



SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE
in the
CITY OF NEW YORK

One West Fifty-third Street
New York, New York 10019
Telephone: 212-757-7013
www.SaintThomasChurch.org

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.

The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

THE GREAT LITANY and SOLEMN EUCHARIST — 11 a.m.
sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

THE LITANY	For Men's Voices	<i>Thomas Tallis</i> (c. 1505-1585)
THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS	Mass in C minor	<i>Herbert Howells</i> (1892-1983)
ORGAN PRELUDE	Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645	<i>Johann Sebastian Bach</i> (1685-1750)

At the entry of the Ministers, the People stand.

THE GREAT LITANY *Thomas Tallis*

O GOD the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful,
Have mercy upon us.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,
Have mercy upon us.

Saint Mary, Mother of God our Saviour Jesus Christ,
Pray for us.

All holy Angels and Archangels, and all holy orders of blessed spirits,
Pray for us.

All holy Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles and Martyrs; and all the blessed company of heaven,
Pray for us.

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers; neither take thou vengeance of our sins: spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever.

Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and mischief; from sin, from the crafts and assaults of the devil; from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vain-glory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness,

Good Lord, deliver us.

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

Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from battle and murder, and from sudden death,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion; from all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and Commandment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and Circumcision; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By thine Agony and bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,

Good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal in the right way;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee so to rule the heart of thy servant, The President of the United States, that he may above all things seek thy honour and glory;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and preserve all Christian Rulers and Magistrates, giving them grace to execute justice, and to maintain truth;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to illuminate all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living they may set it forth, and show it accordingly;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to send forth labourers into thy harvest;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us an heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give all thy people increase of grace to hear meekly thy Word, and to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to succour, help, and comfort, all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve all that travel by land, by water, or by air; all women in childbirth, all sick persons, and young children; and to shew thy pity upon prisoners and captives;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to defend, and provide for, the fatherless children, and widows, and all that are desolate and oppressed;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all men;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so as in due time we may enjoy them;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, Blessed Michael the Archangel, Blessed John the Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, Blessed Thomas our Patron, and all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God: we beseech thee to hear us.

Son of God: we beseech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God: that takest away the sins of the world;

Grant us thy peace.

O Lamb of God: that takest away the sins of the world;

Have mercy upon us.

O Christ, hear us.

O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

ALmighty 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 LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18

Sung by the Choir.

Plainsong (*Tone VI*)

HEAR, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep;* shew thyself also, thou that sittest upon the Cherubims.

2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasses,* stir up thy strength, and come and help us.

3 Turn us again, O God;* shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

4 O Lord God of hosts,* how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?

5 Thou feedest them with the bread of tears,* and givest them plenteousness of tears to drink.

6 Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours,* and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Turn us again, thou God of hosts;* shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

16 It is burnt with fire, and cut down;* and they shall perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.

17 Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand,* and upon the son of man, whom thou madest so strong for thine own self.

18 And so will not we go back from thee:* O let us live, and we shall call upon thy Name.
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.

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

The Subdeacon concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

ADVENT SEQUENCE

Plainsong (*Mode VII*)

SAVIOUR eternal! Health and life of the world unfailing. Light everlasting!
And in verity our redemption, Grieving that the ages of men must perish
Thro' the tempter's subtlety, Still in heaven abiding, thou comes earth-ward
Of thine own great clemency:
Then freely and graciously Deigning to assume humanity, To lost ones and perishing
Gavest thou thy free deliverance, Filling all the world with joy.
O Christ, our souls and bodies cleanse By thy perfect sacrifice;
That we as temples pure and bright Fit for thine abode may be.
By thy former advent justify, By thy second grant us liberty:
That when in the might of glory Thou descendest, Judge of all, We in raiment undefiled,
Bright may shine, and ever follow, Lord, thy footsteps blest, where'er they lead us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Plainsong (*Mode VI*)

Cantor *All*

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God:
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

All

Al - le - lu - ia.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Matthew Moretz
Associate Rector

THE NICENE CREED

The People stand. It is customary to bow at the underlined words.

I BELIEVE in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection of the dead: And the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And with thy spirit.

THE GREETINGS

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

AT THE OFFERTORY, MOTET

Sung by the Choir.

Thomas Tallis

AUDIVI vocem de caelo venientem:
Venite omnes virgines sapientissimae;
oleum recondite in vasis vestries,
dum sponsus advenerit.
Media nocte clamor factus est.
Ecce sponsus venit.

*I heard a voice from heaven saying:
Come, all ye most wise virgins;
lay up the oil in your vessels
when the bridegroom cometh.
At midnight there was a cry made:
Behold, the bridegroom cometh!*

Jeremiah 40:10 and Saint Matthew 25:6

*Please make a gift to support our ministry in New York and on the web.
Text Give to 855-938-2085
If you are present in church, you may leave an offering in the baskets as you leave.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

The Celebrant sings the Preface

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Sung by the Choir.

HOLY, holy, holy,
Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of Thy Glory.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord, most High. Amen.

Blessed is He that cometh
in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The People kneel. The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee,
O Father Almighty, world without end.

The People respond AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant says

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

Celebrant and People

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

People and Celebrant

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, and our souls washed through his most precious Blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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 come 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 in one kind only in the Crossing.*

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION *(for those unable to receive Holy Communion)*

IBELIEVE in thee, O my Jesus, present in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar;
I love thee above all things, and I desire to receive thee into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive thee sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace thee, and I unite myself to thee as if thou wast already there.
Never permit me to be separated from thee!
O Lord Jesus Christ, let the sweet and consuming force of thy love absorb my whole soul, that I may die for the love of thee, who wast pleased to die for the love of me. Amen.

AT THE COMMUNION, AGNUS DEI *Sung by the Choir.*

OLAMB of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Grant us Thy peace.

AND MOTET *Sung by the Choir.*

*Robert Spearing
(b. 1950)*

ISING of a Maiden, a matchless one; King of all Kings She chose for her Son. In quiet he drew To where she was. As the April dew Falls on the grass. In quiet, He drew Towards her bower, As the April dew Falls on the flower. In quiet he drew to where She lay, As the April dew falls on the spray. Both Mother and Maiden was none but she: Well may such a lady God's mother be. Alleluia.

Fifteenth Century Hymn

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *Said by all, kneeling*

ALMIGHTY 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 SOLEMN BLESSING

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

The Celebrant says

MAY Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. *Amen.*

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. *Amen.*

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The People stand as the Ministers depart.

VOLUNTARY Fugue, from Fantasie über den Choral ‘Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme’, *Max Reger*
Op. 52 no. 2 (1873-1916)

Fall 2020 Digital Concert Season

On Saturday, December 5, at 3 p.m., *Concerts at Saint Thomas* presents our 3rd Grand Organ Series Recital of the Fall 2020 Season which features Associate Organist, Nicolas Haigh, playing Messiaen’s evergreen “La Nativité du Seigneur” on the Miller-Scott Organ. We hope you will join us for Nicolas’ first recital at Saint Thomas Church since joining us this past February.

For tickets and more information, please visit us online at www.saintthomaschurch.org/music/concerts. All of the concerts on our Fall 2020 Concert Series will be presented online.

Coffee Hour

We continue to host our “Virtual Coffee Hour” which will use the ZOOM platform to host a virtual meeting at 12:45 p.m. Contact Fr. Moretz at MMoretz@SaintThomasChurch.org to learn more and receive login credentials.

Children and Families’ Gatherings

Sunday Zoom! continues at 10:15 am. today. The next **Faith Alive** group will meet via Zoom next Sunday, December 6, at 9:45 a.m. If you know a family that would like to receive our regular newsletter or to obtain login information for either the Sunday Zoom! or Faith Alive, contact **Mother Turner** at ATurner@SaintThomasChurch.org.

Friday Online Bible Study

All are welcome to join the parish’s ongoing **Friday Online Bible Study** via ZOOM. The class begins at 1:30 p.m. and runs for an hour. During the season of **Advent**, the class will be studying “Light of the World: A Beginner’s Guide to Advent” by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, which covers the biblical texts about the birth of Jesus Christ. For more information, contact Fr. Bennett at RBennett@SaintThomasChurch.org

**The Church is open Monday through Saturday
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

(Face coverings, hand sanitization, health screening, and 6 ft. distancing required for entry)

Shrine Prayers (Intercessions) and Holy Eucharist*

Monday – Saturday at 12 p.m.

(Contact tracing is mandatory to attend Mass)

**Live audio stream webcast continues, and then be available on-demand.*

Please send your requests for prayers

via the website [click here](#)

or emailed to: prayer@saintthomaschurch.org

**Confessions, Spiritual Advice
and Healing Ministry**

(Resurrection Chapel: Mother Turner)

Saturday from 11 to 11:45 a.m. in the Church

(need to wear a mask; chairs will be placed at an appropriate distance)

Young Adult Group Discussion then Compline:

Monday evenings

(see email group or Facebook page for details)

Evening Prayer and Meditation

with Fr. Spencer and Sister Promise

Thursday at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM Platform

(Contact Fr. Spencer: ASpencer@SaintThomasChurch.org for details)

NEXT SUNDAY – DECEMBER 6

The Second Sunday of Advent

9 a.m. Said Eucharist (Rite II) (High Altar)

Celebrant, The Rector

Preacher, Mo. Turner

(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)

[Register by following this link.](#)

9:45 a.m. Faith Alive

(see Children & Families notice above for further details)

10 a.m. Adult Education, The Annunciation and Art with Mother Meredith Ward, a priest in the Diocese of New York, via the ZOOM Platform *(For more information about this class, please see the [event page](#) on the parish website. [Click here](#) to RSVP for this online class. You can also contact Fr. Cbeng at PCbeng@SaintThomasChurch.org for more information.)* To access **videos** from previous classes and other Theology information, **[click here.](#)**

10:15 a.m. Children and Families' Sunday Zoom!

(see Children & Families notice above for further details)

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist

sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

(with video livestream,

and, thereafter, on-demand)

Preacher, Mo. Turner

(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)

[Register by following this link.](#)

3 p.m. (note time) Solemn Evensong
sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir
(with video livestream, and, thereafter, on-demand)
Preacher, Fr. Bennett

(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)

[Register by following this link.](#)

CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE WITH THE CHOIR
(Subject to COVID-19 Restrictions not being in place)

Unless noted, all will be livestream video-cast and then available on-demand

Sunday, December 13

3 p.m. The Blessing of the Creche (pre-recorded)

Wednesday, December 16

12 p.m. A Service of Lessons and Carols (shorter form)

Sunday, December 20

3 p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Thursday, December 24 *Christmas Eve*

6 p.m. (note time) Solemn Vigil Eucharist of Christmas

Friday, December 25 *Christmas Day*

10 a.m. (note time) Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity

Sunday, December 27

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist
(There will be no Choral Evensong)

Thursday, December 31

11:30 p.m. A service to welcome in the New Year and pray for Peace in 2021 (pre-recorded)

Sunday, January 3

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist
(There will be no Choral Evensong)

Wednesday, January 6 *The Epiphany*

12 p.m. Solemn Eucharist

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*
The Reverend Sr. Marie Promise Atelon SSM, *Deacon*

STAFF

Dr. Jeremy Filsell, *Organist and Director of Music*
Nicolas Haigh, *Associate Organist*
Nicholas Quardokus, *Assistant Organist*
Aaron W. Koch, *Head Verger*
Benjamin E. Williams, *Verger*
Bruce Smith, *Chief Advancement Officer*
Adam MacDonald, *Director of Development*
Blake Martin, *Interim Director of Communications
& Digital Production*

SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

Amalia Francisco, *Interim Head of School*
202 West 58th Street, New York, NY 10019
Telephone: 212-247-3311
www.ChoirSchool.org
admissions@choirschool.org