

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
The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

A SERVICE OF
CHRISTMAS LESSONS AND CAROLS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023 AT 12 P.M.
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

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

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

Christopher Seeley, *Head of School*

202 West 58th Street, New York, NY 10019

Telephone: 212-247-3311

www.ChoirSchool.org

email: 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*

THE LAY MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Lloyd G. Stanford, *Warden*

Karen Duncan

Christopher M. Haley, *Clerk*

Darren Littlejohn

Winnie Kung

Gregory Zaffiro, *Warden*

Samyel Lee

John G. Oghia

Benita Potters

Inge Reist

Karl C. Saunders, *Treasurer*

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



PRELUDE

Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her

Georg Böhm
(1661-1733)

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

HYMN

YORKSHIRE

1 Chris - tians, a - wake, sa - lute the hap - py morn
 2 Then to the watch - ful shep - herds it was told,
 *3 He spoke, and straight - way the ce - les - tial choir
 *4 In Beth - le - hem the hap - py shep - herds sought
 5 Let us, like these good shep - herds, then em - ploy

1 where - on the Sa - vior of the world was born;
 2 who heard the an - gel - ic her - ald's voice: "Be - hold,
 3 in hymns of joy, un - known be - fore, con - spire;
 4 to see the won - der God for us had wrought,
 5 our grate - ful voic - es to pro - claim the joy;

1 rise to a - dore the mys - ter - y of love,
 2 I bring good tid - ings of a Sa - vior's birth
 3 the prais - es of re - deem - ing love they sang,
 4 and found, with Jo - seph and the bless - ed maid,
 5 trace we the Babe, who hath re - trieved our loss,

1 which hosts of an - gels chant - ed from a - bove;
 2 to you and all the na - tions on the earth:
 3 and heaven's whole orb with al - le - lu - ias rang;
 4 her Son, the Sa - vior, in a man - ger laid;
 5 from his poor man - ger to his bit - ter cross;



1 with them the joy - ful tid - ings first be - gun of
 2 this day hath God ful - filled his prom - ised word, this
 3 God's high - est glo - ry was their an - them still, peace
 4 a - mazed, the won - drous sto - ry they pro - claim, the
 5 tread - ing his steps, as - sist - ed by his grace, till

1 God In - car - nate and the Vir - gin's Son.
 2 day is born a Sav - ior, Christ the Lord."
 3 on the earth, and un - to men good will.
 4 ear - liest her - alds of the Sa - vior's name.
 5 our first heaven - ly state a - gain takes place.

6 Then may we hope, the angelic thrones among,
 to sing, redeemed, a glad triumphal song;
 he that was born upon this joyful day
 around us all his glory shall display;
 saved by his love, incessant we shall sing
 eter-nal praise to heaven's almighty King.

Christians, awake, salute the happy morn. #106 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: John Byrom (1692-1763), alt.
 Music: Yorkshire, John Wainwright (1723-1768).

THE BIDDING

The Rector says

BELOVED in Christ, be it this Christmastide our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build, and especially in this city and diocese of New York.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are for ever one.



These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 Rector says

MAY the almighty God bless us with his grace;
Christ give us the joys of everlasting life,
and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of angels bring us all.

People Amen.

The People sit.

CAROL

This Joy

*Bob Chilcott
(b. 1955)*

THIS joy is a new joy, the wondrous birth of a baby boy.
Be glad, it is for us he came, sing out, Jesus is his name.
This birth is a new birth, that will bring us peace on earth.
Be glad, it is for us he came, sing out, Jesus is his name.
This light in its majesty shines for all the world to see,
A light of love and giving, a light for all the living.
This love is a new love, sent to us from heaven above.
Be glad, for the hope that springs, sing out for the joy it brings,
Sing out this joy!

Bob Chilcott

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise
and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.*



CAROL

Adam lay ybounden

Richard Webster
(b. 1952)

ADAM lay ybounden, bounden in a bond;
four thousand winter thought he not too long.
And all was for an apple, an apple that he took,
as clerkes finden written in their book.

Ne had the apple take been, the apple taken been,
ne had never our lady a been heav'ne queen.
Blessed be the time that apple taken was,
therefore we moun singen "Deo gracias."

Anon. 15th-century

The People stand.

HYMN

GOD REST YOU MERRY



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
3 The shep - herds at those tid - ings re - joic - èd much in mind,
4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



For Je - sus Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ - mas Day,
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:
and left their flocks a - feed - ing in temp - est, storm and wind,
and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
and went to Beth - le - hem straight - way this bless - èd babe to find:
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.



Refrain
O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and



joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

God rest you merry, gentlemen, #105 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: London carol, 18th cent. Music: *God Rest You Merry*, melody from *Little Book of Christmas Carols*, ca. 1850; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

The People sit.

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

The Peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.



CAROL

Ding Dong! merrily on high

Sir David V. Willcocks
(1919-2015)

DING dong! merrily on high
in heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky
is riv'n with angel singing.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io,
by priest and people sungen.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime
your matin chime, ye ringers;
may you beautifully rhyme
your evetime song, ye singers.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)

THIRD LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

CAROL

The Angel Gabriel

Philip Moore
(b. 1943)

THE angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
'Most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

'For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honour thee,
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said.
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name.'
Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout all the world will ever say:
'Most highly favoured lady,' Gloria!

Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:1, 3-20

Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.



The People stand.

HYMN

GLORIA

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
 What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.



The People sit.

CAROL

Welcome all wonders

Jay Wilcox
(b. 1954)

WELCOME 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!

Words by G. K. Chesterton (1874-1936)

The People stand.

FIFTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

Saint John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

The People sit.



CAROL

Novo profusi

Matthew Martin
(b. 1976)

NOVO profusi gaudio,
Benedicamus Domino.

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

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

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

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

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

*News of great joy,
Let us bless the Lord.*

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

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

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

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

*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

ADESTE FIDELES

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God of God, Light of Light,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 Ve - ry God, Be - got - ten not cre - at - ed:
 3 glo - ry to God, in the high - est

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

O come, all ye faithful, #83 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others.
 Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.



THE COLLECT

The Rector says

The Lord be with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O GOD, who makest us glad with 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. **Amen.**

The People remain standing.

THE BLESSING

The Rector says

MAY he who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

ANTIOCH

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and



heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

- 1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
- 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
- 3 far as the curse is found, far
- 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
peat the sound - ing joy,
as the curse is found,
won - ders of his love,

Joy to the world! the Lord is come, #100 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.
Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

VOLUNTARY

Sortie sur 'Venez, divin Messie', (1968)

Pierre Cochereau
(1924-1984)

trans. François Lombard



CHRISTMAS AT SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE



Sunday, December 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

4 p.m.

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS
sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

5:30 p.m.

VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS (Said at the High Altar)

10 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR ORGAN AND BRASS

10:30 p.m.

PROCESSION AND SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY (MIDNIGHT MASS)

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

Music of *Malcolm, Moore, Willcocks, Rutter, and Filsell*

Sermon by The Right Reverend Matthew Heyd, Bishop Coadjutor of New York



Monday, December 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

9 a.m.

SAID EUCHARIST at the High Altar

11 a.m.

PROCESSION AND SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Music of *Walton, Martin, Willcocks, and Rutter*

Sermon by The Rector

SERVICES NEXT WEEK

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., and 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

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



OPEN HOUSE

*for parents, music educators,
and school professionals*

Tuesday, January 9
6:00-7:30pm
Saint Thomas Choir School
202 West 58th Street, NYC



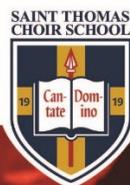
Scan to RSVP

Join us to learn more about our unique boarding school
for boys in grades 3-8 with a passion for music.





A Small School in a Great City




Saint Thomas Choir School educates the treble choristers of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. The boys are nurtured and educated in grades three through eight and live together in the heart of Manhattan at the only boarding choir school in the U.S.

Life at the Choir School extends far beyond the choir stalls and classroom—boys enjoy animated conversations at the dinner table with resident faculty, quiet stories read before bed, outings to shows, and Central Park as their backyard. These formative experiences inspire many graduates to recall their time at the Choir School as the "privilege of a lifetime."

The Choir School invites you to visit and learn more about this distinctive educational opportunity. Tuition is modest and generous scholarships are available.

choirschool.org

Call to take the next step
Nora Thomson
Director of Outreach & Enrollment
212-247-3311

