showing one Cherokee family practicing their cultural traditions." - Publisher.



Newbery Medal Winner 2025

[The First State of Being](#) by Erin Entrada Kelly.

” When Ridge, a time-traveling teenager from the future, gets trapped in 1999, he befriends Michael, a lonely twelve-year-old boy, changing the course of their lives forever.” - Publisher.

Archives Display: Presiding Bishops

Initially the position of Presiding Bishop rotated geographically. After 1795 the Presiding Bishop was the senior bishop in order of consecration. Starting in 1926, the office became elective, the Presiding Bishop was chosen at General Convention by vote of all bishops, and approved by the House of Deputies. The office now has a nine year term.

The first Presiding Bishop was William White, from Pennsylvania, who served from July 28, 1789 to October 3, 1789.

The files in the case contain biographies and information about 10 Presiding Bishops in the early part of the 20th century. Daniel S. Tuttle served from September 7, 1903 to April 17, 1923.

The last file in the case contains information about John E. Hines who served from January 1, 1965 to May 31, 1974. He was the 22nd Presiding Bishop.

The more recent Presiding Bishops' files will be rotated into the case in the near future. - Submitted by the Archives Committee

From Episcopal Relief & Development:

High winds and drought conditions combined to accelerate the growth of wildfires that have devastated communities in California. Places of worship, businesses and homes have been heavily damaged. Mass evacuations and widespread power outages have affected hundreds of thousands of people who are being affected by the devastating and fast-growing California wildfires. Supporting the Wildfire Response Fund will help people affected by the impact of wildfires.

Episcopal Relief & Development partners with faith and community organizations to advance lasting change in communities affected by injustice, poverty, disaster and climate change.

To make a donation, please scan the QR code.
or go to

<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/press-resources/press-releases/2025-wildfire-response/>



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. Please note: the Flower Book in the narthex has been updated with pages for 2025.

Pledges, Offerings & Donations

Your pledges and other donations may always be mailed to the church office and marked to the attention of the Treasurer.

When donating by check, please make the check payable to “St. Thomas Episcopal Church”.

We encourage you to mail in your pledges and offerings to the church *or* use our online donation option, described below.

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.

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!

As always, we want to say “Thank You!”

Peace, Jim Cobb

St. Thomas Library hours 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

Agape Circle is the parish potluck gathering for food, fellowship and fun. These engagements usually happen on a Friday evening with an activity. For 2025, we are scheduling Agape Circle in months that are light with activity. The next one will be **May 9** at 6:30pm. (In previous publications, the date was set for May 2. Please note the change.)

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.

Children's Ministry Pam Storrer is leading our children's Sunday School. Pastor Salying leads our youth ministry. Please contact them through the church office or website: www.stthomas-svale.org

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 church. A class for Japanese speakers meets Wednesdays at 12:45pm in the church.

Craft Group The Craft Group plans to continue meeting in the new year on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the library. The next meetings are March 13 & 27. Please join us!

Book Club The Book Club meets once a month by Zoom, usually the last Monday evening of the month, at 7pm. 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 31, when we meet to discuss *The Accidental President: Harry Truman and the Four Months that Changed the World* by A. J. Baime, a fast-paced,

masterful reporting of Harry Truman's first 120 days as president, when he took on Germany, Japan, Stalin, and a secret weapon of unimaginable power—marking the most dramatic rise to greatness in American history.

Please join us—contact this month's host, Dorothy F through our website www.stthomas-svale.org/contact to request the Zoom link.

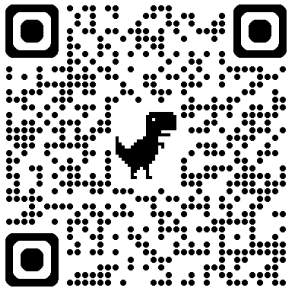
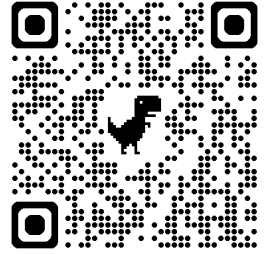


Weekly Worship at St. Thomas

Tuesdays, 5pm Centering Prayer led by Pastor Salying

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89609758620>

Dial-in option: 1 669 900 9128 meeting ID#
89609758620



Wednesdays, 12:15pm Noontday Prayer
with Commemoration of Saints

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# (San Jose)



Sundays: 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I in the church

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



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
Adjunct Priest: The Rev. Barbara Stewart.....barbarastewart001@gmail.com
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 mephistoape@gmail.com
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	2025	2026	2027
Emilee Wilhelm-Leen, Junior Warden	Joe Gutierrez	Jeannie Battagin	Ann Kopischke
	Pam Storrer	Naveen Raja	Eric Larkin
Ann Kopischke, Clerk	Emilee Wilhelm-Leen	Tian Zhu	Charlie Mendoza

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

Mabel Cheng Stephanie Daugherty Susan Durham Powers Aer van de Water

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