

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](http://www.SaintThomasChurch.org)  
The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023 AT 11 A.M.  
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SOLEMN EUCHARIST  
SUNG BY THE SAINT THOMAS CHOIR OF MEN AND BOYS



STC  
200

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.

Contact us: [welcome@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:welcome@saintthomaschurch.org)

*Recording and Photography during the service is not permitted.*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS

Missa XI (Orbis Factor)

Plainsong

*The People remain seated for the Matin Responsory, sung from the ambulatory.*

RESPONSORY

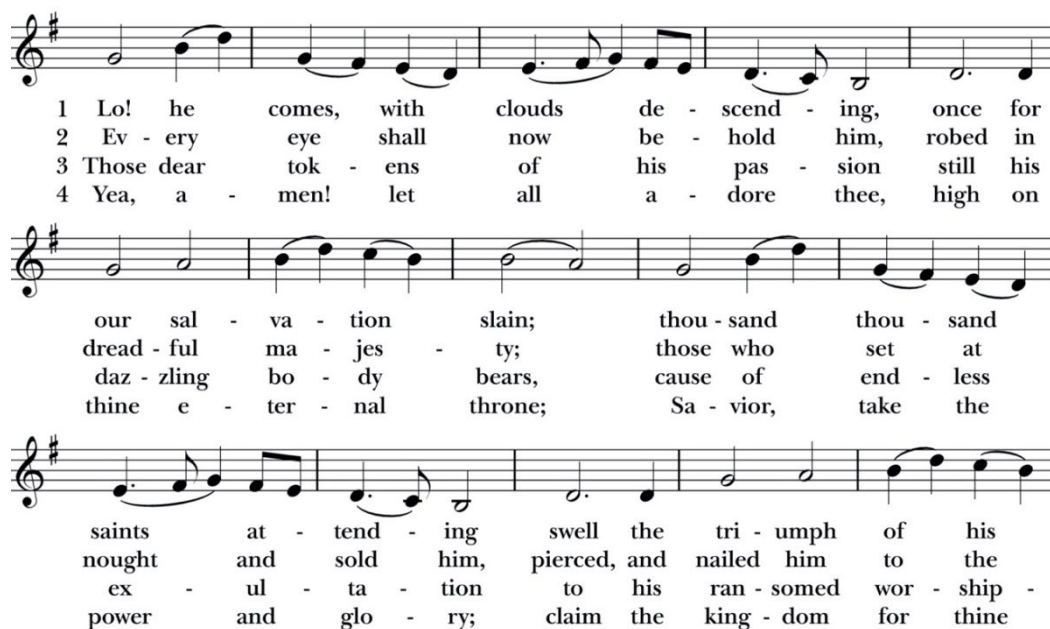
adapted from Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina  
(c. 1525-1594)

V. I look from afar:  
R. And lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.  
V. Go ye out to meet him and say:  
R. Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?  
V. High and low, rich and poor, one with another,  
R. Go ye out to meet him and say:  
V. Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep,  
R. Tell us, art thou he that should come?  
V. Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come  
R. To reign over thy people Israel.  
V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
R. I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.  
V. Go ye out to meet him and say:  
R. Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

*The People stand at the entry of the Choir and Ministers.*

PROCESSIONAL 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.

*Lol he comes, with clouds descending*, #57 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788).  
Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

## THE PENITENTIAL ORDER

Celebrant   
Bless-ed be God: Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

People   
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev - er. A-men.

*The Celebrant says*

THE night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness,  
and let us put on the armour of light. (*Romans 13:12*)

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*The People kneel. Silence is kept.*

*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*

**T**HE Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON

*Sung by the Choir*

**K**YRIE Eleison.  
Christe Eleison.  
Kyrie Eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, 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.

**A**Lmighty 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 People sit.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19

*Sung by the Choir*

Plainsong (Tone IV<sup>4</sup>)

QUI REGIS ISRAEL

**H**EAR, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep :  
shew thyself also, thou that sittest upon the cherubims.  
Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasses : stir up thy strength, and come, and help us.  
Turn us again, O God : shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.  
O Lord God of hosts : how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?  
Thou feedest them with the bread of tears : and givest them plenteousness of tears to drink.  
Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours : and our enemies laugh us to scorn.  
Turn us again, thou God of hosts : shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.  
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.  
And so will not we go back from thee : O let us live, and we shall call upon thy Name.  
Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts : shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.  
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

Subdeacon The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

HYMN

BRISTOL

1. Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior prom-ised long:  
2. He comes, the pris-oners to re - lease in Sa - tan's bond - age held;  
3. He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing soul to cure;  
4. Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come shall pro - claim;

5  
let ev - ery heart pre - pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.  
the gates of brass be - fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
and with the trea - sures of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
and heaven's e - ter - nal arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

*Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes*, #53 from *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised* — Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751).  
Music: Bristol, from Thomas Ravenscroft's *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1621.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Plainsong (Mode VI)

Cantor People  
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

Mark 13:24-37

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



After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

The Rector

*A period of silent reflection may follow the sermon.*

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 (SPECIAL FORM)

*The People remain standing for the prayers. The Leader says*

**W**ATCHFUL at all times,  
let us pray for strength to stand with confidence  
before our Maker and Redeemer.

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy,  
let us pray to the Lord:

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

That God may establish among the nations his sceptre of righteousness,  
let us pray to the Lord:

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread,  
let us pray to the Lord:

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen,  
let us pray to the Lord:

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live  
in darkness and the shadow of death,  
let us pray to the Lord:

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world,  
let us pray to the Lord:

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray  
to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father:



*Silence is kept. The Celebrant says*

**O** LORD, raise up, we pray thee, thy power, and come among us,  
and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness,  
we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us,  
thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us;  
through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord,  
to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be honor and glory,  
world without end. **Amen.**

#### THE PEACE

*The Celebrant says*

**I**N 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 with thy spirit.**

*The Celebrant says the Offertory Sentence, and the People sit.*

#### THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM

Christus Maris

*Francis Shaw  
(b. 1942)*

**E**ARTH was still an empty waste  
and darkness hung over the deep;  
but already, over the waters,  
brooded the spirit of God.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters,  
the God of glory thunders  
the Lord on the immensity of waters.  
The voice of the Lord is mighty;  
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour.

A deepening darkness covers the earth.  
Mountainous waves eclipse the stars.  
The Star of the Sea shall give birth to the Christ.

A woman clothed with the sun,  
standing on the moon,  
the twelve stars  
on her head for a crown.

A boy child in her womb,  
she cries out as she suffers  
the great pangs of birth.





In the night  
the dragon waits on the jetsam shore,  
deathly jaws are open wide.  
In the night  
Christ moves over the swaying waters,  
see the dawn,  
how still the waters,  
Christ on the morning tide.

Michael Ffinch (1934-1999)

HYMN

CROSS OF JESUS

1 Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set thy peo-ple free,  
2 Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, Hope of all the earth thou art,  
3 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, Born a child and yet a king,  
4 By thine own e-ter-nal Spi-rit, Rule in all our hearts a-lone;  
From our fears and sins re-lease us, Let us find our rest in thee.  
Dear de-sire of ev-ery na-tion, Joy of ev-ery long-ing heart.  
Born to reign in us for ev-er, Now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.  
By thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it Raise us to thy glor-ious throne.

*Come, thou long-expected Jesus*, #3 from *The New English Hymnal* – Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788).  
Music: *Cross of Jesus*, John Stainer (1840-1901).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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



*The Celebrant continues*

**I**T is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying

**SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS**

*Sung by the Choir*

**S**ANCTUS, 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.  
Glory be to Thee, O Lord most High.*

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 People kneel or stand.*

**THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes*

By whom, and with whom, and in 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*

**O**UR 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 upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

*Celebrant and People*

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

*The Celebrant says*

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.

*The People remain kneeling until the bell rings.*

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

*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.*



ANTHEM

*Sung by the Choir*

*Robert Twynham  
(1930-2011)*

**D**ROP down dew, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down the just one.  
Let the earth be opened and bud forth a savior.  
On that day the mountains shall drop down sweetness,  
and the hills shall flow with milk and honey. Alleluia.  
All you who thirst, come to the waters. Seek the Lord while he may be found. Alleluia.  
Behold the Lord shall come, and all his saints with him.  
And there shall be a great light on that day. Alleluia.

*Isaiah 45:8; Joel 3:18; Isaiah 55:1, 6; Zechariah 14:5*

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*The Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The People kneel and silence is kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

**A**Lmighty 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*

**M**AY 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.**



HYMN

WACHET AUF

1 Wake, O wake! with ti - dings thrill - ing The watch - men all the  
2 Si - on hears the watch - men shou - ting, Her heart leaps up with  
3 Ev - ery soul in thee re - joi - ces; From men and from an -  
air are fill - ing, A - rise, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!  
joy un - doubt - ing, She stands and waits with ea - ger eyes;  
ge - lic voi - ces Be glo - ry giv'n to thee a - lone!  
Mid - night strikes! no more de - lay - ing, 'The hour has come!' we  
See her Friend from heav'n des - cen - ding, A - dorned with truth and  
Now the gates of pearl re - ceive us, Thy pres - ence ne - ver  
hear them say - ing. Where are ye all, ye vir - gins wise?  
grace un - en - ding! Her light burns clear, her star doth rise.  
more shall leave us, We stand with An - gels round thy throne.  
The Bride - groom comes in sight, Raise high your tor - ches  
Now come, thou pre - cious Crown, Lord Je - su, God's own  
Earth can - not give be - low The bliss thou dost be -  
bright! Al - le - lu - ia! The wed - ding song Swells  
Son! Ho - san - na! Let us pre - pare To  
stow. Al - le - lu - ia! Grant us to raise, To  
loud and strong: Go forth and join the fes - tal throng.  
fol - low there, Where in thy sup - per we may share.  
length of days, The tri - umph - cho - rus of thy praise.

*Wake, O wake! with tidings thrilling*, #16 from *The New English Hymnal* – Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608), tr. F. C. Burkitt (1864-1935).  
Music: *Wachet auf*, melody by Philipp Nicolai; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

THE DISMISSAL

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

VOLUNTARY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Narthex after the service.



The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following:  
*Arthur Trumbull Hill, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Hamilton Kissam, and Linda Griffith Vorsanger*

## WORSHIP THIS WEEK

\* indicates livestreamed.

### Today

**4 p.m. An Advent Procession\***

*sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys*

### Monday - Saturday

**12 p.m. Shrine Prayers and Holy Eucharist\***

### Wednesday

**5:30 p.m. Said Mass**

*In the Chantry Chapel*

*Note: There will be no 5:30 p.m. Mass on Tuesday or Thursday due to the Messiah concerts.*

### Friday

**3 p.m. Contemplative Prayer**

*In the Resurrection Chapel*

### Saturday

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

**Next Sunday: December 10,**  
**The Second Sunday of Advent**

**7:45 a.m. Said Mass**

**9 a.m. Sung Mass**

*followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish House*

**11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist\***

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

**4 p.m. Solemn Evensong\***

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

**5:30 p.m. Organ Recital**

*Maks Adach, Associate for Musical Studies and Assistant Organist*

## 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. *Note: There is no tour today, as our tour guides will be having their holiday gathering.*

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](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Parish House and are streamed online. For more info, contact Fr. Luigi Gioia: [lgioia@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:lgioia@SaintThomasChurch.org).

**Children and Family Ministries:** The Nursery is open 9am to 1pm for the use of babies and young children with parents/caregivers. Services are streamed into the Nursery during this time. Sunday School meets at 10am on the 3rd floor. Next Sunday December 10, in honor of Saint Nicholas Day (December 6) we will be greeting our very own Youth Bishop at the 9am Mass, and welcoming another special visitor to Sunday School at 10am. For info about our upcoming Creche service and Advent events, contact [Childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto: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](mailto:MSchultz@SaintThomasChurch.org).

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Sunday, 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](mailto:lmorfi@SaintThomasChurch.org).



# MESSIAH

DEC **5** AND **7** AT 7:30 PM

New York Baroque Incorporated

The Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Nola Richardson, soprano; Sylvia Leith, mezzo-soprano

Rufus Muller, tenor; Jonathan Woody, bass-baritone

Conducted by Jeremy Filsell



Livestream Ticket



In-person Ticket