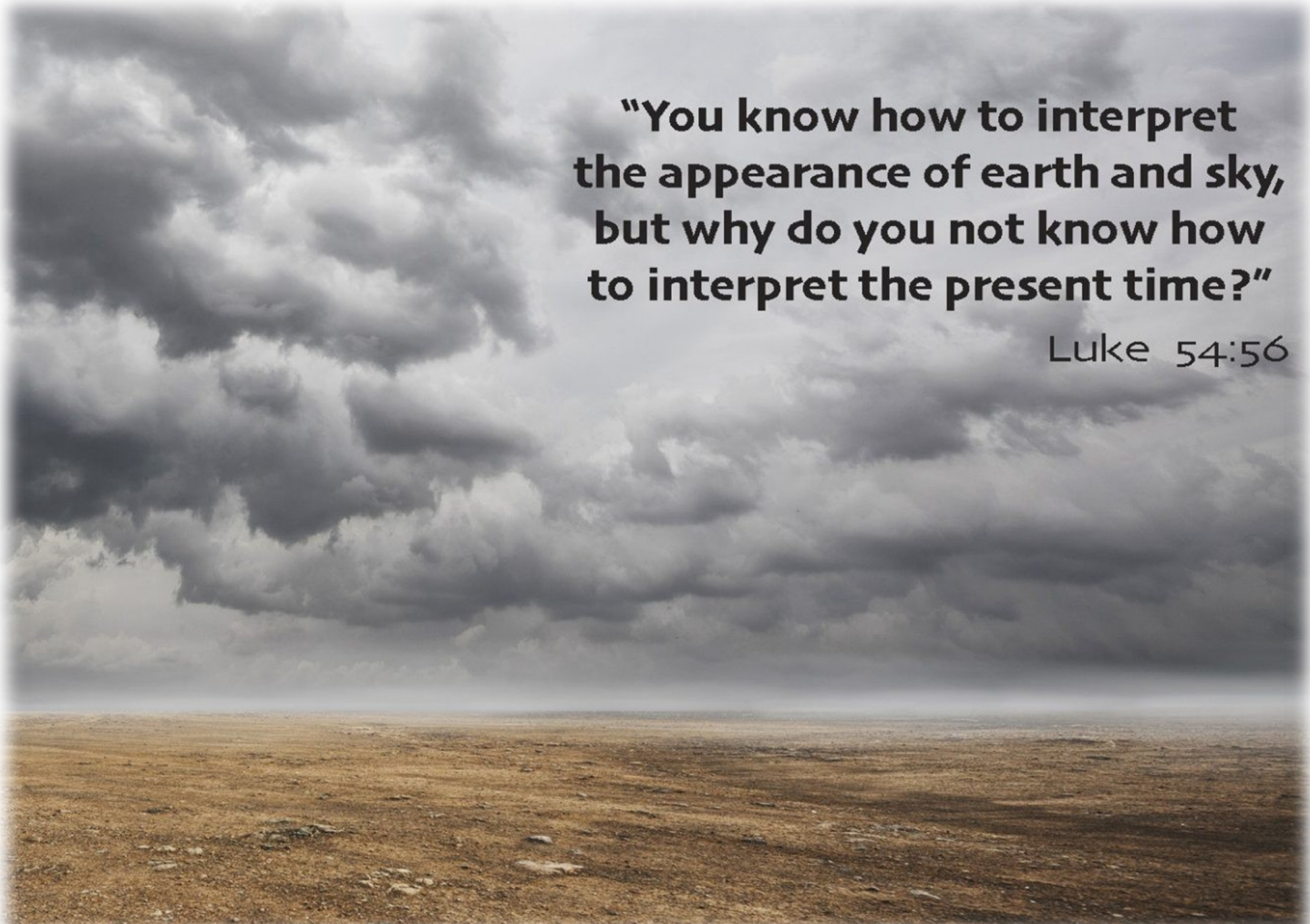


Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025 10:30am

Holy Eucharist Rite II



**“You know how to interpret
the appearance of earth and sky,
but why do you not know how
to interpret the present time?”**

Luke 54:56

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

231 Sunset Ave. Sunnyvale, CA 94086

408-736-4155

www.stthomas-svale.org

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025

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.

Families with Children

There is a comfortable sitting area in the back of the sanctuary with toys and books for children.

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>

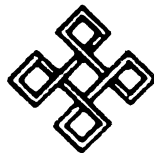
2. by telephone (audio only):

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.*

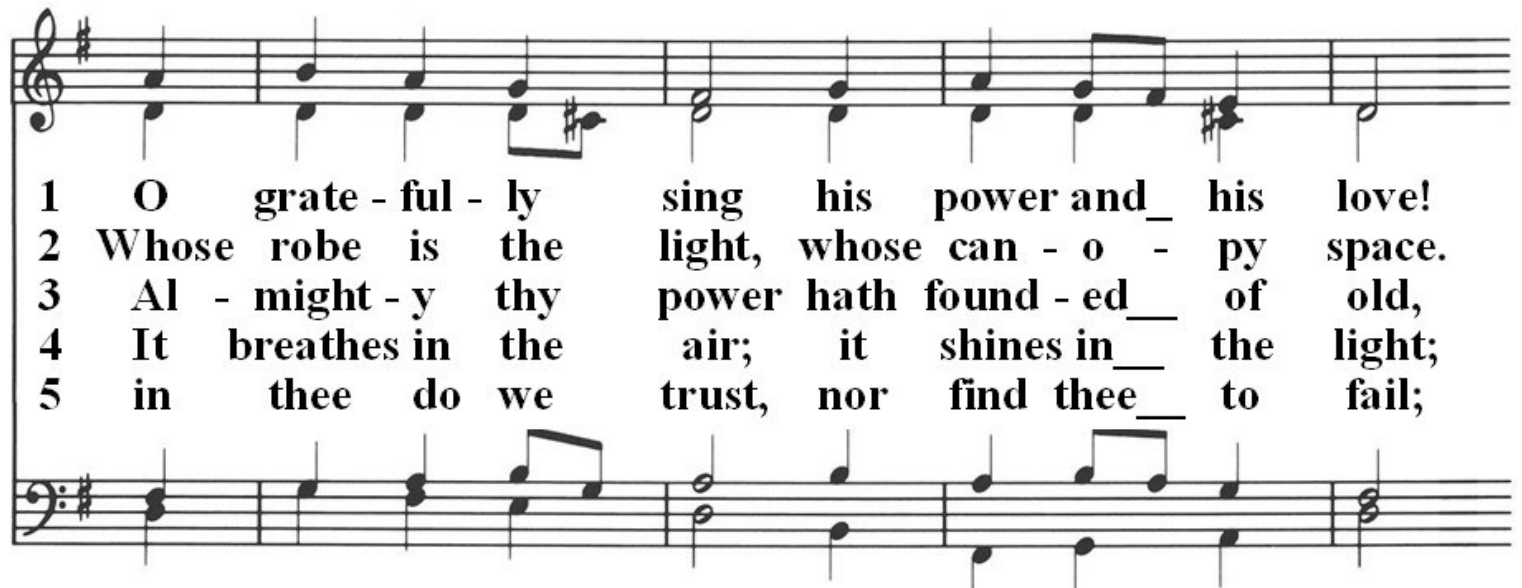
*Please note: Regarding joining us on Zoom, we welcome newcomers and appreciate your **on-time** attendance. If you arrive more than 15 minutes after the service begins, our Zoom protocols may not permit your joining the service. Equally important, please be sure that your zoom account ID includes your first and last name. We look forward to seeing you.*



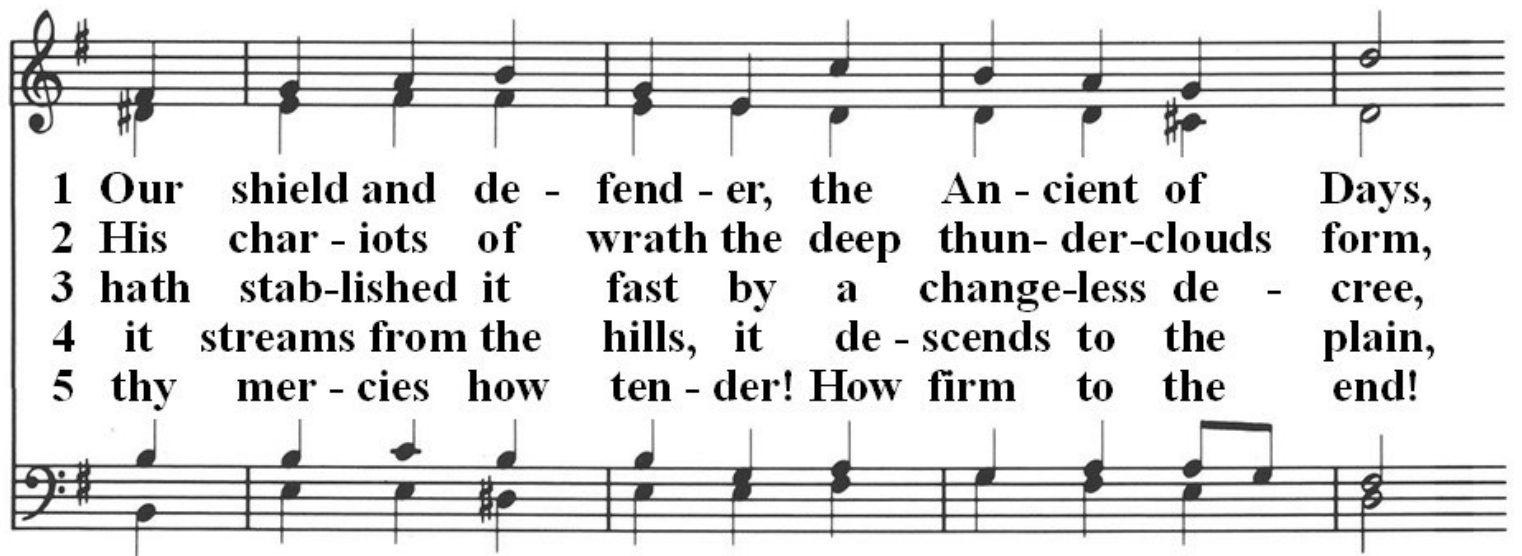
Prelude

*O Worship the King**All are invited to sing along. Zoom participants, please stay muted*

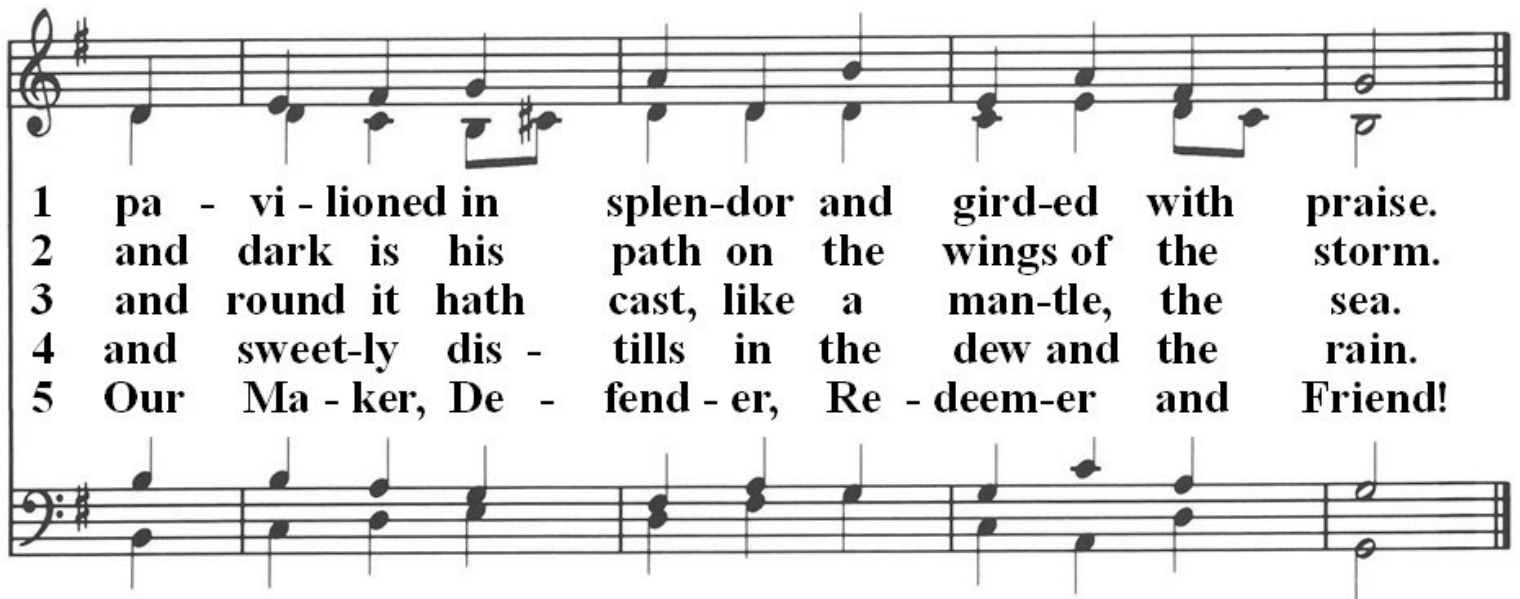

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
 2 O tell of his might! O sing of his grace!
 3 The earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Thy boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,



1 O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love!
 2 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space.
 3 Al - might - y thy power hath found - ed of old,
 4 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
 5 in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;



1 Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 2 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 3 hath stab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 4 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 5 thy mer - cies how ten - der! How firm to the end!



1 pa - vi - lioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 2 and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
 3 and round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 4 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 5 Our Ma - ker, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er and Friend!

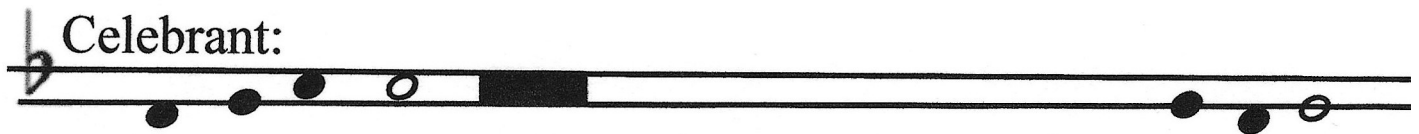
Words: Robert Grant (1779-1838)

Music: *Hanover*, att. William Croft (1678-1727)

10 10. 11 11

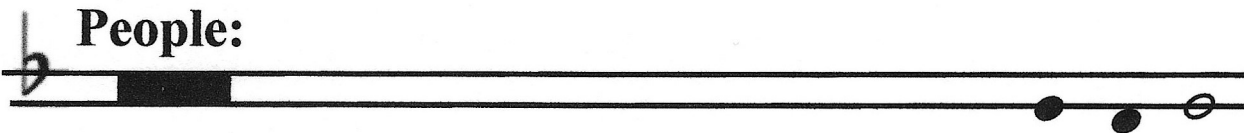
Greeting

Celebrant:



Bless-ed be God: most holy, glorious and undivided Trin-i - ty.

People:

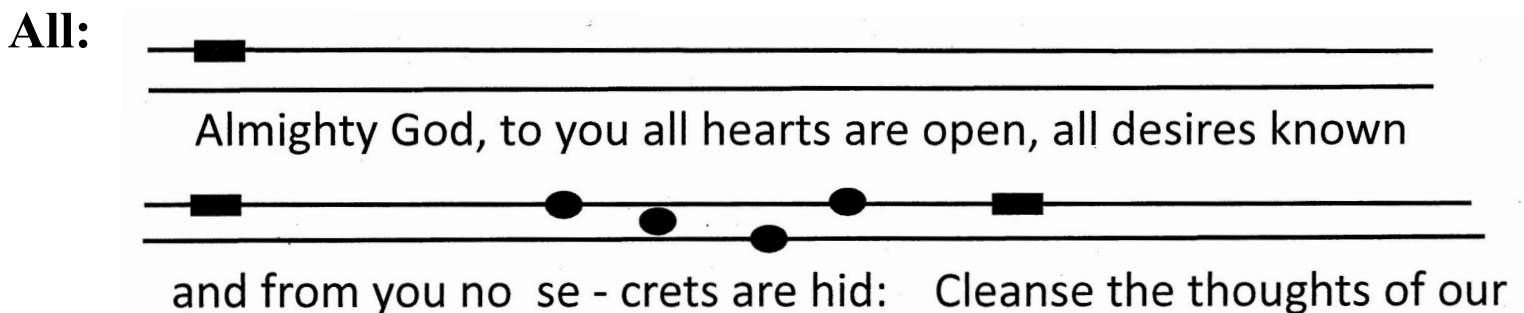


And bless-ed be God's reign, now and for ev-er. A-men.

Collect for Purity

chanted in unison

All:



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

WLP #900

*Please join in singing
the Gloria.*

*Zoom participants
please stay muted*

4

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, _

_ and peace to his peo-ple on earth ___ Lord God,

heav'n-ly King, al - might-y God_ and Fa - ther, _ we wor-ship

you, _ we give you thanks, we praise you for_ your glo-ry _

Fa-ther, _

Lord Je-sus Christ, _ on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, _

Fa-ther

continued next page

Fa-ther, _

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way_ the sin of the

world: have mer-cy on us;_ you are seat-ed at the right

hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer._ For
Fa - ther: re - ceive

you a - lone are the Ho-ly One, _

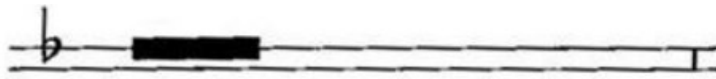
you a - lone are the Most High

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, _

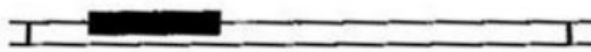
in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect for the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 15



Celebrant: God be with you.



People: **And also with you.**



Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; 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

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,

and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-18

ELV

The congregation speaks the boldface response.

Zoom participants please stay muted.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.

You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
you cast out the nations and planted it.

You prepared the ground for it; *
it took root and filled the land.

The mountains were covered by its shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
and its branches to the River.

Why have you broken down its wall, *
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
behold and tend this vine; *

preserve what your right hand has planted.

They burn it with fire like rubbish; *

at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.

Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, *

the one you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; *

give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Epistle Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted,

tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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

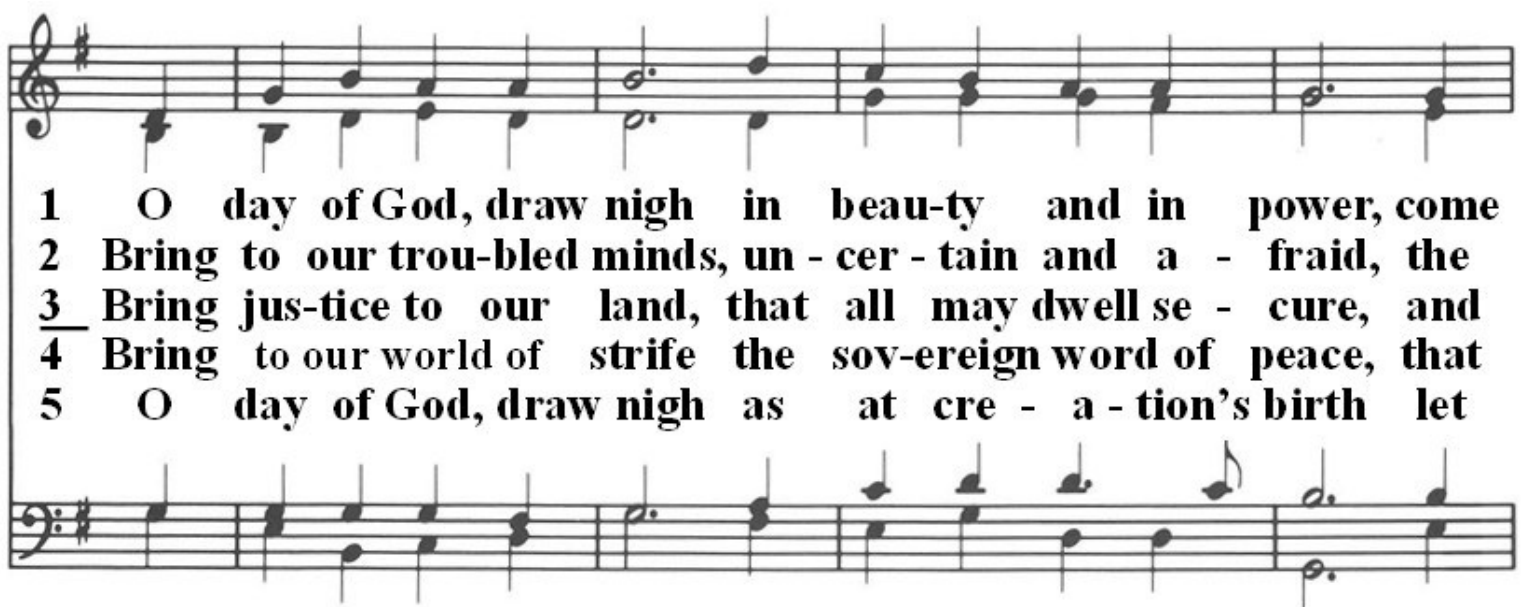
People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal #600

O Day of God, Draw Nigh

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



The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'O Day of God, Draw Nigh'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with line numbers 1 through 5 on the left. The lyrics are: 1 O day of God, draw nigh in beauty and in power, come; 2 Bring to our troubled minds, un-cer-tain and a-fraid, the; 3 Bring jus-tice to our land, that all may dwell se-cure, and; 4 Bring to our world of strife the sov-ereign word of peace, that; 5 O day of God, draw nigh as at cre-a-tion's birth let

continued next page

1 with thy time-less judg-ment now to match our pres-ent hour.
 2 qui - et of a stead-fast faith calm of a call o - beyed.
 3 fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.
 4 war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.
 5 there be light a - gain and set thy judg - ments in the earth.

Words: Robert Balgarnie Young Scott (b. 1899)

Music: *St. Michael*, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

SM

The Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
 and son against father,
 mother against daughter
 and daughter against mother,
 mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
 and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And

when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon

The sermon is followed by a period of silence for meditation.



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.**

Prayers of the People

Form III

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

People: That they may be delivered from their distress.

Leader: Give to the departed eternal rest;

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

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

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

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

The people may add additional petitions.

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The Confession

**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.**

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

J. L. Hooker

Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands
Susan McVey, soprano John McVey, tenor
Benjamin Belew, accompanist

Celebrant: All things come of you, O Lord.

People: And of your own have we given you.

And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.


People: **By his blood, he reconciled us.**
By his wounds, we are healed.

Celebrant: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Hymnal S-129

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -

continued next page

san - na in__ the high - est *Bless - ed__ is he who comes_

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in__ the

High - est. Ho - san - na in__ the high - est.

Setting: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner;
 harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983)
 © Church Pension Fund

Celebrant:

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**People: We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Celebrant:

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, and Jacob;
Lord God of our Mothers: God of Hagar, Sarah, Rebecca, and Rachel;
God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People: Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Celebrant:

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

Celebrant and **People: 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: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

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 Hymn

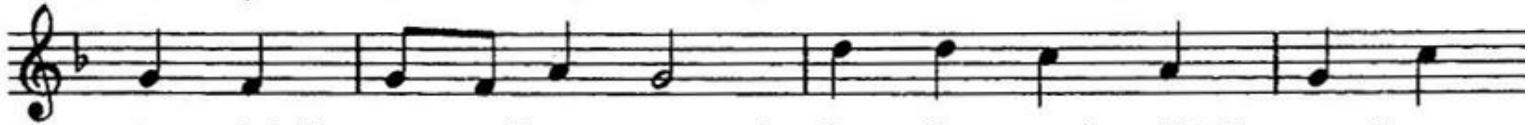
Hymnal #341

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

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



1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the
 2 By this pledge, Lord, that you love us, by your
 3 As our bless - ed ones a - dore you, seat - ed
 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our



wine which you_ have poured, for the words which you have
 gift of peace_ re - stored, by your call to heaven a -
 at our Fa - ther's board may the Church still wait - ing
 hearts keep watch_ and ward, in the world to which you



spo - ken, now we__ give you thanks, O Lord.
 bove us, hal - low__ all our lives. O Lord.
 for you keep Love's_ tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
 send us let your__ king - dom come, O Lord.

Words: Louis F. Benson (1855-1930), alt.

Music: *Beng-Li, I-to Loh* (b. 1936)

87. 87

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.**

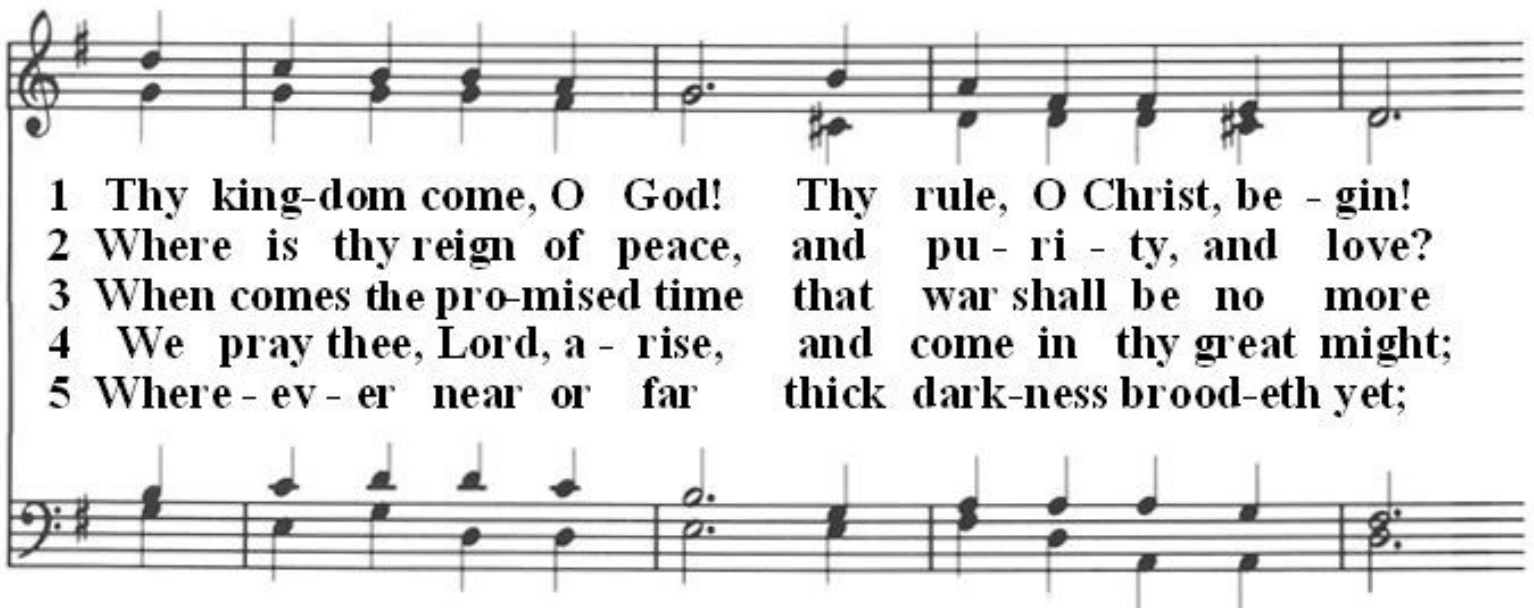
The Blessing

Closing Hymn

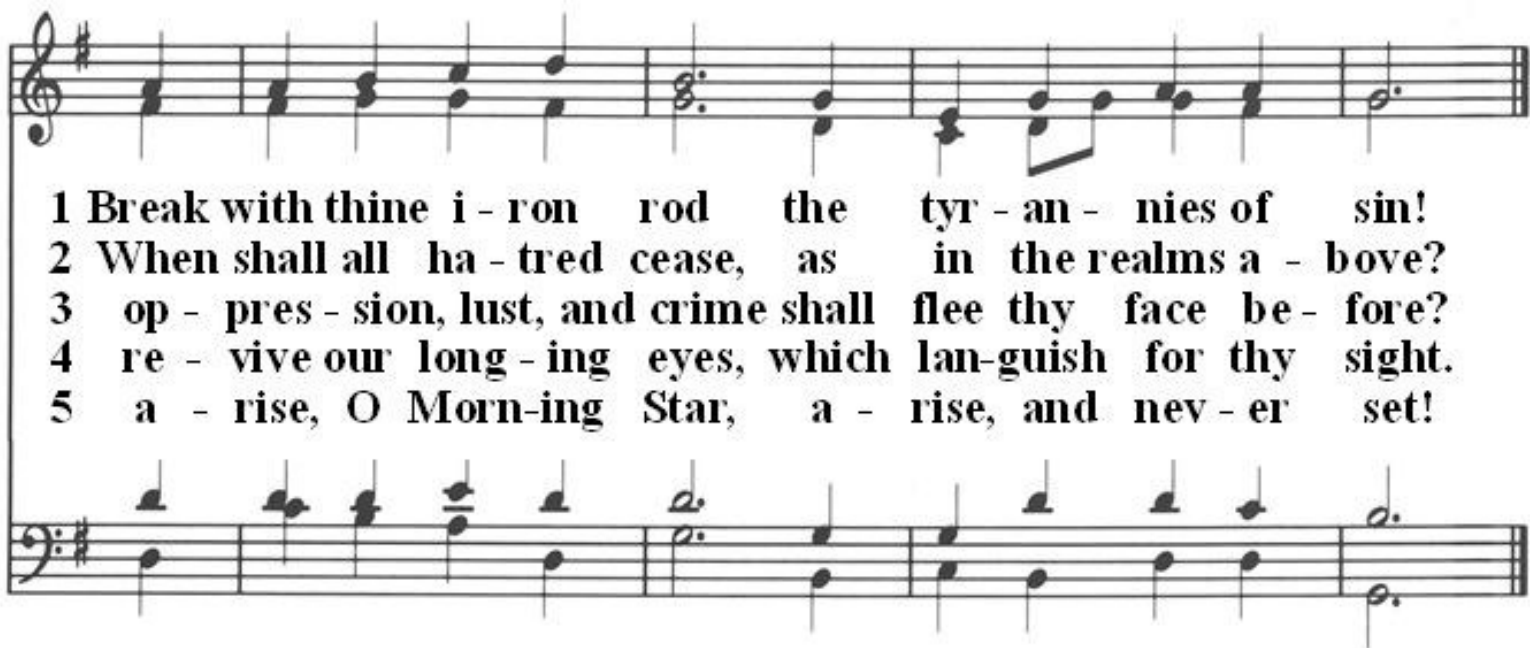
Hymnal #613

Thy Kingdom Come, O God

Zoom participants are invited to sing along. Please stay muted



1 Thy king-dom come, O God! Thy rule, O Christ, be - gin!
2 Where is thy reign of peace, and pu - ri - ty, and love?
3 When comes the pro-mised time that war shall be no more
4 We pray thee, Lord, a - rise, and come in thy great might;
5 Where - ev - er near or far thick dark-ness brood-eth yet;



1 Break with thine i - ron rod the tyr - an - nies of sin!
 2 When shall all ha - tred cease, as in the realms a - bove?
 3 op - pres - sion, lust, and crime shall flee thy face be - fore?
 4 re - vive our long - ing eyes, which lan - guish for thy sight.
 5 a - rise, O Morn - ing Star, a - rise, and nev - er set!

Words: Lewis Hensley (1824-1905), alt.

Music: *St. Cecilia*, Leighton George Hayne (1836-1883)

66. 66

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Serving today

Members of the St. Thomas Altar Guild

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Salying Wong

Eucharistic Minister: Ann Kopischke

Lectors: Dorothy Furgerson, Fulvia Govetto

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

Members of the St. Thomas Choir

Patricia Pietrzyk, music director

Benjamin Belew, accompanist

Tech team: Eric Larkin

Zoom host: Susan Durham Powers

Isaiah 5:1-7

The second semicontinuous selection from first Isaiah is Isaiah 5:1-7. It is likely that this was originally a sung poem. In typical biblical fashion, it reverses the hearers' expectation: the Bible often compares the people of Israel or their land to God's vineyard, which at first God cares for, but here God destroys the unproductive vineyard. The song is marked by puns: justice is mishpat, bloodshed is mispach; righteousness is tse'daqah, the cry is tse'aqah. Christians have applied the image of the vineyard to themselves, and thus have seen in this unsettling ballad the threat of divine punishment on the unfaithful church. It was Christ who was torn down and made into a waste.

Hebrews 11:19—12:2

In the exquisite rhetoric of the author of Hebrews comes a summation of the history of Israel told as an encouragement to faith. Not only the escaping Israelite slaves (Exod. 14), but even Jericho's prostitute Rahab (Josh. 2:1-7) are exemplars of faith. Also cited are Gideon (Judg. 6-8), Barak (Judg. 4), Samson (Judg. 14-16), David, and Samuel. Even Jephthah, who sacrificed his own daughter (Judg. 11), is held up as a model of faith. Faithfulness is likened to perseverance in running a race, with which inhabitants of Rome were familiar.

Luke 12:49-56

Writing in the 80s, Luke had to deal with the delay of the parousia. In this passage, Luke is uncharacteristically severe about the need to remain faithful, no matter how long the wait or how intense the conflict. Fire is both a sign of judgment and the process for purification. Jesus' baptism is his passion and death. Many baptized members in the early Christian movement came as individuals, not in family units: thus devotion to Christ might well mean dissension in the family.



Today in the Parish

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God.

Coffee hour today will be in Cowans Hall.

New Parish Directory A new parish directory is available on the table at the back of the church. You may also request an emailed PDF file copy through the office at office@stthomas-svale.us.

Please be assured that we do not share any information outside the parish.

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.

Santa Maria Urban Ministry's Executive Director, Louis Powell will be joining us today. He will give an introduction to the ministry at the announcements period and will be joining us for coffee hour at each service. Please welcome Mr. Powell to St. Thomas.

Upcoming/continuing Events

Next Vestry Meeting will be **Tuesday, August 19** at 7PM.

Introduction to Zentangle Workshop

Zentangle Mindful Art The Zentangle Method is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. This class is **free of charge** to all interested!

Mindfulness: Practicing mindfulness in everyday life can greatly enhance your well-being. Over time, it can help soothe your nerves, shift your perspective on challenges, and support a more balanced response to stress.



Date: Saturday August 23

Time: 10:30am to 12:30pm

Location: Cowans Hall

Taught by: Abby O'Connell

RSVP by August 16 to abbyopottress@yahoo.com; 408-313-7050

CONCERT Saturday, August 30

Doors open 6pm.

A concert of classical and contemporary music will be presented.

A portion of the proceeds will go to support the work of

Santa Maria Urban Ministries. Additional details TBA.

Silicon Valley Pride Festival (<https://www.svpride.com/>) is coming up the weekend of **August 30-31**, in Caesar Chavez Park in San Jose. There will be a parade Sunday morning from 10:30am-12pm. Both days there are performances, food, and booths in the park.

The past 3 years St Thomas has been involved with the **Interfaith booth** at the Pride Festival. The booth is hosted by a group of perhaps 20+ different LGBTQ+ welcoming congregations across faiths in the south bay area. The idea is to make a calm, friendly, welcoming space where people can express their spirituality and be heard as they relate the challenges or hurt they have experienced from faith organizations. Our goal is to communicate that faith and queerness are not incompatible and offer a list of welcoming faith communities. There is also a kids corner with activities and stickers and an ofrenda.

If you'd like to join us, here's a link for volunteer signups:

QED Lunch and Discussion Group:



QED (Queer Episcopal Discussions) meets the first Sunday of each month following the 10:30 service in the St. Thomas library. All are welcome to explore an LGBTQ+ perspective on faith and the Christian experience in an open and affirming environment. It is our intention to create a safe, inclusive, Spirit-led sacred space where all identities are celebrated and beloved. Better understanding leads to a closer relationship with ourselves, each other, and with God.

The next gathering will be **Sunday September 7**: Shvetu Suri will lead a discussion on prominent queer Christian people. If you like you can bring a snack to share or a sandwich for yourself.

For questions or to get involved, please talk to Aer or email them at arikevdw@hotmail.com

Agape Circle is the parish potluck gathering for food, fellowship and fun. These engagements usually happen on a Friday evening with an activity. Next circle is scheduled for **Friday, September 12** at 6:30 in Cowans Hall. **Please note that this is a change from the previous date set for September 5.** In September we will honor our Patronal Feast, details TBA.

General Announcements

Peace and Justice

Would you like to be involved in the activities of the Peace and Justice Committee? We have been working for a long time with **PACT** (People Acting in Community Together), an interfaith community



organizing group of 22 congregations, to support the interests of vulnerable members of our community. PACT is conducting efforts to support immigrant rights, enhance public safety by ensuring proper police training, promote access to health services, and support affordable housing.

Here are two examples of additional activities:


- **Emergency Response Rooms** - local community-organized groups are nearly the only way food and aid are still being distributed in **Sudan**. Sudan is facing famine, civil war, and now a cholera outbreak. Mutual Aid Sudan distributes funding to these Emergency Response Rooms.
- **Rapid Response Network Training** - is there interest? The RRN wants to find more volunteers, especially to **accompany immigrants to court and around the community**. Are there folks with available time in their schedule who would be interested in volunteering in this way? If so, please let me know and I'll connect you with Ruby from PACT, who coordinates with the RRN.

If you would like to be on an emailing list to get notifications about activities you could participate in please send an email to: peaceandjustice@stthomas-svale.us.

Let's see what we can do together to stand up for our neighbors! If you have questions, please speak with Cal Cornwell and Lana Sheridan.

Library notes:

Our Summer Reading Program **Resources at Your Library** has concluded. A total of 84 books were read this year. From the drawings, we have two special winners:

 **Astrid Rosgen**, who read *Read Aloud Bible Stories, Vol 5*.
and **Mo Davies**, who read *Night of the Fox*.
Congratulations to our winners!

Archives In keeping with the theme of this year's Summer

Reading Program, the Archives display case is featuring the history of the St. Thomas Library. The library was originated in 1979 by Carol Campbell at the request of Reverend Bill Cowans.

One of the most interesting treasures in the library is the *Summa Theologia* written by St. Thomas Aquinas(1225-1274). The *Summa Theologia* was dedicated to the library by Julia and Dick DeLisser in 1982.

The library also collects adult and children's books and stocks the Little Free Library. Many of our neighbors take the books and also stock the LFL.

In coordination with Carol Campbell the St. Thomas Book Club books are selected by the members and supplied for their monthly meetings.

We encourage everyone to visit our amazing library.

Submitted by the Archives Committee

More library news: We are providing copies of the [US Constitution](#) in a small pamphlet form. They are available on the back table in the narthex. We are also providing copies of the [Episcopal Church Constitution](#). Please feel free to print your own copies. (You can use the live links included here.) US flag pins are also available. Please help yourself.

Livable Sunnyvale Livable Sunnyvale promotes a livable, sustainable city with affordable housing and transportation solutions for all members of our community through education, outreach and advocacy.

Members of St. Thomas have become

involved with this project. See Angela Rausch with questions.



Thanksgiving and Memorial Donations to Altar Guild

Our altar guild appreciates your support in making our space holy and beautiful. You can make a donation for fresh flowers on a

designated date or a general donation for supplies, like communion wine and bread and oil for the candles. You can make this donation online or by check, with “altar guild” on the memo line. If applicable, **please also include** (1) the date for the commemoration and (2) the person or occasion to be commemorated.

Pledges, Offerings & Donations

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

OR by scanning the QR code

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

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

Companionship Ministry (formerly known as Senior Ministry)
"To make a connection with those who are unable to attend services on a regular basis and to support those who have gone through a significant event." Contact Pastor Salying, or Carol Campbell.

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.

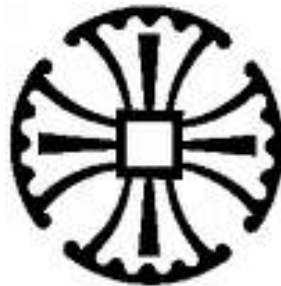
The Friday class will be off August 15-29. The Wednesday class will be on summer break beginning June 18 and resuming August 27.

Craft Group The Craft Group continues meeting on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the library. The next meetings are **August 28** and **September 11**. Please join us!

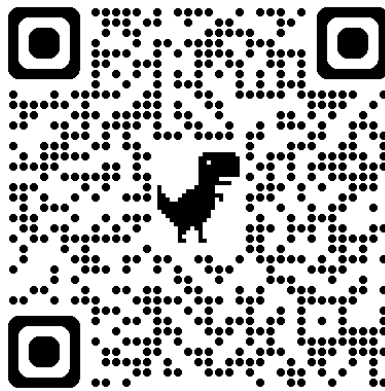
Book Club The Book Club meets once a month via Zoom, usually the last Monday evening of the month, at 7pm. We are an open book club: All are welcome, whether you have read the book or not. Our next meeting will take place on **Monday, August 25** when we meet to discuss *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd. Raised in a wealthy family with ties to the ruler of Galilee, Ana is rebellious and ambitious, engaging in furtive scholarly pursuits and writing narratives about neglected and silenced women. Expected to marry an older widower, everything changes after an encounter with 18-year-old Jesus. An inspiring, unforgettable account of one woman's bold struggle to realize the passion and potential inside her, while living in a time, place and culture devised to silence her, the

novel is meticulously researched and written with a reverential approach to Jesus's life that focuses on his humanity.

Please contact the host, Dorothy F, through the website:
www.stthomas-svale.org/contact to request the Zoom link.



*Please see website
www.stthomas-svale.org
for additional week-to-week up-dates.*



Weekly Worship at St. Thomas

Tuesdays, 5pm Centering Prayer (Zoom only)

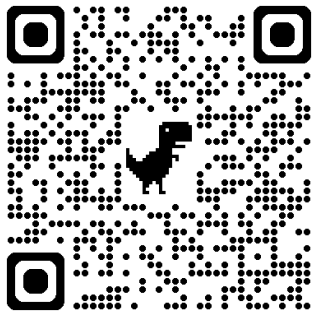
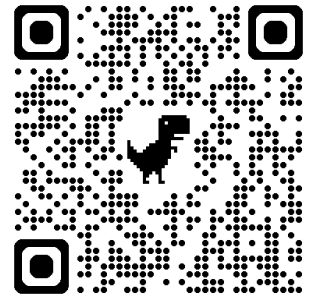
led by Pastor Salying

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

Dial-in option: 1 669 900 9128

meeting ID# 89609758620

or scan the QR code



Wednesdays, 12:15pm Noonday Prayer

with Commemoration of Saints led by Pastor Salying:

(Zoom only)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86313271549>

Dial-in option: 1 669 900 9128

meeting ID# 86313271549

or scan the QR code

Thursdays, 6:30pm Intercessory Prayer Group on Zoom (only)

[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)

or scan the QR code



Sundays:

8am Holy Eucharist Rite I in the church

and **10:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II** in the church

with simultaneous livestream on Zoom: :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82690025101>

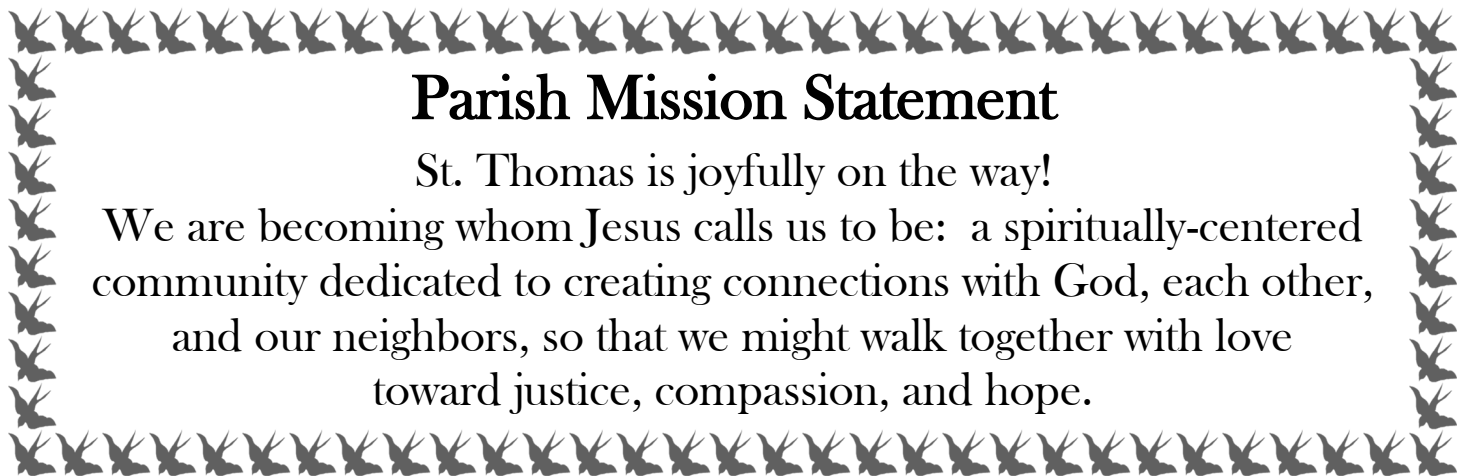
Dial-in option: 1 669 900 9128 ID: 826 9002 5101

or scan the QR code



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

St. Thomas website: www.stthomas-svale.org