

SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

in the CITY OF NEW YORK

The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, Rector

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.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2023

SUNG EUCHARIST – 9 a.m. Sung by The Noble Singers

The Ordinary of the Mass

Missa Emmanuel

Maks Adach (b. 1993)

The People stand for the entry of the Ministers.

Introit

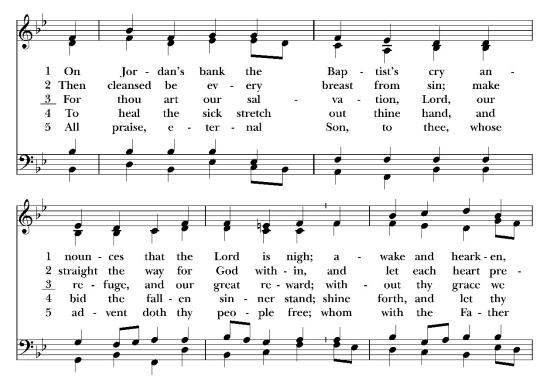
Rachel Aarons (b. 1984)

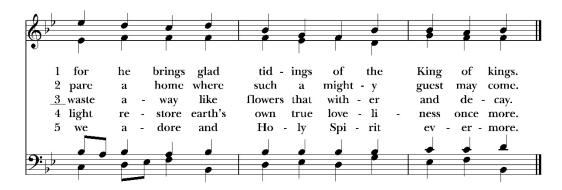
Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth, and manifest thy holy birth, Let every age adoring fall, Such birth befits the God of All.

St. Ambrose; tr. John Mason Neale

Hymn

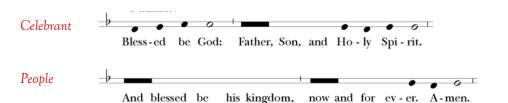
WINCHESTER NEW





The Penitential Order

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry, #76 from The Hymnal 1982 — Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt. Music: Winchester New, melody from Musicalishes Hand-Buch, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.



The Celebrant welcomes the people and introduces the celebration. Then, the Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The People remain standing. Silence is kept.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**



The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

People Celebrant And also with you.

Let us pray.

Silence is kept. The Celebrant says the Collect.

Merciful God, who sent your 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Lesson Isaiah 40:1-11

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-9 VENI EMMANUEL

The choir sings the refrain and all repeat.



You have been gracious to your land O Lord, you have restored the good fortune of Jacob. You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins. Refrain

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, for he is speaking peace to his faithful people, and to those who turn their hearts to him. Truly his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. Refrain

Gospel Acclamation

Advent Alleluia

Stephen Pishner

The People stand. The Cantor sings the Alleluia and all repeat.



Cantor

Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight his path. All people shall see the saving power of God.

The People repeat the Alleluia

Mark 1:1-8 The Holy Gospel

The Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

★ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At the end

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ. People

Homily In Celebration of the Feast of Saint Nicholas: The welcoming of a Child Bishop Mo. Turner

with Tatum Littlejohn

Celebrant Jesus told us that we are to become like children; following the ancient customs of the Church,

I call Tatum Littlejohn to serve as our Child Bishop for the day. Blessed are they who put their trust in

the Lord.

Tatum will you be faithful and keep the promises that were made for you in Holy Baptism and affirmed by you at your Confirmation?

I will: the Lord being my helper.

Child Bishop

Celebrant

While you hold this office, will you pray for the members of this parish and for all who need your prayers?

Child Bishop I will: the Lord being my helper.

The Child Bishop kneels and offers this Collect:

Child Bishop

Almighty God, by whose grace alone we are accepted and called to your service: strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Blessing of the Child Bishop

Celebrant

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

The Child Bishop stands and receives the Bishop's pastoral staff, then faces the congregation

Celebrant

Brothers and sisters, I present to you Tatum, duly inaugurated as Child Bishop of this church.

The People stand.

The Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Celebrant Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.

People Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.

Celebrant Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved:

People O Lord God of hosts.

The candle is lit.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, light of the world, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people in trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmas and show all the world God's love. **Amen**.

The Prayers of the People (Special Form)

The Leader says

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

As St. Nicholas is the patron saint of children, we pray for Baby Evie who will be baptized today. Let us pray for all children and young people; for the schools of our city; for children who are unhappy or who are ill-treated; for all who enjoy little childhood; for all who care for children, for parents and teachers and all who seek to bring them comfort; and for a spirit of simplicity and trust in all that we do. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

As St. Nicholas is the patron saint of choristers, let us pray for all who make music in our churches and cathedrals; for the Choir of Men and Boys and the Noble Singers; for the Royal School of Church Music; for all who encourage and support the music in this church; and we pray for harmony in all our dealings with others; for peace and unity in the church and the world; and for a willingness to understand the differences of others. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

As St. Nicholas is associated with generosity in giving, let us pray for a spirit of generosity in our own lives: with our time and talents; with our possessions; in our judgement of others; and for a grateful heart for the gifts you give us each and every day. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

After the prayers, silence is kept, then the Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

People Amen.

The Peace

The Celebrant says

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Greetings

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN Offertory Hymn \mathbf{o} Christ is pare the way, Zi - on, your draw - ing 2 He brings God's rule, \mathbf{O} Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove. 3 Fling wide your gates, 0 Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace. Let ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear. His rule is peace and free-dom, and jus - tice, truth, and His tid - ings of sal va - tion pro - claim in Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in cred sto your praise re-sound-ing, for grace and joy Lift high a - bound - ing. be - fore him, their All lands will bow voic - es will dore a him. Refrain Oh, God's most ho - ly blest is Christ that came in

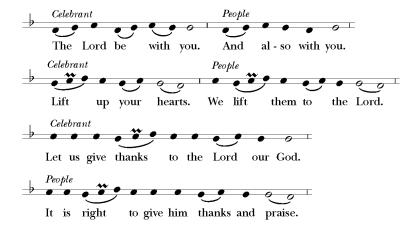
Prepare the way, O Zion, #65 from The Hymnal 1982 – Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (1920-1999). Copyright © 1982, Charles P Price. Music: Bereden väg för Herran, melody from Then Swenska Psalmboken, 1697; harm. Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan, 1939, alt.



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The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B



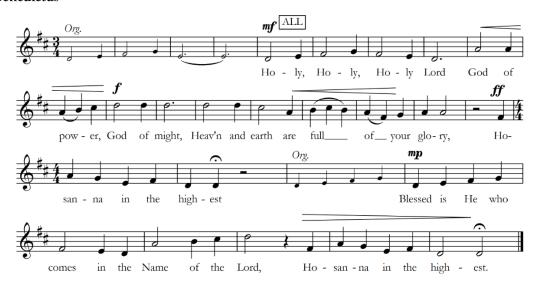
The Celebrant sings the Preface

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus & Benedictus



The People remain standing or kneel. The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, St. John the Baptist, St. Thomas our Patron, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

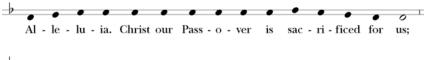
Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

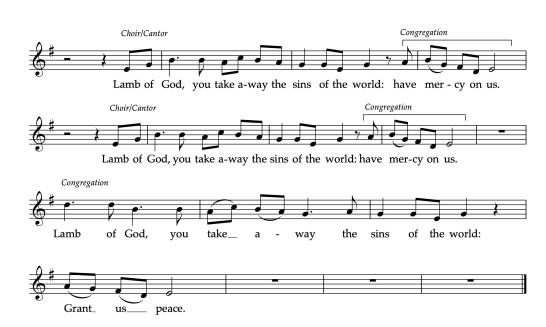
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



People



Agnus Dei



The Invitation to Communion

The Celebrant says

Behold the Lamb of God.

Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

People

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.

The Sacrament is distributed at the Crossing. Intinction (dipping the host in the chalice) is not permitted.

You are welcome to receive in one kind only. Gluten free hosts are available - please ask the priest.

Communion Anthem Carl Smith

Savior of the nations, come! Virgin's Son, make here your home. Marvel now, both heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth. Wondrous birth! Oh, wondrous child, of the Virgin undefiled. Mighty God and Mary's son, eager now his race to run! Thus on earth the Word appears, gracing his created spheres; Hence to death and hell descends, then the heav'nly throne ascends. Come, Father's saving Son, who over sin the vict'ry won. Oh, boundless shall your kingdom be; grant that we its glories see.

After Communion, silence is kept. The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People stand.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Child Bishop says

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child shall never enter it.' Our halp is in the name of the Lord.

like a child shall never enter it.' Our help is in the name of the Lord:

People who has made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord:

People now and forever. Amen.

May almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve and keep us from this

day forward and for evermore.

People Amen.

Go in peace to prepare the way of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn ST. STEPHEN



The King shall come when morning dawns, #73 from The Hymnal 1982 — Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925), alt.

Music: St. Stephen, William Jones (1726-1800), alt.

Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Living Room after the service.



The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following: Mrs. Robert L. Dodge, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, Dr. Lewis Rutherford Morris, and Harold V. Smith

WORSHIP THIS WEEK

* indicates livestreamed.

Today

11 a.m. Litany and Solemn Eucharist*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Sermon by Mo. Turner

1:30 p.m. Korean Holy Eucharist*

Sermon by Mo. Lee-Pae

4 p.m. Solemn Evensong*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Sermon by Fr. Moretz

5:15 p.m. Organ Recital

Maks Adach, Associate for Musical Studies and Assistant Organist

Monday - Saturday

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers and Holy Eucharist*

Tuesday - Our Lady of Guadalupe

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Wednesday - Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304 5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong*

sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

Thursday - John of the Cross, Mystic, 1591

5:30 p.m. Concert: Christmas on Fifth Avenue

The Boys of Saint Thomas Choir, with The Juilliard Music Advancement Program String Ensemble

Saturday

11-11:45 a.m. Confessions, Spiritual Advice, Ministry of Healing in the Resurrection Chapel Confessor: Fr. Gioia

4 p.m. The Blessing of the Crèche

A service for children and their families sung by the Noble Singers

Next Sunday: December 17,

The Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)

7:45 a.m. Said Mass

9 a.m. Sung Mass

followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish House

11 a.m. Festal Eucharist*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Sermon by Fr. Schultz

12:30 p.m. Christmas Carols

Sung from the historic 5th Avenue staircase of the church, immediately following the 11 a.m. Mass sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

4 p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys featuring works of French, M. Martin, Latona, Wilcox, Moore, Rutter, and Chilcott

PARISH NOTICES

Saint Thomas Church Tours are available on Sundays after the 11am service. It is a great way to experience and learn about the church. If you are interested, please meet the Tour Guide on the south side of the Narthex near the "Tour Guide – Meet Here" sign.

Our Parish Bookstore and Gift Shop is temporarily closed as it is being relocated to part of the Narthex nearest the Chantry Chapel. If you have any questions, please reach out to giftshop@saintthomaschurch.org.

The Saint Thomas Theological Education Program, rooted in Scripture, tradition, and spirituality, is for those who seek a deeper understanding of faith, worship and prayer. Lecturers are The Rev. Dr. Luigi Gioia, Theologian in Residence, and internationally renowned guest speakers committed to making theology accessible to non-specialists. Classes are held Sundays at 10am on the 5th Floor of the Parish House and are streamed online. For more info, contact Fr. Luigi Gioia: lgioia@saintthomaschurch.org.

Children and Family Ministries: Following on from the Feast of Saint Nicholas (December 6), today we look forward to greeting our first Child Bishop at the 9am Mass and welcoming back a familiar Saint to Sunday School at 10am in the Parish House. This Sunday, the Nursery continues to be available for the sole use of babies and toddlers with their parents/caregivers, from 9am-1pm in the Parish House, 3rd floor. To receive our Children and Families weekly newsletter, to participate in our Creche Service on Saturday, December 16 at 4pm or to register your interest in any of our other Advent and Christmas events, please contact childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org.

Weekly Bible Study on Fridays at 1pm. Fr. Schultz leads a series of sessions that will serve as a deep dive into the Gospel of John. Join us as we continue our exploration of the Book of Signs (John 1:18 through chapter 12). For more information, please contact Fr. Schultz at mschultz@saintthomaschurch.org. (Please note that the weekly Bible Study is on hiatus until January 12.)

Saint Thomas Choir School exists to nurture and educate the boy choristers of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. Talented students in grades 3-8 come from all over the country to sing, study, play, perform, and live together. If you know a boy who loves to sing, encourage his family to contact Nora Thomson: nthomson@choirschool.org.

The Noble Singers, our children's parish choir for singers ages 5-14, under the Direction of Mrs. Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell, has resumed weekly rehearsals and singing at the 9am Mass. We welcome new singers at any time. No audition is necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of music! For more info, contact rkellerman@saintthomaschurch.org.

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 TOMORROW, Monday, December 11.

On Thanksgiving Day our **Angel Tree** was revealed. There are tags on the tree for children from St. Ann's Episcopal Church and Safe Horizons shelter as well as some of the migrant children known to the Ecumenical Outreach Partnership. We hope you will take a tag, and ask you to bring the requested gift to STC before December 19. Would you like to help wrap gifts, decorate the Angel Tree or make tags for the Angel Tree? Please volunteer by contacting Linda Morfi: lmorfi@saintthomaschurch.org.

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 Dr. Luigi Gioia
Theologian in Residence

STAFF

Dr. Jeremy Filsell, Organist and Director of Music
Nicolas Haigh, Associate Organist
Maks Adach, Associate for Musical Studies and Assistant Organist
Bruce Smith, Chief Advancement Officer
Adam MacDonald, Director of Development
Blake Martin, Director of Communications and Digital Production
Lizette Hernandez, Executive Assistant to the Rector
David Bryan, Head Verger

SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

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www.ChoirSchool.org
admissions@choirschool.org

HONORARY CLERGY

The Reverend Andrew C. Mead, OBE, DD, Rector Emeritus
The Right Reverend Andrew R. St. John, DD, Bishop in Residence
The Reverend Mark Brown, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Gina Gore, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Canon Anne Mallonee, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Stephen Morris, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend David F. Mc Neeley, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Thomas F. Pike, Honorary Assistant

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