

SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE  
in the  
CITY OF NEW YORK



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New York, New York 10019  
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[www.SaintThomasChurch.org](http://www.SaintThomasChurch.org)  
The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023 AT 11 A.M.  
**PROCESSION AND  
SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY**

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)**

*Please do not take photographs or videos, or make recordings during the service.*

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*Vicar and Chief Operating Officer*

The Reverend Alison J. Turner

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The Reverend Mark Schultz

*Associate for Pastoral Care*

The Reverend Prisca Lee-Pae

*Associate for Pan-Asian Ministry*

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*Theologian in Residence*

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The Right Reverend Andrew R. St. John, DD, *Bishop in Residence*

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You may contact the Wardens using this address: [Wardens@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:Wardens@SaintThomasChurch.org).



## ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS

Missa Brevis

William Walton  
(1902-1983)

PRELUDE

Fantasia - The Christmas Light

Simon Preston  
(1938-2022)

THE GREETINGS

The Rector

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

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

<i>Celebrant</i>	Do I not fill heaven and earth? Saith the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<b>Now he is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	From eternity to eternity thou art God,
<i>People</i>	<b>And now we see thee as a new-born child.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Alleluia. Unto us a child is born.
<i>People</i>	<b>O come let us adore him. Alleluia.</b>



PROCESSIONAL HYMN


ADESTE FIDELES


arr. David Willocks  
(1919-2015)

- O** COME, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him  
Born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
2. God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
3. See how the shepherds,  
Summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither  
Bend our joyful footsteps:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
4. Lo! star-led chieftains  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
We to the Christ Child  
Bring our hearts' oblations:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
5. Child, for us sinners  
Poor and in the manger,  
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;  
Who would not love thee,  
Loving us so dearly?  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
6. Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God  
In the highest:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
7. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

18th-century Latin

THE PENITENTIAL ORDER

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

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



*The Celebrant says*

**T**HE sun of righteousness has dawned with healing in his wings.  
Let us come to the light of Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*The People kneel. Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

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

*The People stand.*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*Sung by the Choir*

**G**LORIA in excelsis Deo,  
et in terra pax  
hominibus bonæ voluntatis.  
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,  
adoramus te, glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi  
propter magnam gloriam tuam.  
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens.  
Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe.  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,  
Filius Patris.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram.  
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.  
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,  
tu solus Dominus,  
tu solus altissimus Jesu Christe.  
Cum Sancto Spiritu  
in Gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace,  
good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee.  
We give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King,  
God the Father almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ.  
With the Holy Ghost, art most high  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

**A**Lmighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, being regenerate and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

*The People sit.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LESSON

Isaiah 52:7-10

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

PSALM 98

*Sung by the Choir*

Anglican Chant (*Suter*)

CANTATE DOMINO

**O**SING unto the Lord a new song : for he hath done marvellous things.  
With his own right hand, and with his holy arm : hath he gotten himself the victory.  
The Lord declared his salvation :  
his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.  
He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel :  
and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.  
Shew yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all ye lands : sing, rejoice, and give thanks.  
Praise the Lord upon the harp : sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving.  
With trumpets also and shawms : O shew yourselves joyful before the Lord the King.  
Let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is : the round world, and they that dwell therein.  
Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the Lord :  
for he is come to judge the earth.  
With righteousness shall he judge the world : and the people with equity.  
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

Hebrews 1:1-12

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

*The People stand.*



HYMN

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

OF the Father's heart begotten  
Ere the world from chaos rose,  
He is Alpha: from that Fountain,  
All that is and hath been flows;  
He is Omega, of all things  
Yet to come the mystic Close,  
Evermore and evermore.

2. By his word was all created;  
He commanded and 'twas done;  
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,  
Universe of three in one,  
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,  
All that breathes beneath the sun,  
Evermore and evermore.

3. This is he, whom seer and sybil  
Sang in ages long gone by;  
This is he of old revealed  
In the page of prophecy;  
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;  
Let the world his praises cry!  
Evermore and evermore.

4. Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;  
Angels and Archangels, sing!  
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
Let your joyous anthems ring,  
Every tongue his name confessing,  
Countless voices answering,  
Evermore and evermore.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Plainsong (Mode VI)  
arr. Colin Mawby  
(1936-2019)

*This acclamation heralds the Gospel reading. The Choir sings the Alleluia and all repeat.*



Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Cantor The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us: and we beheld his glory,  
the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

People **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Choir Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

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



People

*After the Gospel, the Deacon says*

The Gospel of the Lord.



People

*The People sit.*





THE SERMON

The Rector

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

THE NICENE CREED

*The People stand. At Christmas, it is customary to kneel at the underlined words, otherwise to bow.*

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 Leader says*

UNTO us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.  
Let us bring before God the needs of the world.

*The People kneel.*





Wonderful counsellor, give thy wisdom to the rulers of the nations,  
and especially to our President and to all in authority.

Lord, in thy mercy

*People* **hear our prayer.**

Mighty God, make the whole world know that the government is upon thy shoulders.  
Bless Andrew our Bishop, and all who proclaim thy truth.

Lord, in thy mercy

*People* **hear our prayer.**

Everlasting Father, establish thy reign of justice and righteousness for ever.  
We pray for all who are suffering today; the homeless in our city,  
all refugees, and all who are suffering through war, famine, invasion, or oppression.

Lord, in thy mercy

*People* **hear our prayer.**

Prince of peace, bring in the endless kingdom of thy peace;  
we pray for those who have died, and especially our loved ones,  
and those for whom these flowers are given in memory,  
and for whom these candles burn at the Christmas Crèche.

Lord, in thy mercy

*People* **hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silence, let us bring our own special prayers to God.

*Silence is kept.*

*The Celebrant says*

**O** GOD, who makest us glad by the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only  
Son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer,  
so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our Judge;  
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

*People* **Amen.**

*The People stand.*

## THE PEACE

*The Celebrant says*

**U**NTO us a child is born. Unto us a son is given.  
And his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM

Novo profusi gaudio

Matthew Martin  
(b. 1976)

NOVO profusi gaudio,  
Benedicamus Domino.

News of great joy,  
Let us bless the Lord.

Omnes gentes, plaudite,  
Car notre Saviour est né;  
Over all blessed he be,  
Rex Alpha et O.

All people, clap your hands,  
For our Saviour is born  
Over all blessed he be  
King, first and last.

A solis ortus cardine,  
Comme le monde est long et lé,  
All mankind maketh glee,  
Angeli canunt Deo.

From the rising of the sun,  
As the world is long and wide,  
All mankind maketh glee,  
The angels sing to God.

Enixa est puerpera,  
Que Saint Esprit en engrossa;  
Blessed be time that she said ya,  
Gabriele nuncio.

She brings forth a son,  
Whom the Holy Spirit enlarged;  
Blessed be time that she said ya,  
Gabriel the messenger.

Ex illibata virgine,  
Est nascu le Roi de Majesté;  
The hirds him see in low degree,  
Jacentem in presepio.

From the undefiled virgin,  
Born is the King of Majesty;  
The hirds him see in low degree  
Lying in a manger.

Gloria tibi, Domine,  
Fontaine de grâce et de pitié;  
Of all thy goodness we thank thee;  
Benedicamus Domino.

Glory to you, O Lord,  
Fount of grace and mercy;  
Of all thy goodness we thank thee;  
Let us bless the Lord.

*Anonymous 15th-century English*

*The People stand.*

HYMN

GOD REST YOU MERRY

GOD rest you merry, gentlemen,  
Let nothing you dismay,  
For Jesus Christ our Saviour  
Was born on Christmas Day;  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray:  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy;  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

2. From God our heavenly Father  
A blessed angel came  
And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by name:  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.



3. The shepherds at those tidings  
Rejoicèd much in mind,  
And left their flocks a-feeding  
In tempest, storm and wind,  
And went to Bethlehem straightway  
This blessèd babe to find:  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

4. Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood  
Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
All others doth deface:  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

18th-century London Carol

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation is arranged in four staves. The first staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics 'The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.' The second staff is for the People, with the lyrics 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord.' The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics 'Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.' The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics 'It is meet and right so to do.'

*The Celebrant continues*

**I**T is 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 give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

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.

Benedictus qui venit  
in nomine Domini.  
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.*

*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*

ALL glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth,  
and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy,  
didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him,  
and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption.  
He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute,  
and in his holy Gospel command us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread;  
and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
"Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,  
"Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you,  
and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make,  
with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee,  
the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make;  
having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us,  
and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine,  
that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies.  
Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion  
may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ,  
and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction;  
and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him,  
that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

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,

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

*People*

There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

## AGNUS DEI

*Sung by the Choir*

**A**GNUS 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

**B**EHOLD 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 various stations around the church.  
Please follow the direction of the ushers. Intinction is not permitted.  
Gluten free hosts are available - please ask the priest.*

CAROLS

*Sung by the Choir*

Welcome all wonders

*Jay Wilcox  
(b. 1954)*

**W**ELCOME all wonders in one sight! Eternity shut in a span.  
Summer in winter, day in night, Heaven in earth, and God in man.  
Great little one! Whose all-embracing birth lifts earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.  
Welcome all wonders in one sight! To thee, meek majesty!  
Each of us his lamb will bring, each his pair of silver doves;  
Till burnt at last in fire of thy fair eyes, ourselves become our own best sacrifice.  
Welcome all wonders in one sight!

*Richard Crashaw (1613-1649)*

Sans Day Carol

*arr. John Rutter  
(b. 1945)*

**N**OW the holly bears a berry as white as the milk,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who was wrapped up in silk:  
*Refrain: And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be,  
And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!*

Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross:  
*Refrain*



Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all:

*Refrain*

Now the holly bears a berry, as blood is it red,  
Then trust we our Saviour, who rose from the dead:

*Refrain*

*Traditional Cornish Carol*

*And this hymn is sung if needed, the people kneeling or sitting.*

HYMN

CRADLE SONG

A WAY in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my bedside till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

*Anonymous 19th-century American*

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*The Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The People kneel and silence is kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

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 blesses the People*

The Lord be with you.

*People*      **And with thy spirit.**

**M**AY Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy 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.**

HYMN

MENDELSSOHN

*arranged by David Willocks*

**H**ARK! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled:  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

THE DISMISSAL

*Deacon*      Go in the light and peace of Christ.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Carillon on 'Orientis Partibus'

*Arthur Wills  
(1926-2020)*



STC  
200

*God's Love at the Heart of New York*



## PILGRIMS' COURSE 2024



*Want to know more about the Christian Faith? Want to be baptized or confirmed? Want to become a member of Saint Thomas Church?*  
The Pilgrims' Course explores the Christian Faith as the Episcopal Church has received it, and as Saint Thomas expresses it through its mission to worship, love, and serve our Lord Jesus Christ through the Anglican Tradition and our unique choral heritage. Classes are open to all and, each year, a number of parishioners attend to refresh their faith and support those who are new to the faith or to our community. The first class will commence on Wednesday, January 17. A simple hot meal is available at 6:30pm, and the class runs from 7-8pm. Classes are hybrid, so if you cannot be present in-person, you can join us on-line.

To register please email: [pilgrims@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:pilgrims@saintthomaschurch.org)

## SERVICES NEXT WEEK AND BEYOND

The Church is open for Private Prayer and Visits to the Christmas Crèche

Tuesday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Shrine Prayers (Intercessions)

Tuesday – 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](mailto:prayer@saintthomaschurch.org)

### The Daily Eucharist

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

Tuesday: Saint Stephen

Wednesday: Saint John

Thursday: Holy Innocents

Friday: St. Thomas of Canterbury

### Confessions, Spiritual Advice, and Healing Ministry

Saturday, December 30, 11 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Confessor: Fr. Mark Schultz

### Sunday, December 31, 2023 ~ FESTAL EUCHARIST

7:45 a.m. Said Mass

9:00 a.m. Said Mass

11:00 a.m. Festal Eucharist

*sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir*

*Sermon by Fr. Gioia*

# CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

## Given to the Greater Glory of God and in Loving Memory of

The Rev. Walter J. Abbott, S.J.  
 Dr. Janis & Minna Abolins  
 Lote & Janis Abolins  
 Ruta Abolins  
 John C. Adams  
 Ted Agble  
 Dorothy and Arthur Ailey  
 Jim Allcorn  
 The Rev. Canon John G.B.  
     Andrew, OBE, DD  
 Carol Angell  
 Jose Maria Santa Anna Arciniega  
 John Kenneth Armstrong  
 Peter Arnotis  
 James and Elizabeth Arnold  
 Joanne T. and Donald K. Asperheim  
 Jacqueline Baclaw  
 Jeannette Bailey  
 Mary Helen Baldwin  
 Michael Adam Baldwin  
 Teddy Balk  
 Allison Banker  
 Mary N. Bannigan  
 Betty Barjou  
 Raphael & Mavis Barnaby  
 Teal Barnes  
 Rose Barrett  
 The Rev. Gordon-Hurst Barrow  
 Doris Barth  
 Janice Page Bath  
 Barbara Helen Battle  
 Louis M.S. Beal  
 Gustav Count Belrupt-Tissac  
 Friedrich Count Belrupt-Tissac, OT  
 Stephanie Countess Belrupt-Tissac  
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 Agnes Bender  
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 Harry P. Benner, Jr.  
 Elijah Bennett  
 Marion Biallot  
 Daniel J. Black  
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 Rhonda Blumberg  
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 Aubrey Brown  
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 Ethel Bayne (Watkins) Burrows  
 John Edward Burrows

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 Laurence McCallum Burrows, Jr.  
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 David Andrew Caraley  
 Demetrios Caraley  
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 Mavis Hines Carter  
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 Chang-Cheng Ching  
 Zhang-Shi Ching  
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 Barrington Clarke  
 Ann Valentine Cobb  
 Jack Cobb  
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 Cleveland Cole  
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 Barbara Vaughan Davis  
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 Zack Davis  
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 Lillian De Paris  
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 Alberto Garcia  
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 Wilhem F. Gauster-Filek  
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 The Rev. Melvin Geffert  
 The Rev. Rudolf Geffert  
 The Rev. Walter Geffert  
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