



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 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE)

DECEMBER 13, 2020

SOLEMN EUCHARIST — 11 a.m.
sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

SETTING	Missa in simplicitate	<i>Jean Langlais</i> (1907-1991)
PRELUDE	Fantasy on 'Veni Emmanuel', from Six Fantasies on Hymn Tunes, Op. 72, no. 5	<i>Kenneth Leighton</i> (1929-1988)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee,
and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

KYRIE *Sung by the Choir.*

K YRIE eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.	<i>Lord, have mercy upon us.</i> <i>Christ, have mercy upon us.</i> <i>Lord, have mercy upon us.</i>
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THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

STIR 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 LESSON Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

<i>The Lector concludes</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>The People respond</i>	Thanks be to God.

WHEN the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion,* then were we like unto them that dream.
 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter,* and our tongue with joy.
 3 Then said they among the heathen,* The Lord hath done great things for them.
 4 Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already;* whereof we rejoice.
 5 Turn our captivity, O Lord,* as the rivers in the south.
 6 They that sow in tears* shall reap in joy.
 7 He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth good seed,* shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.
 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 Thessalonians 5:16-24

The Subdeacon concludes The Word of the Lord.
The People respond Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Plainsong (*Mode VI*)

<i>Cantor</i>	<i>People</i>
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.

People

Al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

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

After the Gospel, the Deacon says

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

SERMON

The 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM III)

Leader: Please kneel for the prayers.

The People kneel.

Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve thee;
That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in thy sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise thee for thy saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.

In a moment of silence, let us bring our own petitions to the Lord.

After a period of silence, the Celebrant concludes with this collect

HASTEN, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Celebrant and People

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us; the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant says

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *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, ANTHEM

Sung by the Choir.

Grayston Ives
(b.1948)

THIS is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias? And he said, I am not. Art thou the prophet? And he answered, No. Then said they unto him, What art thou? that we may give an answer unto them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord.

John 1:19-23

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.

SANCTUS, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra Gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*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.

AGNUS DEI

Sung by the Choir.

AGNUS Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb 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 peace.*

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, MOTET

Sung by the Choir.

*Francisco Guerrero
(1528-1599)*

CUM audisset Ioannes in vinculis
opera Christi,
mittens duos de discipulis suis ait illi:
Tu es qui venturus es?
An alium expectamus?
Et respondens Jesus ait illis:
Euntes renunciate Joanni
quae audistis et vidistis:
Caeci vident, claudi ambulant,
surdi audiunt, mortui resurgunt.

*When John (the Baptist), who was in prison,
heard about the deeds of the Messiah,
he sent his disciples to ask him,
“Are you the one who is to come,
or should we expect someone else?”
Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what
you hear and see:
The blind receive sight, the lame walk, the deaf
hear, the dead are raised,
and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.”*

Motet for the feast of John the Baptist

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 BLESSING

The Celebrant says

MAY 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 DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to prepare the way of the Lord
People Thanks be to God.

The People stand as the Ministers depart.

PARISH NOTICES

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 **Sunday, December 20.**

Beginning **Thursday, December 17, at 5:30 p.m.**, please join us online for a special *Concerts at Saint Thomas* archival audio presentation of The Boys of the Saint Thomas Choir's performance of **Britten's A Ceremony of Carols** from 2019. This archival audio presentation as well as **Handel's Messiah** will be available On-demand through Christmas. While we cannot be together in person for these annual events, we hope you will enjoy listening to them during this Advent and Christmas Season. For more information, please visit us online at www.saintthomaschurch.org/music/concerts.

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 today at 10:15 am. This week, we will continue to explore the meaning of Advent as we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, together. We also welcome Ms. Pamela Lewis, Head Lector, as our special guest who will be sharing an artistic reflection on the Annunciation. 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. Contact tracing is mandatory to attend Mass)

Shrine Prayers (Intercessions) and Holy Eucharist Monday – Saturday at 12 p.m. except on Wednesday, when the Eucharist will follow the shorter Service of Lessons and Carols

Live audio stream webcast continues, and then 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)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16**12 p.m. A Service of Lessons and Carols (Choir)**

*A shorter version of Lessons and Carols will be offered.
This service will be followed by a short, Said Mass at the High Altar.*

NEXT SUNDAY – DECEMBER 20**The Fourth Sunday of Advent****9 a.m. Said Eucharist (Rite II) (High Altar)**

Celebrant, Fr. Moretz
Preacher, Fr. Spencer

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

[Register by following this link.](#)

10 a.m. Adult Education, 12-week course on The Nicene Creed continues with Fr. Cheng via the ZOOM Platform ([Click here](#) to RSVP for the online class. You can also contact Fr. Cheng at PCheng@SaintThomasChurch.org for more information.)

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, Fr. Spencer

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

[Register by following this link.](#)

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

(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
(a 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