

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

LORD, thou art become gracious unto thy land;* thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.
 2 Thou hast forgiven the offence of thy people,* and covered all their sins.
 8 I will hearken what the Lord God will say concerning me;* for he shall speak peace unto his people,
 and to his saints, that they turn not again.
 9 For his salvation is nigh them that fear him;* that glory may dwell in our land.
 10 Mercy and truth are met together;* righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
 11 Truth shall flourish out of the earth,* and righteousness hath looked down from heaven.
 12 Yea, the Lord shall shew loving-kindness;* and our land shall give her increase.
 13 Righteousness shall go before him,* and he shall direct his going in the way.
 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.

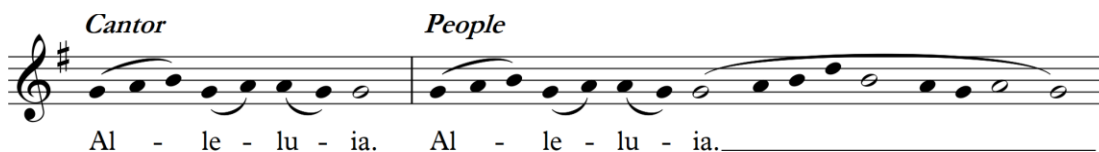
THE EPISTLE

2 Peter 3:8-15a

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

The People stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Plainsong (*Mode VI*)

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.



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

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

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

SERMON

The Rev. Alison Turner
Associate for Children and Family Ministry

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 I)

After each petition

Lord, have mercy.

After the last petition

To thee, O Lord our God.

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

LORD Jesus Christ, thou didst say to thine apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of thy Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit thou livest and reignest, now and for ever. *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, MOTET

Sung by the Choir.

Tomás Luis de Victoria
(1548-1611)

ECCE Dominus veniet
et omnes sancti ejus cum eo,
Alleluia.
Et erit in die illa lux magna
Alleluia.

*Behold the Lord comes,
and all Saints of his with him,
Alleluia.
And there will be in that day a great light
Alleluia.*

Ecce apparebit Dominus
super nubem candidam,
et cum eo sanctorum millia.
Alleluia.
Et erit in die illa lux magna
Alleluia.

*Behold, the Lord will appear
on a white cloud
and with him thousands of Saints.
Alleluia.
And there will be in that day a great light
Alleluia.*

Responsory of the First Nocturn for the Second Sunday of Advent

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.

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

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.

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 shouldest 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)*

I BELIEVE 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.

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.*

MOTET

Sung by the Choir.

Cristóbal de Morales
(c. 1500-1553)

ECCE virgo concipiet, et pariet filium:
Et vocabitur nomen ejus admirabilis,
Deus Fortis. Super solium David, et super
regnum ejus sedebit in aeternum, et
vocabitur nomen ejus admirabilis,
Deus Fortis.

*Behold! the Virgin will conceive, and she will bear a son:
And his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty
God! Over the throne of David and over his kingdom, he
will reign forever, And his name will be called Wonderful
Counselor, Mighty God!*

Isaiah 7:14, Saint Luke 1:32

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.

VOLUNTARY

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

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.**

Fall 2020 Digital Concert Season: Please join us online on **Tuesday, December 8, at 7:30 p.m.**, for a special *Concerts at Saint Thomas* archival audio presentation of The Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys' performance of **Handel's Messiah** from 2019. This archival presentation will be available On Demand through Christmas. 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

Faith Alive group meets today via Zoom at 9:45 a.m. **Sunday Zoom!** continues at 10:15 am. 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: Bishop Andrew St. John)

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 13

The Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)

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

***Celebrant*, Fr. Bennett**

***Preacher*, The Rector**

(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 PCcheng@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*, The Rector**

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

[Register by following this link.](#)

3 p.m. The Blessing of the Crèche

(No live service; a pre-recorded video will be available on-demand only)

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*

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