



# SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

in the  
CITY OF NEW YORK

One West Fifty-third Street  
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[www.SaintThomasChurch.org](http://www.SaintThomasChurch.org)

*Welcome to Saint Thomas Church, a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New York.  
Our mission is to worship, love and serve Our Lord Jesus Christ  
through the Anglican tradition and our unique choral heritage.*

The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

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**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**DECEMBER 6, 2020**

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**FESTAL EVENSONG — 3 p.m.**  
**sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir**

**PRELUDE**

Rorate Caeli

*Jeanne Demessieux*  
(1921-1968)

*At the entry of the Ministers, the People stand.*

**VERSICLES AND RESPONSES**

*John Scott*  
(1956-2015)

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

**PSALM 40**

*Sung by the Choir.*

Plainsong (*Tone VI*)

**I** WAITED patiently for the Lord,\* and he inclined unto me, and heard my calling.  
2 He brought me also out of the horrible pit, out of the mire and clay,\* and set my feet upon the rock, and ordered my goings.  
3 And he hath put a new song in my mouth,\* even a thanksgiving unto our God.  
4 Many shall see it, and fear,\* and shall put their trust in the Lord.  
5 Blessed is the man that hath set his hope in the Lord,\* and turned not unto the proud, and to such as go about with lies.  
6 O Lord my God, great are the wondrous works which thou hast done, like as be also thy thoughts, which are to us-ward;\* and yet there is no man that ordereth them unto thee.  
7 If I should declare them, and speak of them,\* they should be more than I am able to express.  
8 Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not,\* but mine ears hast thou opened.  
9 Burnt-offering and sacrifice for sin hast thou not required:\* then said I, Lo, I come;  
10 In the volume of the book it is written of me, that I should fulfil thy will, O my God:\* I am content to do it; yea, thy law is within my heart.  
11 I have declared thy righteousness in the great congregation:\* lo, I will not refrain my lips, O Lord, and that thou knowest.  
12 I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart;\* my talk hath been of thy truth, and of thy salvation.  
13 I have not kept back thy loving mercy and truth from the great congregation.  
14 Withdraw not thou thy mercy from me, O Lord;\* let thy loving-kindness and thy truth always preserve me.

- 15 For innumerable troubles are come about me; my sins have taken such hold upon me, that I am not able to look up;\* yea, they are more in number than the hairs of my head, and my heart hath failed me.
- 16 O Lord, let it be thy pleasure to deliver me;\* make haste, O Lord, to help me.
- 17 Let them be ashamed, and confounded together, that seek after my soul to destroy it;\* let them be driven backward, and put to rebuke, that wish me evil.
- 18 Let them be desolate, and rewarded with shame,\* that say unto me, Fie upon thee! fie upon thee!
- 19 Let all those that seek thee, be joyful and glad in thee;\* and let such as love thy salvation, say always, The Lord be praised.
- 20 As for me, I am poor and needy;\* but the Lord careth for me.
- 21 Thou art my helper and redeemer;\* make no long tarrying, O my God.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,\* and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,\* world without end. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Amos 6:1-14

*The People stand for the Office Hymn and the Magnificat.*

OFFICE HYMN

*Sung by the Choir.*

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,  
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse  
3 When this old world drew on toward night,  
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now  
5 Come in your pray, ho - ly might, we pray,  
\* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,

1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,  
3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,  
4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:  
5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;  
6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,

1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,  
2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free  
3 not as a mon - arch, but the child  
4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low  
6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be

1 we pray you hear us when we call.  
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.  
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.  
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.  
5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956) Copyright ©1984, Bruce Neswick. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

**M**Y Soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 7:28-35

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

## NUNC DIMITTIS IN D

*Sung by the Choir.**Edward Naylor*

**L**ORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word.  
 For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation;  
 Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;  
 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel  
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

## APOSTLES' CREED

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

*Priest*      The Lord be with you.  
*Choir*      And with thy spirit.

*The People kneel.*

*Priest*      Let us pray.  
*Choir*      Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**O**UR FATHER, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

*Priest*      O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
*Choir*      And grant us thy salvation.  
*Priest*      O Lord, save the State;  
*Choir*      And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.  
*Priest*      Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
*Choir*      And make thy chosen people joyful.  
*Priest*      O Lord, save thy people;  
*Choir*      And bless thine inheritance.  
*Priest*      Give peace in our time, O Lord;  
*Choir*      Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.  
*Priest*      O God, make clean our hearts within us;  
*Choir*      And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

**M**ERCIFUL God, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## THE SECOND COLLECT

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

## THE THIRD COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

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

## SERMON

The Rev. Ryan Bennett  
*Assistant Priest*

## ANTHEM

*Sung by the Choir.*

*Herbert Howells*  
(1892-1983)

**H**ILLS of the North, rejoice,  
River and Mountain spring,  
Hark to the advent voice;  
Valley and lowland, sing.  
Though absent long, your Lord is nigh;  
He judgement brings and victory.

Isles of the Southern seas,  
Deep in your coral caves  
Pent be each warring breeze;  
Lulled be your restless waves;  
He comes to reign with boundless sway  
And makes his wastes his great highway.

Lands of the East awake  
Soon shall your sons be free;  
The sleep of ages break,  
And rise to liberty.  
On your far hills, long cold and grey,  
Has dawned the everlasting day.

Shores of the utmost West,  
Ye that have waited long,  
Unvisited, unblest,  
Break forth to swelling song,  
High raise the note that Jesus died,  
Yet lives and reigns; the Crucified.

Shout while we journey home;  
Songs be in every mouth;  
Lo from the North we come,  
From East and West and South;  
City of God, the bonds are free;  
We come to live and reign in thee.

*Charles Edward Oakley*

## FINAL PRAYERS

## BLESSING

## POSTLUDE

Psalm Prelude, Set two, no. 2

*Herbert Howell*  
(1892-1983)

**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. 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 20.**

**Fall 2020 Digital Concert Season:** Please join us online on **Tuesday, December 8, at 7:30 p.m.,** for a special *Concerts at Saint Thomas* archival audio presentation of The Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys' performance of **Handel's *Messiah*** from 2019. This archival presentation will be available On Demand through Christmas. For more information, please visit us online at [www.saintthomaschurch.org/music/concerts](http://www.saintthomaschurch.org/music/concerts).

### **Coffee Hour**

We continue to host our "Virtual Coffee Hour" which will use the ZOOM platform to host a virtual meeting at 12:45 p.m. Contact Fr. Moretz at [MMoretz@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:MMoretz@SaintThomasChurch.org) to learn more and receive login credentials.

### **Children and Families' Gatherings**

**Faith Alive** group meets today via Zoom at 9:45 a.m. **Sunday Zoom!** continues at 10:15 am. If you know a family that would like to receive our regular newsletter or to obtain login information for either the Sunday Zoom! or Faith Alive, contact **Mother Turner** at [ATurner@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:ATurner@SaintThomasChurch.org).

### **Friday Online Bible Study**

All are welcome to join the parish's ongoing **Friday Online Bible Study** via ZOOM. The class begins at 1:30 p.m. and runs for an hour. During the season of **Advent**, the class will be studying "Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent" by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, which covers the biblical texts about the birth of Jesus Christ. For more information, contact Fr. Bennett at [RBennett@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:RBennett@SaintThomasChurch.org)

### **The Church is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

(Face coverings, hand sanitization, health screening, and 6 ft. distancing required for entry)

### **Shrine Prayers (Intercessions) and Holy Eucharist\***

**Monday – Saturday at 12 p.m.**

(Contact tracing is mandatory to attend Mass)

*\*Live audio stream webcast continues, and then be available on-demand.*

### **Please send your requests for prayers**

via the website [click here](#)

or emailed to: [prayer@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:prayer@saintthomaschurch.org)

### **Confessions, Spiritual Advice and Healing Ministry**

**(Resurrection Chapel: Bishop Andrew St. John)**

**Saturday from 11 to 11:45 a.m. in the Church**

*(need to wear a mask; chairs will be placed at an appropriate distance)*

### **Young Adult Group Discussion then Compline:**

**Monday evenings**

*(see email group or Facebook page for details)*

### **Evening Prayer and Meditation**

**with Fr. Spencer and Sister Promise**

**Thursday at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM Platform**

(Contact Fr. Spencer: [ASpencer@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:ASpencer@SaintThomasChurch.org) for details)

**NEXT SUNDAY – DECEMBER 13**  
**The Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)**

**9 a.m. Said Eucharist (Rite II) (High Altar)**

***Celebrant*, Fr. Bennett**  
***Preacher*, The Rector**

*(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)*

**[Register by following this link.](#)**

**10 a.m. Adult Education, 12-week course on**

**The Nicene Creed** continues with Fr. Cheng via the ZOOM Platform (**[Click here](#)** to RSVP for the online class.  
*You can also contact Fr. Cheng at [PCheng@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:PCheng@SaintThomasChurch.org) for more information.*)

**10:15 a.m. Children and Families' Sunday Zoom!**

*(see Children & Families notice above for further details)*

**11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist**

**sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir**

*(with video livestream, and, thereafter, on-demand)*

***Celebrant*, Mo. Turner**  
***Preacher*, The Rector**

*(Pre-registration is essential to ensure seating and to save time upon arrival)*

**[Register by following this link.](#)**

**3 p.m. (note time) The Blessing of the Crèche**

**(No live service; a pre-recorded video will be available on-demand only)**

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE WITH THE CHOIR**

***(Subject to COVID-19 Restrictions not being in place)***

*Unless noted, all will be livestream video-cast and then available on-demand*

### **Sunday, December 13**

3 p.m. The Blessing of the Creche (pre-recorded)

### **Wednesday, December 16**

12 p.m. A Service of Lessons and Carols (shorter form)

### **Sunday, December 20**

3 p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

### **Thursday, December 24 *Christmas Eve***

6 p.m. (note time) Solemn Vigil Eucharist of Christmas

### **Friday, December 25 *Christmas Day***

10 a.m. (note time) Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity

### **Sunday, December 27**

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist  
*(There will be no Choral Evensong)*

### **Thursday, December 31**

11:30 p.m. A service to welcome in the New Year and pray for Peace in 2021 (pre-recorded)

### **Sunday, January 3**

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist  
*(There will be no Choral Evensong)*

### **Wednesday, January 6 *The Epiphany***

12 p.m. Solemn Eucharist

#### **ASSISTING CLERGY**

The Reverend Matthew Moretz, *Associate Rector*  
The Reverend Adam Spencer, *Associate for Pastoral Care*  
The Reverend Alison J. Turner,  
*Associate for Children and Family Ministry*  
The Reverend Dr. Patrick S. Cheng,  
*Theologian in Residence*  
The Reverend Ryan Bennett, *Assistant Priest*  
The Reverend Sr. Marie Promise Atelon SSM, *Deacon*

#### **STAFF**

Dr. Jeremy Filsell, *Organist and Director of Music*  
Nicolas Haigh, *Associate Organist*  
Nicholas Quardokus, *Assistant Organist*  
Aaron W. Koch, *Head Verger*  
Benjamin E. Williams, *Verger*  
Bruce Smith, *Chief Advancement Officer*  
Adam MacDonald, *Director of Development*  
Blake Martin, *Interim Director of Communications*  
& *Digital Production*

#### **SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL**

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