



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 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 5, 2021

SOLEMN EVENSONG — 4 p.m.
sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

PRELUDE

Rorate Caeli

Jeanne Demessieux
(1921-1968)

The People stand at the entry of the Choir. This Hymn is sung as the Sacred Ministers go to the altar.

HYMN

HELMSLEY

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Philip Moore
(b. 1943)

Priest O Lord, open thou our lips.
Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
Priest O God, make speed to save us.
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.
Priest Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
Choir as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
Priest Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's Name be praised.

PSALM 40

Sung by the Choir

Anglican Chant (*Buck, Filsell*)

EXPECTANS EXPECTAVI

I WAITED patiently for the Lord: and he inclined unto me, and heard my calling.
He brought me also out of the horrible pit, out of the mire and clay:
and set my feet upon the rock, and ordered my goings.
And he hath put a new song in my mouth: even a thanksgiving unto our God.
Many shall see it, and fear: and shall put their trust in the Lord.
Blessed is the man that hath set his hope in the Lord: and turned not unto the proud,
and to such as go about with lies.
O Lord my God, great are the wondrous works which thou hast done, like as be also thy thoughts
which are to us-ward: and yet there is no man that ordereth them unto thee.
If I should declare them, and speak of them: they should be more than I am able to express.
Sacrifice and meat-offering thou wouldest not: but mine ears hast thou opened.
Burnt-offerings, and sacrifice for sin, hast thou not required: then said I, Lo, I come,
In the volume of the book it is written of me, that I should fulfil thy will, O my God:
I am content to do it; yea, thy law is within my heart.
I have declared thy righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I will not refrain my lips, O Lord,
and that thou knowest.
I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart: my talk hath been of thy truth and of thy salvation.
I have not kept back thy loving mercy and truth: from the great congregation.
Withdraw not thou thy mercy from me, O Lord: let thy loving-kindness and thy truth alway preserve me.
For innumerable troubles are come about me; my sins have taken such hold upon me that I am not
able to look up: yea, they are more in number than the hairs of my head, and my heart hath failed me.
O Lord, let it be thy pleasure to deliver me: make haste, O Lord, to help me.
Let them be ashamed and confounded together, that seek after my soul to destroy it:
let them be driven backward and put to rebuke, that wish me evil.
Let them be desolate, and rewarded with shame: that say unto me, Fie upon thee, fie upon thee.
Let all those that seek thee be joyful and glad in thee: and let such as love thy salvation say alway,
The Lord be praised.
As for me, I am poor and needy: but the Lord careth for me.
Thou art my helper and redeemer: make no long tarrying, O my God.
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.

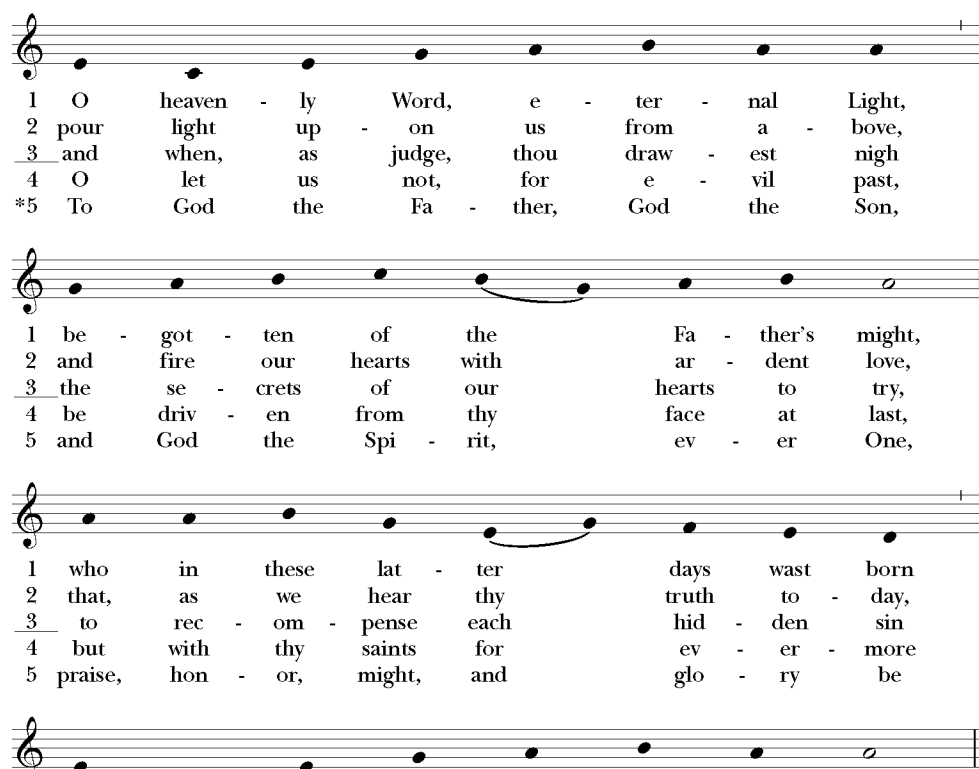
FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

The People stand for the Office Hymn and the Magnificat.

OFFICE HYMN

VERBUM SUPERNUM PRODIENS



1 O heaven - ly Word, e - ter - nal Light,
 2 pour light up - on us from a - bove,
 3 and when, as judge, thou draw - est nigh
 4 O let us not, for e - vil past,
 *5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,

1 be - got - ten of the Fa - ther's might,
 2 and fire our hearts with ar - dent love,
 3 the se - crets of our hearts to try,
 4 be driv - en from thy face at last,
 5 and God the Spi - rit, ev - er One,

1 who in these lat - ter days wast born
 2 that, as we hear thy truth to - day,
 3 to rec - om - pense each hid - den sin
 4 but with thy saints for ev - er - more
 5 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be

1 for bless - ing to a world for - lorn;
 2 all wrong de - sires may burn a - way;
 3 and bid the saints their reign be - gin;
 4 be - hold thee, love thee, and a - dore.
 5 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymnal 1982* Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Verbum supernum prodiens*, plainsong, Mode 2, Nevers MS., 13th cent.; acc. Howard Don Smith (b. 1932) Copyright ©1984, Howard Don Smith. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

MAGNIFICAT

Collegium Regale

Herbert Howells
(1892-1983)

MY Soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. 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 showed 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.

SECOND LESSON

Luke 1:1-25

The People stand for the Nunc Dimittis and the Apostles' Creed.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Collegium Regale

Herbert Howells

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word.
 For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation;
 Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;
 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel
 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.

APOSTLES' CREED

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, The holy catholic Church, The communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Priest The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

The People kneel.

Priest Let us pray.

Choir Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

O UR FATHER, which 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. Amen.

Priest O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Priest O Lord, save the State;

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Priest Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Priest O Lord, save thy people;

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Priest Give peace in our time, O Lord;

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Priest O God, make clean our hearts within us;

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

MERCIFUL 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 SECOND COLLECT

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE THIRD COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

L IGHTEEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN

THE TRUTH FROM ABOVE

Unison or harmony

1 The great fore - run - ner of the morn, the
 2 With heaven - ly mes - sage Ga - briel came, that
 *3 John, still un - born, yet gave a - right his
 4 His might - y deeds ex - alt his fame to
 *5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and

1 her - ald of the Word, is born; and faith - ful hearts shall
 2 John should be that her - ald's name, and with pro - phet - ic
 3 wit - ness to the com - ing light; and Christ, the Sun of
 4 great - er than a pro - phet's name; of wo - man born shall
 5 God the Spi - rit, Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and

1 nev - er fail with thanks and praise his light to hail.
 2 ut - terance told his ac - tions great and man - i - fold.
 3 all the earth, ful - filled that wit - ness at his birth.
 4 nev - er be a great - er pro - phet than was he.
 5 glo - ry be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: The Venerable Bede (673-735); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *The Truth From Above*, English melody; harm.
 Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

SERMON

The Rev. Alison Turner
*Associate for Children & Family Ministry
 and School Chaplain*

ANTHEM

Sung by the Choir

George Frederic Handel
 (1685-1759)

AND the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
 and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Isaiah 40:5

THE BLESSING

CHRIST 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 amongst you
 and remain with you always. *Amen*

THE ADVENT PROSE

Antiphon



Drop down, ye hea-vens, from a - bove, — and let the skies pour down right-eous ness.

BE not wroth very sore, O Lord,
neither remember iniquity forever:
thy holy cities are a wilderness,
Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:
our holy and our beautiful house,
where our fathers praised thee. *Antiphon*

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,
and we all do fade as a leaf:
and our iniquities, like the wind,
have taken us away:
thou hast hid thy face from us:
and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. *Antiphon*

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,
and my servant whom I have chosen:
that ye may know me and believe me:
I, even I, am the Lord,
and beside me there is no Saviour:
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. *Antiphon*

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people,
my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud
thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee:
For I am the Lord thy God,
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer. *Antiphon*

POSTLUDE

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

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 per name. 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 19**.

Adult Education. At 10 a.m. today, the **Reverend Dr. Julie Faith Parker**, our guest teacher, will begin her three-session sequence entitled **“Three Women and a Little Baby: Advent and Luke 1-2.”** The first session is “Elizabeth and the Gift of Faith” and features a brief overview of Luke’s Gospel and his special emphases, particularly regarding women. We will then delve into the character of Elizabeth. Who is she? How does her faith make a difference in the life of the infant Jesus? Come and learn of the surprising power of this older woman and her loving witness to her pregnant cousin, Mary. You are welcome to join us in person on the Fifth Floor of the Parish House or on Zoom using the link provided in our E-News.

Children and Families’ Gatherings. Each Sunday begins with a **Sung Mass at 9 a.m.**, which is especially suitable for children. Afterwards, **Sunday School** is offered for children ages 4 to 11 on the third floor of the Parish House until 10:45 a.m. **Nursery care** is available from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration for all 2021-22 Children and Family events and programs is essential. You may access the registration form [Here](#). For any queries regarding the above or to receive our weekly newsletter please contact: ChildrenandFamilies@SaintThomasChurch.org. A quiet Children’s area in the Chantry Chapel is also available for parents with their children during the 11 a.m. Mass.

Noble Singers – the Children’s Parish Choir for singers ages 5-12 has been rehearsing this fall under the direction of Mrs. Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell. Rehearsals take place on Tuesdays at 4-4:45 p.m. and Saturdays from 10-10:45 a.m. Registration is [available online](#). This **FREE** music program features the acclaimed RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) Voice for Life curriculum in which choristers gain different colored ribbons by working towards different assessed levels of music and vocal instruction. The choir has already sung at their first 9 a.m. Mass. They will sing again on Tuesday, December 21, at the Crèche Service. For more information, contact RKellerman@SaintThomasChurch.org.

Concerts at Saint Thomas is pleased to announce that an annual tradition returns on **Tuesday, December 7, and Thursday, December 9**, at 7:30 p.m. as New York Baroque Incorporated joins the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys and soloists for two performances of Handel’s *Messiah*. On Thursday, December 16, another holiday favorite returns as the Boys of the Saint Thomas Choir, along with harpist Parker Ramsay, present *Christmas on Fifth Avenue*, an hour-long concert in celebration of the Christmas Season. Please [visit our website](#) for tickets and more information. Support *Concerts at Saint Thomas* by becoming a *Friend of Music*. To make your donation with our team, email Concerts@SaintThomasChurch.org or call 212-664-9360.

The Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys released our first new choral album in seven years, “The Music of Gerre Hancock”, in April 2021. The performances on the new recording are led by Dr. Jeremy Filsell, with accompaniment from Benjamin Sheen (former Associate Organist), Nicholas Quardokus (former Assistant Organist), and The Saint Thomas Brass Ensemble. [Listen](#) to tracks and purchase your own copy of the album to stream or [order the CD](#) directly from our website.

The Bookstore will be open on Sundays, December 5, 12, and 19, after the 11 a.m. service until 3 p.m., and by appointment at Bookstore@SaintThomasChurch.org.

Friday Bible Study continues at 1:30 p.m. over Zoom, and runs for about an hour. For more information, please contact Fr. Bennett at RBennett@SaintThomasChurch.org.

Christmastide Candles in Memory of Loved Ones. During Christmastide, the time between Christmas Day and New Year's Day, we will light an eight-day candle for your loved one(s), and place it before the Crèche of Saint Thomas Church. Each candle will be affixed with the name you submit. The suggested donation for each eight-day candle is \$25. We also offer a one-day candle, which can be lit at any time during Christmastide, and the names will be added to the prayer list of that day. A candle will be lit at Our Lady of Fifth Avenue. The suggested donation for each one-day candle is \$5.

SERVICES THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

The Church is open for Private Prayer and Visits

Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Proof of vaccination, face masks, hand sanitization and health screening are required for entry.

Shrine Prayers (Intercessions)

Monday – Saturday at 12 p.m. *Live audio stream and then on-demand.*

Please send your requests for prayers via the website [click here](#) or emailed to: prayer@saintthomaschurch.org

The Daily Eucharist

Monday – Saturday 12:05 p.m. *Live audio stream and then on-demand.*

Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Chantry Chapel.

Confessions, Spiritual Advice and Healing Ministry in the Resurrection Chapel

Saturday 11 to 11:45 a.m. in the Church. Confessor: Fr. Schultz

CHORAL SERVICES THIS WEEK

All choral services are video livestreamed, and, thereafter, available on-demand

✠ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE)

9 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Cantor: Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell

This service is especially suitable for children

Homily by Mo. Turner

11 a.m. Festal Eucharist

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Sermon by Fr. Moretz

4 p.m. Festal Evensong

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Sermon by The Rector

2021 CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND CONCERTS AT SAINT THOMAS CHURCH

Tuesday, December 7, and Thursday, December 9

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*



Wednesday, December 15

12 p.m.

A Service of Lessons and Carols

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys
Music of *Dirksen, Robinson, Edwards, Rutter, Hancock, Preston and Baker*



Thursday, December 16

5:30 p.m. – tickets required

Christmas on Fifth Avenue

Dancing Day - *Rutter* and works by *Britten, Litaize, Bairstow, Stanford*
The Boys of the Saint Thomas Choir
Parker Ramsay, *harp*
Nicolas Haigh, *Miller-Scott Organ*
Jeremy Filsell, *conductor*



Saturday, December 18

4 p.m.

A Service of Lessons and Carols

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys
Music of *Dirksen, Robinson, Edwards, Rutter, Hancock, Preston and Baker*



Sunday, December 19, 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 *Dirksen, Robinson, Ledger, Edwards, M. Martin, Hancock, Pott and Preston*



Tuesday, December 21

5:30 p.m.

The Blessing of the Crèche: *A service for children and their families*
sung by the Noble Singers



Friday, 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 *Dirksen, Robinson, Ledger, Edwards, M. Martin, Hancock, Pott and Preston*

10 p.m. (Doors open at 9:30 p.m.)

CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR STRINGS

10:30 p.m.

**THE SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY
(MIDNIGHT MASS)**

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

Music of *Mozart, Hancock, Dirksen and Preston*

Sermon by The Rector



Saturday, December 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

9 a.m.

SAID EUCHARIST at the High Altar

11 a.m.

SOLEMN EUCHARIST

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Music of *Filsell, Dirksen, Bairston, and Ledger*

Sermon by Fr. Moretz

ASSISTING CLERGY

The Reverend Matthew Moretz, *Vicar
and Chief Operating Officer*
The Reverend Alison J. Turner,
*Associate for Children & Family Ministry
and School Chaplain*
The Reverend Mark Schultz,
Associate for Pastoral Care
The Reverend Prisca Lee-Pae,
Associate for Pan-Asian Ministry
The Reverend Ryan Bennett, *Assistant Priest*

STAFF

Dr. Jeremy Filsell, *Organist and Director of Music*
Nicolas Haigh, *Associate Organist*
Aaron W. Koch, *Head Verger*
Bruce Smith, *Chief Advancement Officer*
Adam MacDonald, *Director of Development*
Blake Martin, *Interim Director of Communications
and Digital Production*
Lizette Hernandez, *Executive Assistant to the Rector*

SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

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

HONORARY CLERGY

The Reverend Andrew C. Mead, OBE, DD, *Rector Emeritus*
The Right Reverend Andrew St. John, *Bishop in Residence*
The Reverend Dr. Patrick S. Cheng, *Theologian in Residence*
The Reverend Mark Brown, *Honorary Assistant*
The Reverend Gina Gore, *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 Rev. Canon Prof. J. Robert Wright, *Honorary Assistant*

THE VESTRY

The Rector, *Chair*

Kazie Metzger Harvey, *Warden*
Karen Duncan
Christopher M. Haley, *Clerk*
Darren Littlejohn
Edith Morrill

Lloyd Stanford, *Warden*
Stephen Gauster-Filek
Winnie Kung
Brett Moore
Inge Reist

Gregory Zaffiro, *Assistant Treasurer*
Karl C. Saunders, *Treasurer*

You may contact the Wardens using this address: Wardens@SaintThomasChurch.org.