

Second Sunday in LENT

March 1, 2026

Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:30am



Jesus and Nicodemus - Ron Bell

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

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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!

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/85901774479?>

[pwd=TgVWaiMELKkYOrXbLgJNrEbjlb5Yfb.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85901774479?pwd=TgVWaiMELKkYOrXbLgJNrEbjlb5Yfb.1)

Meeting ID: 859 0177 4479 Passcode: 450904

2. by telephone (audio only):

Dial +1 669 9009128 Meeting ID: 85901774479

or +16699009128,,85901774479#,,, *450904# US

Families with Children

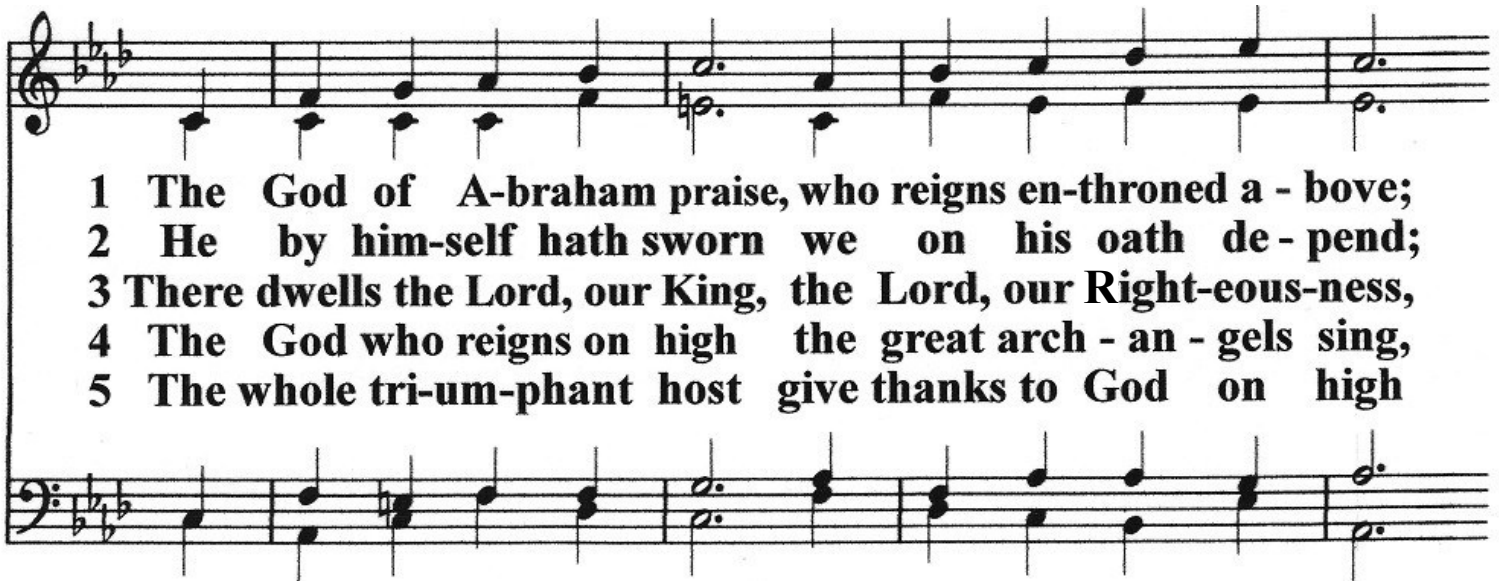
There is a comfortable sitting area in the back of the sanctuary with toys and books for children.

Prelude

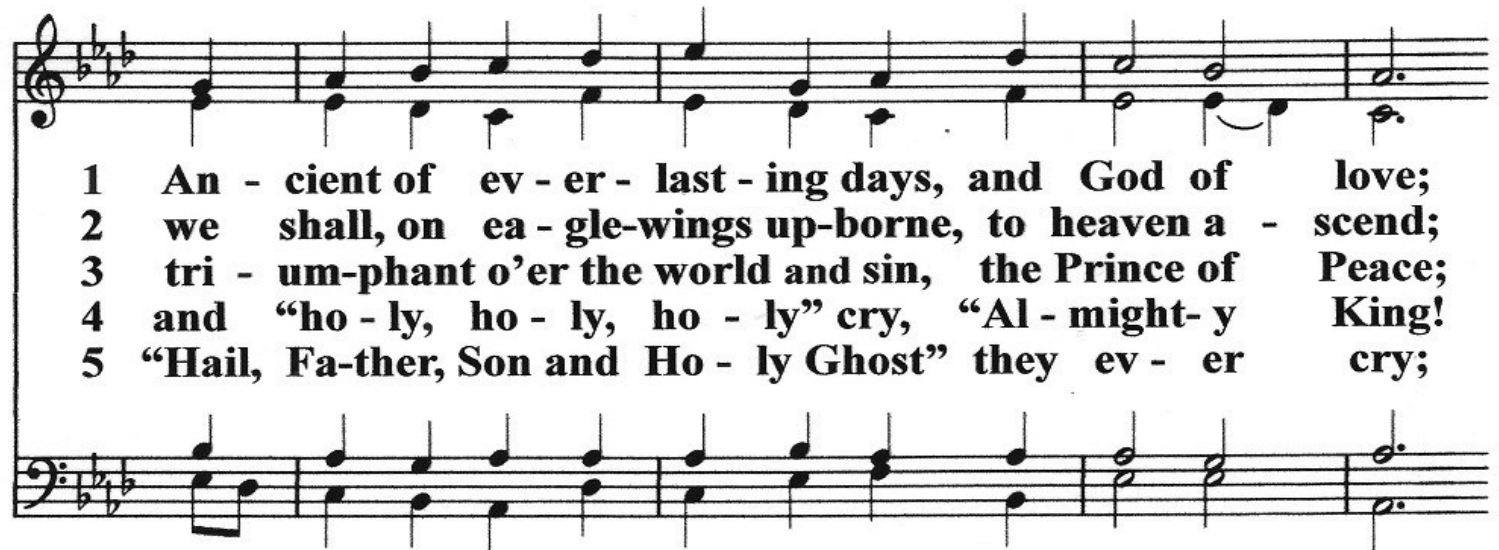
Opening Hymn

Hymnal #401

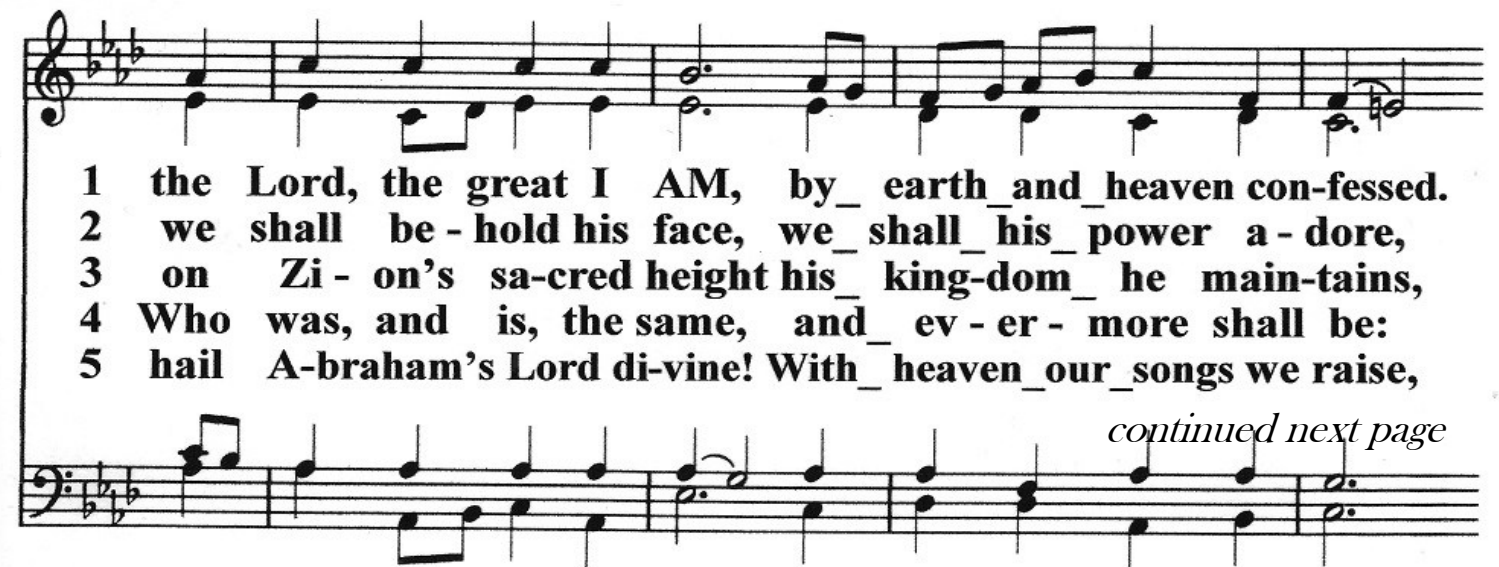
The God of Abraham Praise



1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;
2 He by him-self hath sworn we on his oath de - pend;
3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right-eous-ness,
4 The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing,
5 The whole tri-um-phant host give thanks to God on high



1 An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love;
2 we shall, on ea - gle-wings up-borne, to heaven a - scend;
3 tri - um-phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;
4 and "ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly" cry, "Al - might - y King!
5 "Hail, Fa-ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost" they ev - er cry;



1 the Lord, the great I AM, by_earth_and_heaven con-fessed.
2 we shall be - hold his face, we shall his power a - dore,
3 on Zi - on's sa-cred height his king-dom he main-tains,
4 Who was, and is, the same, and ev - er - more shall be:
5 hail A-braham's Lord di-vine! With_ heaven_our_songs we raise,

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1 we bow and bless the sa-cred_ Name for_ ev - er blest.
 2 and sing the won - ders of his_ grace for_ ev - er - more.
 3 and, glo-rious with his saints in_ light, for_ ev - er reigns.
 4 e - ter - nal Fa-ther, great I_ AM, we_ wor - ship thee."
 5 all might and ma - jes - ty are - thine, and_ end - less praise.

Words: Thomas Olivers (1725-1799), alt.

Music: *Leoni*. Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, alt.

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THE PENITENTIAL ORDER

Acclamation

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **His mercy endures forever.**

The Decalogue

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

You shall have no other gods but me.

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

Celebrant: You shall not make for yourself any idol.

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

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

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

Celebrant: Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: Honor your father and your mother.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not commit murder.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not commit adultery.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not steal.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not be a false witness.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

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

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: Jesus said,

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

The Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Absolution

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

Kyrie

Hymnal #S-96 F. Schubert

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. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

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

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

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

Collect for the Second Sunday in Lent

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson Genesis 12:1-4a

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.


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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

Please join in singing the response.

Refrain:




My help_ comes_ from the Lord_ the_ mak-er of heav'n and_ earth.

I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth. *Refrain*

Refrain:




My help_ comes_ from the Lord_ the_ mak-er of heav'n and_ earth.

The Lord will not let your foot be moved *
and the One who watches over you will not fall asleep.

Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep; *Refrain*

Refrain:



My help_ comes_ from the Lord_ the_ mak-er of heav'n and_ earth.

It is the Lord who watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night. *Refrain*

Refrain:



My help_ comes_ from the Lord_ the_ mak-er of heav'n and_ earth.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
the Lord shall keep you safe.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore. *Refrain (as above)*

The Epistle: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a

gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal #147

Now Let Us All With One Accord



1 Now let us all with one ac - cord, in
 2 The cov - e - nant so long re - vealed to
 3 Your love, O Lord, our sin - ful race has
 4 Re - mem - ber, Lord, though frail we be, in
 5 There - fore, we pray you, Lord, for - give; so



1 com - pa - ny with a - ges past, keep vi - gil with our
 2 those of faith in for - mer time, Christ by his own ex -
 3 not re - turned but fal - si - fied; au - thor of mer - cy,
 4 your own im - age were we made; help us, lest in anx -
 5 when our wan - derings here shall cease, we may with you for



1 heaven-ly Lord in his temp - ta - tion__ and his fast.
 2 am - ple sealed, the Lord of love, in__ love sub - lime.
 3 turn your face, and grant re - pent - ance__ for our pride.
 4 i - e - ty, we cause your Name to__ be be - trayed.
 5 ev - er live, in love and u - ni - ty and peace.

Words: Att. Gregory the Great (540-604); tr. *Praise the Lord*, 1972, alt.
 Music: *Bourbon*, melody att. Freeman Lewis (1780-1859)

LM

The Gospel: John 3:1-19

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have

told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

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

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.”

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Instructed Eucharist

*Following the sermon or instruction,
there will be an extended period of silence for meditation.*



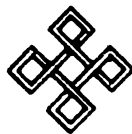
The Nicene Creed

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 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.

Silence

The people may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

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

F. Mendelssohn

He Watching Over Israel
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

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

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

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

continued next page

full, _____ full _____ of your glo - ry. Ho -

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

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

_____ in the name of the Lord, _____ Ho - san - na

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

Celebrant:

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

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

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant:

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

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

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him,

and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours,
Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

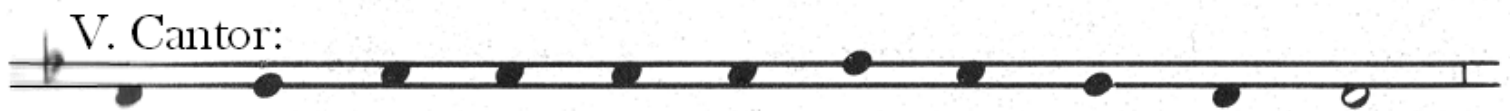
The Lord's Prayer

**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

V. Cantor:



Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

R. People:

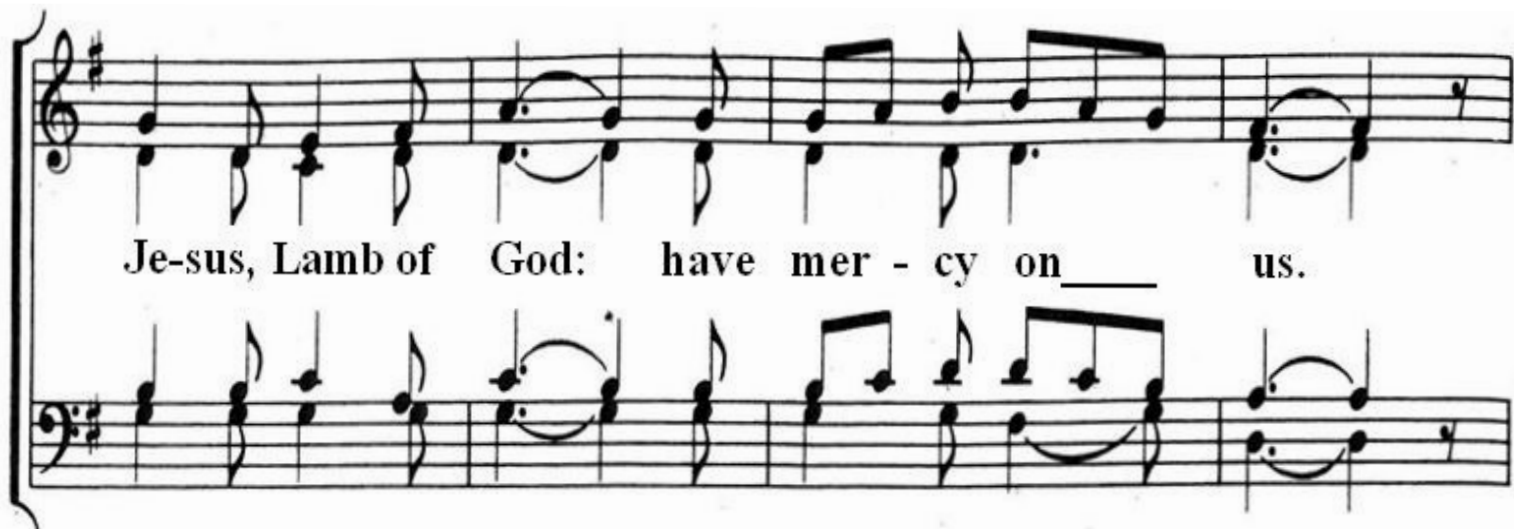


There - fore let us keep the feast.

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

Agnus Dei

Hymnal S-164, F. Schubert



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 Hymn

Hymnal #337
see next page

And Now, O Father, Mindful of the Love

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a-noin-ted face, and
 3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by
 4 And so we come, O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal-vary's tree, and hav-ing with us
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis-
 this pre-vail-ing pres-ence we ap - peal; O fold them clo-ser
 pa - tient Sa-vior who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre-sent, we here spread
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our
 to thy mer-cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their
 awe-some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

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forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.
 ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.
 clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.
 free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

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

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

The Blessing

Book of Occasional Services

Celebrant: Bow down before the Lord.

Please bow or kneel.

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

All: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Hymnal #448

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High



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



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

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1 God_ should take our mor - tal form__ for mor - tals' sake.
2 sharp_ he knew; for us__ the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not__ him - self, but us.
4 cross_ and death; for us__ gave up__ his dy - ing breath.
5 Spi - rit here to guide,__ to strength-en, and to cheer.
6 we__ a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

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

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

LM

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Serving today

Celebrant: The Rev. Salying Wong

Preacher: The Rev. Barbara Stewart

Eucharistic Minister: Joe Gutierrez

Lectors: Patricia Pietrzyk, John Pietrzyk

Psalmist: Patricia Pietrzyk

Greeters: MaryJane Johnson,
Pat Turnbull, Stephanie Daugherty

Members of the St. Thomas Choir

Patricia Pietrzyk, director
Benjamin Belew, accompanist

Tech lead: Tian Zhu

Zoom Host: tba

Genesis 12:1-4a

Written in the tenth century BCE, the Yahwistic source for the Pentateuch refers to God as YHWH, rendered in English Bibles as “the LORD.” Arising within this J tradition, Genesis 12 narrated the origins of Israelite history with the story of the call of Abram to obey God by moving to the land of Canaan. Through the line of Abram the LORD will bless all the earth.

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

In his magisterial essay to the Christians in Rome written in about 57 CE about the relationship of the Jewish law to the Christian gospel, Paul explained that Abraham was blessed, not because he obeyed the law, but because he had faith in the promises of God.

John 3:1-17

The gospel of John, which took its current shape sometime around 100 CE, described Jesus as the Word of God, the Son of God, indeed, God’s very being. After the poetic prologue, the listing of Christological titles in John 1, the sign at Cana, and the cleansing of the temple, the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus in John 3 is the gospel’s first lengthy discourse about the identity and significance of Jesus. In discussing the Spirit of God, Jesus is presented to a Jewish religious authority as the Son of God who brings life to the world.



Today in the Parish

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

Coffee hour today is in Cowans Hall.

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.

Lenten Devotional booklets are available on the table at the back of the church, along with special calendars for the season.

QED Lunch and Discussion Group The next meeting will take place **TODAY** following 10:30am worship. Emilee will be leading us in a close reading of **Proverbs 31** from a feminist/womanist perspective. What does this passage of the Bible really have to say to those of us who identify as women? How can we reclaim it or reframe it to empower us? Or should we leave it behind?



She offers this interesting read: <https://www.cbeinternational.org/resource/mutuality-challenging-gender-norms/>

For April, we will have to shift our meeting, probably to the second Sunday (April 12th), because April 5th is Easter.

QED (Queer Episcopal Discussions) meets on 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.

Instructed Eucharist: There will be an instructed eucharist on the second and third Sundays of Lent, **TODAY** and continuing **March 8**, led by Revs. Barbara and Salying. The theme will be “The Holy Eucharist: sign of unity, portal of grace.”

Upcoming & continuing Events

Baptism, Confirmation, Reaffirmation or Reception? Do you desire to be baptized or have your child baptized? Would you like to reaffirm your commitment to your faith in a service of confirmation or reaffirmation? Would you like to become a member of the Episcopal Church in a rite called Reception? Please speak with Pastor Salying if you're interested. The next date for baptism would be Easter Sunday, April 5.

Note: Centering prayer canceled on Tuesday March 3 this week only.

Adult Formation in Lent:

CHRIST CRUCIFIED AND THE SUFFERING SERVANT IN ISAIAH: Religious imagination in the shaping of the passion narratives.

Wednesdays in Lent: continues **March 4, 11, and 18, 7:00 to 8:45 PM** via ZOOM (link below)

The four Gospels of the New Testament each contain lengthy narratives describing Jesus' passion, suffering and death on the cross. These narratives agree in overall structure, but differ significantly in detail and tone. There is one other fascinating aspect to these texts. They all echo portions of the Book of Isaiah, which had been written centuries earlier.

How did the Isaiah texts, usually referred to as "the Servant Songs" come to so deeply influence the Gospels? In particular, the final Servant Song in Isaiah 52 - 53, known as "The Suffering Servant" contains imagery that gospel authors applied to Jesus' death on the cross. How is this so, and what do the Servant Songs mean in both the Jewish context and for Christians?

We'll read the Servant Songs texts and explore the influence they have

both on the Jewish tradition and on the passion narratives of the four gospels.

Join us on four consecutive Wednesdays, beginning February 25, at 7:00 pm via ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89180519351>

Meeting ID: 891 8051 9351

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,89180519351# US (San Jose)

+16694449171,,89180519351# US

Please contact **Lou Poulain** via email or text with questions:
lpoulain@icloud.com / 406-685-6270 .

Livable Sunnyvale

- At the General Meeting on **Wednesday March 4 at 6:30pm** we are talking with Sunnyvale School Board:

Superintendent Gudiel Crosthwaite and Trustee Peggy Brewster will present on:

- ◊ The top three concerns facing the district today
- ◊ What actions are being taken to address these challenges
- ◊ How the School Board is performing
- ◊ Ways our community can support these efforts



scan the QR code to
join us on zoom



simultaneous
translation

Helix Academy, a micro-elementary school for the “doubly-gifted,” will begin to operate on our campus on **March 16**. They were able to secure their use-permit from the city. Please welcome them.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Palm Sunday / Sunday of the Passion, March 29

Holy Eucharist Rite I at 8am (in-person only)

Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:30am with Zoom livestream

Palm Processional at both services

Holy Tuesday, March 31

Centering Prayer at 5pm (on Zoom only)

Holy Wednesday, April 1

Noonday Prayer at 12:15pm (on Zoom only)

Maundy Thursday, April 2

Agape Meal in Cowans Hall,

followed by Footwashing and Holy Eucharist in the church at 6pm
(in-person only)

Good Friday, April 3

Proper liturgy in the church at 12:15pm (in-person only)

Good Friday worship Stations of the Cross at 6pm (on Zoom only)

Holy Saturday, April 4

7:00pm Holy Saturday contemplative worship (in-person only)

Easter Sunday, April 5

Festive Holy Eucharist—one service only—at 10:30am
in the church with Zoom livestream

General Announcements

Peace and Justice

Did you know that the Episcopal Church has Public Policy and Witness Weekly Prayers?

They are in English, Spanish, and French, with a tab at the top of the page to switch languages. Check it out to pray together with the

Episcopalians across the country:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/category/office-of-government-relations/public-policy-and-witness-weekly-prayers/>

Action items:

- Support the [Episcopal Church in Minnesota's Migration Caucus](#) with your prayers or donation
- Contact your Senators ([Schiff](#) and [Padilla](#)) and [Representative](#) to let them know how you feel.
- Keep [Sunnyvale Community Services](#) and [Helping Hands Silicon Valley](#) in your prayers or consider a donation as they work to prevent homelessness and aid our homeless neighbors.
- See also LivableSunnyvale.org (page 29)

St. Thomas Library ...from the Archives Committee

Archives Display Case:

St. Thomas has sponsored or participated in many Outreach Programs. Below is a list of several of these programs.

Rotating Shelter

Chinese Congregation

Refugee Program 1950

Fish 1965

Sioux Indian Program 1969

St. Thomas Safe Haven Child Transfer Center

Our Daily Bread

St. Thomas Stepping Stone Jail Ministry

Livable Sunnyvale

Peace and Justice

Angel Tree

Submitted by the Stephanie Daugherty of the Archives Committee

St. Thomas Library - QR code:

You will find new books listed including the Book Club roster, library hours, topic walls, magazines, ministry resources and links to the Diocese of El Camino Real and the Diocese of California.



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.

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.

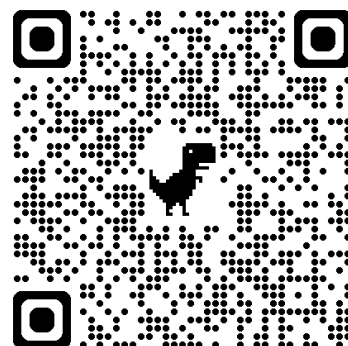
Online Giving Please look for the “GIVE” option on the main menu bar on the St. Thomas website. It is located on the upper right side of the home page. Once you select “GIVE”, you will be taken to a new page where you may donate through PayPal, using a debit or credit card. OR, if you prefer, you may 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 scan 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

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). Naveen Prasad is 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 the website: www.stthomas-svale.org

Companionship 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 or the website: www.stthomas-svale.org

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 on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the library. The next meetings are March 12 and March 26.

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 30**, when we meet to discuss *Silent Retreat* by Sally Quinn. In this novel, journalist Sybilla Sumner seeks clarity at a silent retreat in a monastery, only to find an intense connection with the Archbishop of Dublin, exploring themes of faith, desire, and sacrifice. Described as a love story that blends romance with spiritual and theological questions, the novel is set against the backdrop of the Shenandoah Valley. Please join us—contact Carol through our website . www.stthomas-svale.org/contact for the Zoom link.

Weekday Worship at St. Thomas

Tuesdays, 5pm Centering Prayer (Zoom only)

led by Pastor Salying

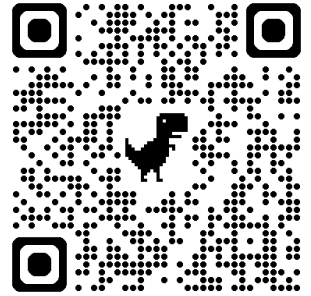
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89609758620>

Dial-in option: 1 669 900 9128

meeting ID# 89609758620

or scan the QR code (*at right*)

*** Canceled March 3, resumes March 10***



Wednesdays, 12:15pm Noonday Prayer

with Commemoration of a Saint

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 (*at left*)



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)

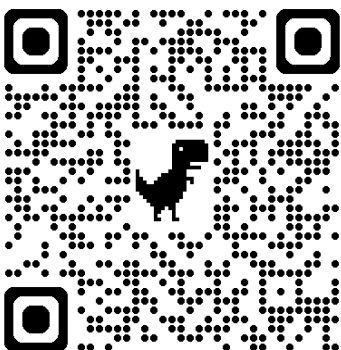
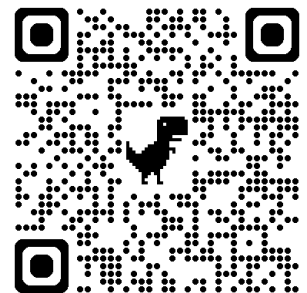
Meeting ID: 823 8171 5053 Passcode: 189002

One tap mobile:

+16699009128,,82381715053#,,,,*189002# US

(San Jose)

or scan the QR code (*at right*)



Please see website

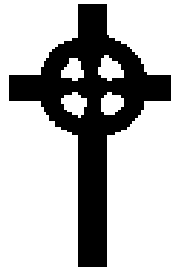
www.stthomas-svale.org

for additional week-to-week up-dates.

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

Ann Kopischke, Senior Warden	2026	2027	2028
Carol Campbell, Junior Warden	Carol Campbell	Ann Kopischke	Karen Huyser
	Naveen Raja	Eric Larkin	Quique Munoz
Eric Larkin, Clerk	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