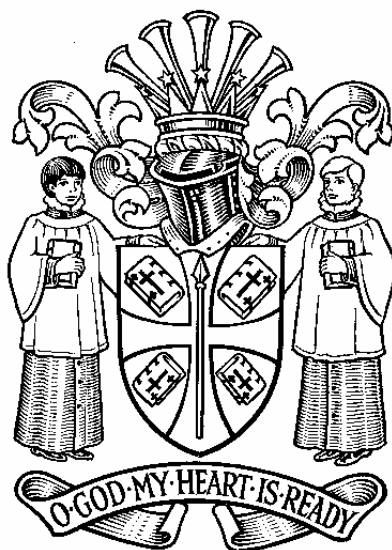


A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS



SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
THE REVEREND CARL F. TURNER, *RECTOR*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019
AT 12:10 P.M.

AND

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2019
AT 4 P.M.



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*

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 — 12:10 p.m.
and
Saturday, December 21, 2019 — 4 p.m.

PRELUDE

Noël

Louis-Claude Daquin

(1694-1772)

Pastorale

César Franck

(1822-1890)

THE GREETINGS

All stand to sing

HYMN God rest you merry, gentlemen

GOD REST YOU MERRY

GOD rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay,
for Jesus Christ our Saviour
was born on Christmas Day;
to save us all from Satan's power
when we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

2. From God our heavenly Father
a blessed angel came
and unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same,
how that in Bethlehem was born
the Son of God by name:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

3. The shepherds at those tidings
rejoicèd much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding
in tempest, storm and wind,
and went to Bethlehem straightway
this blessèd babe to find:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

4. Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
and with true love and brotherhood
each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas
all others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

London Carol, Eighteenth Century

BIDDING AND LORD'S PRAYER

Please be seated at the conclusion of the prayers.

CAROL The snow lay on the ground

Traditional Nineteenth Century Carol
arranged by *Julian Wachner*
(b. 1969)

THE snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright,
When Christ our Lord was born on Christmas night.
Venite adoremus Dominum;
Venite adoremus Dominum.

'Twas Mary, daughter pure of holy Anne,
That brought into this world the God made man.
She laid Him in a stall at Bethlehem;
The ass and oxen shared the roof with them.
Refrain

Saint Joseph, too, was by to tend the Child;
To guard him, and protect His mother mild;
The angels hovered round, and sung the song,
Refrain

And thus that manger poor became a throne;
For He Whom Mary bore was God the Son.
O come, then, let us join the heavenly host,
To praise the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Refrain

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

CAROL This is the truth sent from above

Traditional English Carol
arranged by *Christopher Robinson*
(b. 1936)

THIS is the truth sent from above, The truth of God, the God of love,
Therefore don't turn me from your door, But hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate Is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell, Woman was made with man to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes, Till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run That he would redeem us by his Son.

And at the season of the year Our blest Redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach, And many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved, To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way, Be pleas'd to hear what he did say.

All stand to sing

HYMN Unto us a boy is born!

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

UNTO us is born a Son,
King of quires supernal:
See on earth his life begun,
O lords of Lord eternal.

2. Christ, from heaven descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their owner know,
Be-cradled in the manger.

3. This did Herod sore affray,
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay,
And slew the little childer.

4. Of his love and mercy mild
This the Christmas story;
And O that Mary's gentle Child
Might lead us up to glory!

5. O and A, and A and O,
Cum cantibus in choro,
Let our mercy organ go,
Benedicamus Domino.

Fifteenth Century Latin Carol

Please be seated.

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9

The Peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

CAROL There is no rose

Benjamin Britten
(1913-1976)

THERE is no rose of such vertu
As is the rose that bare Jesu.
Alleluia.

For in this rose containèd was
Heaven and earth in litel space,
Res miranda.

By that rose we may well see
There be one God in persons three,
Pares forma.

The aungels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gaudeamus.

Leave we all this werldly mirth,
And follow we this joyful birth.
Transeamus.

Fourteenth Century English Carol

All stand to sing

HYMN The angel Gabriel

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE

THE angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
“All hail,” said he, “thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

2. “For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honor thee,
thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said,
“my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name.”
Most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

4. Of her Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say—
“Most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

Nabum Tate

Please be seated.

THIRD LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

KING Jesus hath a garden, full of divers flow'rs,
Where I go culling posies gay, all times and hours.
There naught is heard by Paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.

The Lily, white in blossom there, is Chastity,
The Violet, with sweet perfume, Humility.
There naught is heard by Paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.

The bonny Damaskrose is known as Patience:
The blithe and thrifty Marygold, Obedience.
There naught is heard by Paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.

The Crown Imperial bloometh too in yonder place,
'Tis Charity, of stock divine, the flower of grace.
There naught is heard by Paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.

Yet, 'mid the brave, the bravest prize of all may claim
The star of Bethlehem, Jesus, blessed be his Name!
There naught is heard by Paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.

Ah! Jesu Lord, my heal and weal, my bliss complete,
Make thou my heart thy garden plot, fair, trim and neat.
That I may hear this musick clear:
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal, trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.

George Radcliffe Woodward

FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:1, 3-20
Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Please remain seated.

WE cannot tell, we do not know what stars shone down so long ago,
When Mary birthed her own sweet son, and peace and love became as one.
The son of God, as scriptures said, was virgin born in a tiny shed where simple shepherds stood hard by,
and heavenly sound filled up the sky.
Now let us stand, uncovered all, before the crèche in lowly stall
Where king and angels dignify His son in humility.
What starlight fell
Or why the holy mystery stands for so many years and so many lands
We cannot tell, we do not know, what stars shone down so long ago.
When Mary birthed her own sweet son, and peace and love became as one.

Traditional Folk Song

HYMN In the bleak midwinter

CRANHAM

- IN the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.
3. Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
but his mother only, in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the beloved with a kiss.
4. What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

Christina Rossetti

Please remain standing for the Lesson and Carol.

FIFTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

Saint John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

CAROL Ding, Dong! merrily on high

Stephen Hough
(b. 1961)

Ding Dong! merrily on high
In heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel singing
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

E'en so here below, below
Let steeple bells be swungen
And i-o, i-o, i-o
By priest and people sungen
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

Pray you dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers
May you beautifully rime
Your evetime song, ye singers
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

George Ratcliffe Woodward

All stand for the final Collect and the Blessing.

THE COLLECT

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Officiant Let us pray.

O GOD, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only Son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

RESPONSORY Christus vincit

Martin Baker
(b. 1967)

Christus vincit,
Christus regnat,
Christus imperat.

*Christ conquers,
Christ reigns,
Christ commands.*

Exaudi, Christe.
Summo Pontifici
et universali Papae, vita.

*Listen, Christ.
O Supreme Being
and universal father, give life.*

Salvator mundi,
Tu illum adiuva.
Sancta Maria,
Tu illum adiuva.
Sancte Petre,
Tu illum adiuva.
Sancte Paule,
Tu illum adiuva.

*Saviour of the world,
Come to our aid.
Holy Mary,
Come to our aid.
Saint Peter,
Come to our aid.
Saint Paul,
Come to our aid.*

Christus vincit,
Christus regnat,
Christus imperat.

*Christ conquers,
Christ reigns,
Christ commands.*

Rex regem.
Rex noster.
Gloria nostra.

*King of Kings.
Our King.
Our Glory.*

Ipsi soli imperium,
Gloria et potestas,
Per immortalia saecula saeculorum.
Amen.

*To him alone be majesty,
glory and power,
to everlasting ages of ages.
Amen.*

Christus vincit,
Christus regnat,
Christus imperat.

*Christ conquers,
Christ reigns,
Christ commands.*

THE BLESSING

MAY he who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

VOLUNTARY

Toccata on 'Vom Himmel hoch'

Garth Edmundson
(1900-1971)

The complete December calendar is available in the Narthex and at reception in the parish house.
It may also be found on our website at www.SaintThomasChurch.org.

PARISH NOTICES

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 if you would like to attend the class.

The Bookstore and Gift Shop is located on the first floor of the Parish House. **For your holiday shopping convenience, it will be open today following this service.** 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. Major credit cards accepted. Contact: Bookstore@SaintThomasChurch.org.



Thursday, December 19 (tickets required)
5:30 p.m. A Ceremony of Carols, Opus 28 – Benjamin Britten
and works of *Litaize*, *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*, *Britten*, *Scott*, *Adams*, *Hough* and *Baker*



Sunday, December 22, THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8 a.m. Said Eucharist

9 a.m. Sung Eucharist
Sermon by Sister Promise Atelon SSM

11 a.m. Choral Eucharist
sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir
Sermon by The Rector

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*, *Anonymous*, *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, Anonymous, Adams, Hancock, Bingham* and *Filsell*

10:15 p.m. Christmas Music for Organ and Brass

(Doors open at 10 p.m.)

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 *Britten*

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*

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

PARISH OFFICES

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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

admissions@choirschool.org



Saint Thomas Choir School

Do you know a boy who loves to sing?

Founded in 1919, the Saint Thomas Choir School is the only boarding school solely for choristers in the United States, and one of only three schools of its type remaining in the world today. The Choir School offers a challenging pre-preparatory curriculum, interscholastic sports, and musical training for boys in grades three through eight. Following graduation, boys move on to highly competitive independent boarding and day schools across the country.

The Saint Thomas Choir School is committed to training and educating talented musicians without regard to religious, economic, or social background. Generous financial aid is available to all successful applicants. Inquiries from interested families are sought throughout the year.

The Gentlemen of the Saint Thomas Choir are professional singers; the Boy Choristers attend the Saint Thomas Choir School. The Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys is represented by Karen McFarlane Artists, Inc. and records exclusively for Resonus Classics.

Do you know a boy who loves to sing?

We want to hear from you.

admissions@choirschool.org

Learn more about the exceptional opportunity provided by a Choir School education.

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