



**SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE**  
in the  
**CITY OF NEW YORK**

The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*  
Dr. Jeremy Filsell, *Organist and Director of Music*  
The Reverend Charles F. Wallace, *Headmaster*

Welcome to Saint Thomas Church, a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New York.  
Our mission is to worship, love and serve Our Lord Jesus Christ  
through the Anglican tradition and our unique choral heritage.

*Please switch off all cellular telephones. Unauthorized recordings and the  
taking of photographs during worship at Saint Thomas Church are prohibited.  
To contact us, email [welcome@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:welcome@SaintThomasChurch.org)*

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**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**DECEMBER 1, 2019**

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**AN ADVENT PROCESSION**  
and Choral Eucharist at 11 a.m.

**PRELUDE**

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland,  
BWV 659 and 661

*Johann Sebastian Bach*  
(1685-1750)

**GREETINGS**

**PRELUDE**

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland,  
BWV 660

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

*The People remain seated for the entry of the clergy, and for the Introit.*

**INTROIT**

*Terence Charlston*  
(b. 1961)

**W**HEN all is dark and as the night, when of your love I have no sight, when in despair I pray for light.  
When, Lord, for sin I cannot see, I pray that evil shall not be, you only Lord can set me free,  
when belief is weak in me, And when my hope begins to flee, when I am poor in charity,  
Come close to me, O Lord, come close to me. When earthly life is near its end, and watching angels  
shall descend. Show mercy Lord, and comfort lend, Come close to me O Lord, come close to me.

*Geoffrey Laycock*

*The People stand.*

**THE BIDDING**

*The Celebrant says*

**B**ELOVED in Christ, we are met together on this first day of Advent to prepare ourselves in heart and  
mind for the coming of the Lord Christ, our Savior and our Judge, to hear in Holy Scripture and sacred  
song the message of salvation wrought by him, and to be put in remembrance of the great day of Judgment.  
As we prepare to celebrate Christ's first coming in Bethlehem, let us seek his grace to amend our lives so that  
we may be more like him who came to bring peace on earth, and let us examine our consciences so that we  
may be ready to greet him in his second coming when he shall judge both the quick and the dead. We  
therefore confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*The people kneel. Silence is kept.*

## THE CONFESSION

*The Celebrant and People say*

**A**Lmighty and most merciful Father; we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

*The Celebrant says the words of absolution*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution ✠ and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

*The People stand.*

## ADVENT PRAYERS

*Gerre Hancock  
(1934-2012)*

- ℣. Prepare Ye the way of the Lord:  
℟. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
℣. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low;  
℟. The crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.  
℣. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed;  
℟. The mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.  
℣. Assist us lord as we prepare for thy coming in glory and in judgement;  
that we may be ready with the redeemed to sing thy praises now and before thy face.  
℟. Amen.

*All stand to sing as the Choir enters*

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|---|--|
| <p><b>H</b>ARK! a thrilling voice is sounding;<br/>“Christ is nigh,” it seems to say;<br/>“Cast away the works of darkness,<br/>O ye children of the day.”</p> <p>2. Wakened by the solemn warning,<br/>from earth’s bondage let us rise;<br/>Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,<br/>Shines upon the morning skies.</p> | <p>3. Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,<br/>Comes with pardon down from heaven;<br/>Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,<br/>One and all to be forgiv’n;</p> <p>4. So when next he comes with glory,<br/>And the world is wrapped in fear,<br/>May he with his mercy shield us,<br/>And with words of love draw near.</p> <p>5. Honor, glory, might, and blessing<br/>To the Father and the Son,<br/>With the everlasting Spirit<br/>While unending ages run.</p> |
|---|--|

Words *c. Sixth Century Latin*    Tune *Merton*

## COLLECT

*The Celebrant sings*      Let us pray.

**A**Lmighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The People sit.*

**THE FIRST LESSON** Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7  
*The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light.*

**ANTHEM**

*Paul Treppe*  
(b. 1954)

**P**EOPLE, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able, Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, That in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,  
Guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen, God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

*Eleanor Farjeon*

*People look East.* Text: Eleanor Farjeon, © 1957 Oxford University Press; All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-724712.

**THE SECOND LESSON** Isaiah 40:1-11  
*The prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile.*

*The Procession forms and moves to the Chantry as the People sing*

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|---|---|
| <b>H</b> ARK! the glad sound!<br>The Savior comes,<br>the Savior promised long!<br>Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne,<br>and ev'ry voice a song. | 3. He comes the broken heart to bind,<br>the bleeding soul to cure,<br>and with the treasures of His grace<br>to enrich the humbled poor. |
| 2. He comes the prisoners to release,<br>in Satan's bondage held;<br>the gates of brass before Him burst,<br>the iron fetters yield.            | 4. Our glad Hosannas, Prince of Peace,<br>Thy welcome shall proclaim;<br>and heav'n's eternal arches ring<br>with Thy beloved Name.       |

Words *Philip Doddridge*      Tune *Bristol*

**COLLECT**

*The Celebrant sings*      Let us pray.

**M**ERCIFUL God, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The People sit.*

**THE THIRD LESSON** Luke 1:5-25

*The birth of John the Baptist is foretold.*

**MOTET**

William Byrd  
(c. 1540-1623)

**V**IGILATE, nescitis enim quando  
Dominus domus veniat, sero,  
an media nocte, an galli cantu, an mane.  
Vigilate ergo, ne, cum venerit repente,  
inveniat vos dormientes. Quod autem dico  
vobis, omnibus dico; vigilate.

*Watch ye therefore, for ye know not when  
the master of the house cometh, at even,  
or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning.  
Watch therefore, lest coming suddenly  
he find you sleeping.  
And what I say unto you I say unto all; watch.*

*Saint Mark 13:35-37*

*The People stand to sing as the Procession moves from the Chantry to the Narthex.*

**O** COME, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who orderest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

3. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times didst give the law,  
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

4. O come, thou Branch of Jesse's, tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust thy mighty power to save,  
And give them victory o'er the grave.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

**COLLECT**

*The Celebrant sings*      Let us pray.

**S**TIR up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

*The People sit.*

**THE FOURTH LESSON** Luke 1:26-38

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

**M**Y soul doth magnify the Lord.  
 And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
 For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden:  
 For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.  
 For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.  
 And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.  
 He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
 He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
 He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:  
 As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.  
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*Saint Luke 1:46-55*

*The People stand. The Procession moves from the Narthex to the Chancel.*

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|---|---|
| <p>5. O come, thou Key of David, come,<br/>           And open wide our heavenly home;<br/>           Make safe the way that leads on high,<br/>           And close the path to misery.<br/> <i>Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel</i><br/> <i>Shall come to thee, O Israel!</i></p>               | <p>7. O come, Desire of nations, bind<br/>           In one the hearts of all mankind;<br/>           Bid thou our sad divisions cease,<br/>           And be thyself our King of Peace.<br/> <i>Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel</i><br/> <i>Shall come to thee, O Israel!</i></p> |
| <p>6. O come, thou Day-spring from on high,<br/>           And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;<br/>           Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,<br/>           And death's dark shadow put to flight.<br/> <i>Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel</i><br/> <i>Shall come to thee, O Israel!</i></p> | <p>8. O come, O come Emmanuel,<br/>           And ransom captive Israel,<br/>           That mourns in lonely exile here<br/>           Until the Son of God appear.<br/> <i>Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel</i><br/> <i>Shall come to thee, O Israel!</i></p>                     |

Words *Ninth Century Latin*    Tune *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

## HOMILY

The Rector (11 a.m.)  
 The Reverend Canon K. Jeanne Person (4 p.m.)  
*Canon for Pastoral Care, Diocese of New York*

## THE PEACE

*The People stand. The Celebrant says*

In the tender mercy of our God,  
 the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
 to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
 and in the shadows of death,  
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*People*    The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
 And with thy Spirit.

**O** COME, thou dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine Advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel.  
*O Oriens, splendor lucis aeternae, et sol iustitiae: veni, et illumina sedentes in tenebris et umbra mortis.*  
 O Dayspring, brightness of light everlasting, sitteth in darkness, and the shadow of death.  
 Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel.

*Magnificat Antiphon for Vespers*

***At the 4 p.m. service, please turn to page 9.***

## CHORAL EUCHARIST

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The People stand. The Celebrant sings*

	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them up unto the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
<i>People</i>	It is meet and right so to do.

*The Celebrant sings the Proper Preface then the Choir sings*

### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Intercession Mass

David Hurd  
(b. 1950)

<b>S</b> ANCTUS, Sanctus, Sanctus,	<i>Holy, holy, holy,</i>
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.	<i>God of power and might.</i>
Pleni sunt caeli et terra Gloria tua.	<i>Heaven and earth are full of your Glory.</i>
Hosanna in excelsis.	<i>Hosanna in the highest.</i>
Benedictus qui venit	<i>Blessed is he that comes</i>
In nomine Domini.	<i>in the name of the Lord.</i>
Hosanna in excelsis.	<i>Hosanna in the highest.</i>

*The People kneel. The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer and concludes*

O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,  
*All*



Our Fa-ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed be thy Name,  
thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea - ven.  
Give us this day our dai-ly bread. and for-give us our tres-pas-ses,  
as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us. And lead us not in -to temp-ta - tion,  
but de-liv-er us from e - vil. For thine is the king-dom,  
and the power and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and says*

*Alleluia.* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. *Alleluia.*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Celebrant* Behold the Lamb of God;  
behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
*People* Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof,  
but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.  
The Sacrament is distributed at the High Altar and, for convenience and accessibility,  
also at the Chantry Chapel Altar. Gluten-free hosts are available; please ask the priest at the altar rail.*

*During the administration of Communion, the Agnus Dei and Anthem is sung by the Choir.*

**AGNUS DEI**

Intercession Mass

David Hurd

**L**AMB of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; Grant us peace.

*Kyrie eleison.*

**T**HE Lord will surely come and not delay, and He will bring to light the things hidden in darkness. The Lord will surely come, and will manifest Himself to all nations. Therefore work out your own salvation with fear and trembling that you may be blameless and innocent, Children of God without blemish. The Lord will surely come.

*from Philippians 2 and the Benedictus Antiphon from Advent IV*

## THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the People kneel and the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The People join in saying this prayer.*

**A**Lmighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

## THE BLESSING

*The Celebrant says*

The Lord be with you.

*People*

And with thy spirit.

**M**AY the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

*The People stand.*

## VESPER RESPONSORY

adapted from *Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

- ℣. Judah and Jerusalem, fear not nor be dismayed;
- ℟. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord he will be with you.
- ℣. Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
- ℟. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord he will be with you.
- ℣. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
- ℟. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord he will be with you.

*All sing*

- L**o! he comes, with clouds descending,  
Once for our salvation slain;  
Thousand thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.
2. Every eye shall now behold him,  
Robed in dreadful majesty;  
Those who set at naught and sold him,  
Pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.
3. Those dear tokens of his passion  
Still his dazzling body bears,  
Cause of endless exultation  
To his ransomed worshippers;  
With what rapture gaze we on those glorious scars!
4. Yea, Amen! let all adore thee,  
High on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory;  
Claim the kingdom for thine own:  
O come quickly! Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

Words *Charles Wesley*      Tune *Helmsley*

**VOLUNTARY**      'Le Monde dans l'attente du Sauveur', from *Symphonie-Passion*, Op. 23      *Marcel Dupré*  
(1886-1971)

*Healing and intercessory prayer will be offered by clergy and trained lay volunteers in  
the Chantry Chapel at the conclusion of today's 11 a.m. service for anyone who desires it.*

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**AT 4 P.M.**

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**THE FIFTH LESSON** Revelation 22:1-6, 12, 16-17, 20  
*The Lord God will give his people light.*

*All stand to sing.*

- C**OME, thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in thee.
2. Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth thou art:  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.
3. Born thy people to deliver,  
Born a child, and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us for ever,  
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
4. By thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone:  
By thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Words *Charles Wesley*      Tune *Cross of Jesus*

**INTERCESSIONS FOR ADVENT**

*(Please kneel. The Intercessions end with the Lord's Prayer.)*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the  
glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Kyrie eleison.*

**T**HE Lord will surely come and not delay, and He will bring to light the things hidden in darkness.  
The Lord will surely come, and will manifest Himself to all nations. Therefore work out your own salvation with fear and trembling that you may be blameless and innocent, Children of God without blemish. The Lord will surely come.

*from Philippians 2 and the Benedictus Antiphon from Advent IV***COLLECT***The Celebrant sings*      Let us pray.

**W**E beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son Jesus Christ cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**THE BLESSING***The Celebrant says*

*People*                      The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.

**M**AY the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

*The People stand.***VESPER RESPONSORY**adapted from *Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

℣. Judah and Jerusalem, fear not nor be dismayed;  
℟. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord he will be with you.  
℣. Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.  
℟. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord he will be with you.  
℣. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
℟. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord he will be with you.

*All sing*

<p><b>L</b>o! he comes, with clouds descending, Once for our salvation slain; Thousand thousand saints attending Swell the triumph of his train: Alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.</p>	<p>3. Those dear tokens of his passion Still his dazzling body bears, Cause of endless exultation To his ransomed worshippers; With what rapture gaze we on those glorious scars!</p>
<p>2. Every eye shall now behold him, Robed in dreadful majesty; Those who set at naught and sold him, Pierced, and nailed him to the tree, Deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.</p>	<p>4. Yea, Amen! let all adore thee, High on thine eternal throne; Saviour, take the power and glory; Claim the kingdom for thine own: O come quickly! Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!</p>

Words *Charles Wesley*      Tune *Helmsley***VOLUNTARY**      ‘Le Monde dans l’attente du Sauveur’, from *Symphonie-Passion*, Op. 23*Marcel Dupré*  
(1886-1971)

†  
**5:15 P.M. ORGAN RECITAL**  
Nicholas Quardokus  
*Assistant Organist*

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The greens today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following:  
*Arthur Trumbull Hill, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hamilton Kissam and Linda Griffith Vorsanger.*

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**DAILY OFFICE AND MASS**

Monday through Friday Services: 8 a.m., 12:10 and 5:30 p.m.  
(The Tuesday 12:10 p.m. Healing Eucharist includes the laying on of hands and anointing of the sick)

*Choral Evensong on Wednesday, December 4, at 5:30 p.m.*

Saturday Eucharist: 12:10 p.m.

**Prayers at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fifth Avenue**

Monday through Saturday at 12 p.m.  
*Intercessions may be sent via the website by using the Prayer Request Tab  
or by leaving a written request in the box near the Shrine itself.*

**Confessions** in the Resurrection Chapel, Saturday, December 7 from 11 to 11:45 a.m.  
Confessor – Fr. Moretz

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 – THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**8 A.M. SAID EUCHARIST**

**9 A.M. SUNG EUCHARIST**  
Sermon by Father Spencer

**11 A.M. THE LITANY IN PROCESSION AND CHORAL EUCHARIST**  
Sermon by the Rt. Rev. Carlos López-Lozano  
*Bishop of The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain*

**4 P.M. CHORAL EVENSONG**  
Sermon by Father Bennett

**5:15 P.M. ORGAN RECITAL**  
Jennifer Pascual  
*New York, New York*

**PARISH NOTICES**

If you are a visitor this morning, **we welcome you to Saint Thomas Church** and hope that you are with us again soon. We encourage you to complete a Welcome Card which you can find in the narthex at the front of the church.

You are invited to **Coffee Hour**, which takes place in Andrew Hall following this service. To get there, take the Great Staircase to your left at the front of the nave. Also, if you would like to hear from us, please sign the Parish Guest Book.

There is a **guided tour** of the church following the voluntary at the end of this service. To join the tour, please meet the tour guide by the gallery stairs in the narthex.

**Nursery:** We welcome our youngest members and guests to Saint Thomas Church. Nursery care is available for infants and young children of parents attending the 9 and 11 a.m. liturgies. If your child would like to attend the nursery, please ask one of our ushers or staff who will kindly direct you. Once at the nursery, parents will be asked to sign their children in and will receive a silent pager for use during the service.

**Sunday School.** Children who are in pre-school through 6th grade are invited to attend Sunday School classes at Saint Thomas Church. Class usually meets on Sundays at 11 a.m., and the children are brought down to church during the service prior to Holy Communion. Registration is open for both Nursery and Sunday school using an online form found on the Saint Thomas website under Families/Sunday School.

A quiet area is available in the Chantry Chapel for **Children and Families** who wish to worship together. Accompanied young children are welcome to use this space during the 9 and 11 a.m. liturgies, where they are invited to enjoy a range of Bible stories and soft toys.

**Faith Alive.** A new group for children and teens will meet each month at 10 a.m. in the Sunday School room on the third floor of the parish house. If you are 11+ years old, were confirmed last May or are about to be confirmed next year, this group is for you. December 15 is the remaining Sunday for the remainder of 2019. For more information, please contact Mo. Alison Turner at [ATurner@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:ATurner@SaintThomasChurch.org).

Thinking about Christmas presents? Following today's 11 a.m. service, head up to Coffee Hour in Andrew Hall. You will find that the **Prayer Shawl Ministry's Christmas Sale** is in full swing, ready to help you solve what to add to your Christmas present list for family and friends. You will find beautifully, hand-knitted and hand-crocheted things for babies and older children, for keeping warm, to use in the kitchen, and to surprise your nearest and dearest. We look forward to helping you decide just what will make you the favorite person of everyone on your list! And, remember that all receipts from this sale will be donated to the Boys' Fund at our Choir School. Thank you for your help!

**Join us TODAY for Advent candle/wreath decorating** at 1 p.m., in the parish house living room. Decorate a beautiful candle or wreath to bring home. All members of all ages are encouraged to come. There is a \$10 fee, which include all supplies and simple refreshments. Any donation of greenery is gratefully accepted. Contact Linda Morfi at [LMorfi@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:LMorfi@SaintThomasChurch.org) for questions or see Damara Greene at coffee hour.

The **Annual Election for the Vestry of Saint Thomas Church** will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2019. The following parishioners are standing for election: As warden, Jesse Adelaar; and for the vestry, Stephen Gauster-Filek, Brett Moore and Gregory Zaffiro. All three are incumbents. The by-laws of the parish define those eligible to vote as follows: "Persons of full age belonging to the Parish, who have been baptized and are regular attendants at its worship and contributors to its support for at least twelve months prior to such election or special meeting, shall be qualified voters at any such election or special meeting." Ballots have been mailed. If you have not received one and are a qualified voter, please contact Amy Cheresnowski at [ACheresnowski@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:ACheresnowski@SaintThomasChurch.org).

**Contributions for Christmas Flower Memorials** are now being received in memory of departed loved ones. The names of the faithful departed in whose memory the church will be adorned will be listed in the Christmas service leaflet on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. In order to cover the cost of Christmas flowers, we suggest a minimum donation of \$25. Please send your check, made payable to Saint Thomas Church, and a printed list of those in whose memory you are making your donation to the parish house receptionist. The deadline is **Friday, December 6.**

**Concerts at Saint Thomas** presents three holiday concerts beginning with **Handel's *Messiah* on Tuesday, December 10, and Thursday, December 12, at 7:30 p.m.** Hear the world-renowned Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys and period-instrument ensemble New York Baroque Incorporated conducted by Jeremy Filsell in a performance of this annual favorite. The Boys of the Saint Thomas Choir return on **Thursday, December 19, at 5:30 p.m.** to sing Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* along with other favorites. They are joined by harpist Sara Cutler and organist Benjamin Sheen. Tickets are available online at [www.SaintThomasChurch.org](http://www.SaintThomasChurch.org), by phone at 212.664.9360 and by email at [Concerts@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:Concerts@SaintThomasChurch.org).

**Get ready to help us make a child's face light up with joy this Christmas!** Our annual Angel Tree will be up on Thanksgiving Day. On it, you will find tags with specific requested gifts for children in need. You can help by taking a tag and supplying the requested present. Alternatively, you can donate funds online via the website, or by check made out to Saint Thomas Church with "Angel Tree" written in the memo section. This year we are supporting children from San Andreas Episcopal Church in Yonkers, as well as children staying in a Safe Horizon shelter with their mothers who are survivors of domestic abuse. Please bring the gift you choose, unwrapped, to the parish house no later than Thursday, December 12. You are also welcome to order online and have the gift mailed directly to Saint Thomas Church, Attention: Linda Morfi. For more information, email [LMorfi@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:LMorfi@SaintThomasChurch.org).

Father Turner and Mother Turner invite senior members of our parish to a Christmas inspired, **Rector's Luncheon for Seniors**, on Wednesday, December 19. We begin with A Service of Lessons and Carols at 12:10 p.m. in the church, followed by a reception in the living room, then lunch in Andrew Hall. Holiday attire is optional, however, encouraged! Due to space constraints, reservations must be made. Contact Linda Morfi at 212.757.7013, or [LMorfi@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:LMorfi@SaintThomasChurch.org) on or before December 12.

**Saying a fond farewell.** As many of you know, we have three members of staff leaving us at the end of the year: Benjamin Sheen will take up a new post at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and Eddie Thomas and Jose Martin will be retiring. Eddie and Jose have an incredible 73 years of combined service to Saint Thomas Church! If you would like to contribute to a leaving gift, please send in your donation to the parish office. If you wish to send in a check, please mark the memo line with the name of the person you wish to gift (or names if you wish the donation to be split between them).

**The Bookstore and Gift shop** is located on the first floor of the parish house, and is open following the 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. services. Currently in stock: *Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity in Modern English*, by Richard Hooker; *The Art of Advent: A Painting a Day from Advent to Epiphany*, by Jane Williams; *Ancient Christian Devotional: A Year of Weekly Readings, Lectionary Cycle A*, edited by Thomas C. Oden and Cindy Crosby; and *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices*, by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe; 2020 Christian Pocket Diary, Books on Advent and Christmas, as well as Advent Calendars. The Bookstore will also be open Tuesday and Thursday, December 3 and 5, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact: [Bookstore@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:Bookstore@SaintThomasChurch.org). Major credit cards accepted.

**The Soup Kitchen** meets every Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the parish house to prepare bag lunches for distribution on foot along eight routes in mid-Manhattan beginning at 11 a.m. Distribution is completed about 12:15 p.m. You are welcome to join this ministry to the homeless. For further information, please contact Frank Reinauer 212.249.4026.

### ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Theology Class.** Today, at 10 a.m., on the fifth floor of the parish house, Fr. Bennett and Fr. Brown will continue their series on the “**Classics of Christian Spirituality**.” The class will focus on the life and writings of **St. Teresa of Avila**, the sixteenth-century Carmelite nun and mystic who wrote about contemplative prayer and the ascent of the soul to God. Next Sunday, December 8, we welcome Mrs. Nancy Hoxie Mead as our guest speaker. She will be giving a presentation on a project to build an **Anglican Pilgrim Centre** on the **Camino de Santiago de Compostela** in Spain.

**“Introduction to Anglicanism” Lecture Series.** Our 2019-20 Visiting Lecturer, Dr. Christopher Wells, the Executive Director of the Living Church Foundation, will deliver part two of his lecture series on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the first week of December (**December 3, 4, and 5**), from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in Andrew Hall. The upcoming lectures are entitled “**Communion Transformations**.” Topics to be covered will include the emergence of a wider Anglican “communion” beyond England as well as the contributions of the Episcopal Church, including the Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral.

**Pilgrims' Course 2020.** Newcomers to Saint Thomas Church and those not yet members of the church are invited to our “**Pilgrims' Course**,” which is a comprehensive introduction to the Christian faith, as received and understood by the Episcopal Church. The first session will be on Tuesday, January 14, at 6:30 p.m. Each session will begin with a simple meal at 6:30 p.m., and the class itself will run from 7 to 8 p.m. The sessions continue on most Tuesday evenings through May 19. Bishop Allen Shin will visit on Sunday, May 17, at 11 a.m., to confirm and receive candidates. Although the course is specifically designed for **adults who are considering baptism, confirmation, or reception** into the Episcopal Church, it is fitting for anyone who wishes to explore Christianity or to deepen his or her faith. Please email Father Cheng at [PCheng@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:PCheng@SaintThomasChurch.org) if you would like to attend the class.

**Friday Bible Study.** All are welcome to join the parish's Friday lunchtime Bible Study. Under the guidance of Fr. Bennett, the class runs for an hour in the parish house living room following the 12:10 p.m. Mass. The class is currently studying the Gospel According to St. John, including an in-depth exploration of the text as a group.

For regular email updates on the life of the parish and notices from the Rector, please contact Fr. Moretz at [MMoretz@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:MMoretz@SaintThomasChurch.org), or text STC5THAVE to 22828. For more information about the parish's Adult Christian Education program, please contact Fr. Cheng, Theologian in Residence, at [PCheng@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:PCheng@SaintThomasChurch.org). For regular email updates on Adult Christian Education, please text THEOLOGY to 22828.

## WEEKDAY CHORAL EVENSONGS DURING ADVENT

**Evensong will be sung on the following days during Advent:** On Wednesdays, December 4 and 18 at 5:30 p.m. The complete December calendar may be found on our website at [www.SaintThomasChurch.org](http://www.SaintThomasChurch.org) and on a handy postcard available in the Narthex.

### 2019 CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND CONCERTS AT SAINT THOMAS CHURCH

#### **Tuesday, December 10, and Thursday, December 12**

7:30 p.m. – tickets required

Handel's *Messiah* sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys  
soloists with New York Baroque Incorporated  
Jeremy Filsell, *conductor*



#### **Tuesday, December 17**

5:30 p.m.

The Blessing of the Crèche: *A service for children and their families*  
sung by the Boys of the Saint Thomas Choir  
Music of *Litaiže*, *Britten* and *Caldwell*



#### **Wednesday, December 18**

12:10 p.m.

A Service of Lessons and Carols  
sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys  
Music of *Wachner*, *Robinson*, *Joubert*, *Scott*, *Adams*, *Hough* and *Baker*



#### **Thursday, December 19**

5:30 p.m. – tickets required

A Ceremony of Carols, Opus 28 – *Benjamin Britten*  
and works of *Litaiže*, *Hallock* and *Caldwell*  
The Boys of the Saint Thomas Choir  
Sara Cutler, *harp*  
Benjamin Sheen, *Miller-Scott Organ*  
Jeremy Filsell, *conductor*



#### **Saturday, December 21**

4 p.m.

A Service of Lessons and Carols  
sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys  
Music of *Wachner*, *Robinson*, *Joubert*, *Scott*, *Adams*, *Hough* and *Baker*



#### **Sunday, December 22, THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

4 p.m.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols  
sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys  
Music of *Britten*, *Litaiže*, *Robinson*, *Scott*, *Wachner*, *Joubert*, *Adams*, *Hancock*, *Bingham* and *Filsell*



**Tuesday, December 24, CHRISTMAS EVE**

4 p.m.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Music of *Britten, Litaize, Robinson, Scott, Wachner, Joubert, Adams, Hancock, Bingham and Filsell*

10:15 p.m. (Doors open at 10 p.m.)

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR ORGAN AND BRASS**

Benjamin Sheen and Nicholas Quardokus, *organ*

11 p.m.

**THE SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY**

**(MIDNIGHT MASS)**

Music of *Prendergast, Castagnet, Filsell, Hough, Wachner, Philips, Litaize, Hancock and Scott*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys with Brass

Sermon by the Rector



**Wednesday, December 25, CHRISTMAS DAY**

11 a.m.

**SOLEMN EUCHARIST**

Music of *Prendergast, Victoria, Scott, Dupré, Adams, Hancock and Joubert*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Sermon by the Rector



**ASSISTING CLERGY**

The Reverend Matthew Moretz, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Adam Spencer, *Associate for Pastoral Care*

The Reverend Alison J. Turner, *Associate for Children and Family Ministry*

The Reverend Dr. Patrick S. Cheng, *Theologian in Residence*

The Reverend Ryan Bennett, *Assistant Priest*

Sister Marie Promise Atelon SSM, *Seminarian*

**HONORARY CLERGY**

The Reverend Andrew C. Mead, OBE, DD, *Rector Emeritus*

The Right Reverend Andrew St. John, *Bishop in Residence*

The Reverend Mark Brown, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Derek Darves, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Gina Gore, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Patrick Holtkamp, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Canon Anne Mallonee, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend David F. Mc Neeley, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend William A. Norgren, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Thomas F. Pike, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend John C. Smith, *Honorary Assistant*

The Rev. Canon Prof. J. Robert Wright, *Honorary Assistant*

**STAFF**

Dr. Jeremy Filsell, *Organist and Director of Music*

Benjamin Sheen, *Associate Organist*

Nicholas Quardokus, *Assistant Organist*

Aaron W. Koch, *Head Verger*

Benjamin E. Williams, *Verger*

Andrew Berko, *Director of Administration and Finance*

Ann H. Kaplan, *Director of Development*

Amy Cheresnowski, *Executive Assistant to the Rector*

## THE VESTRY

Kazie Metzger Harvey, *Warden*  
Stephen Gauster-Filek  
Pamela A. Lewis  
Edith Morrill  
Lloyd G. Stanford  
Gregory Zaffiro

Jesse Adelaar, *Warden*  
Murray Hood  
Brett Moore  
Karl C. Saunders, *Treasurer*  
Midge Woolsey  
Fred Isquith, *Clerk*

You may contact the Wardens using this address: [Wardens@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:Wardens@SaintThomasChurch.org)

## PARISH OFFICES

One West Fifty-third Street  
New York, New York 10019  
Church Telephone 212.757.7013  
[www.SaintThomasChurch.org](http://www.SaintThomasChurch.org)  
[administration@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:administration@SaintThomasChurch.org)

## SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

The Rev. Charles F. Wallace, *Headmaster*  
202 West 58th Street  
New York, New York 10019  
Telephone 212.247.3311  
[www.ChoirSchool.org](http://www.ChoirSchool.org)  
[admissions@choirschool.org](mailto:admissions@choirschool.org)

