



SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

in the
CITY OF NEW YORK



The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

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

Pew #

Please switch off all cellular telephones. Unauthorized recordings and the taking of photographs during worship at Saint Thomas Church are prohibited.
To contact us, email welcome@SaintThomasChurch.org.

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE)

DECEMBER 13, 2020

The Penitential Order

Celebrant ✠ Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Celebrant may read a sentence of scripture.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The People kneel. Silence is kept.

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant says

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

Lord, have mercy. *or*
Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Christe eleison.
Christe eleison.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

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

Silence is kept. The Celebrant says the Collect.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come
among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins,
let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver
us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and
the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Lesson

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord
has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the
oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim
liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to
proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. I will greatly rejoice in

the Lord, my soul shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Canticle *Luke 1:47-48, 49-50, 53-54*

The Lector announces the response and all repeat.

R. My soul shall exult in my God.

My soul magnifies the Lord
and my Spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed. **R.**

For the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation. **R.**

The Lord has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation

The People stand.

Lector Alleluia, alleluia.
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has
sent me to bring good news to the poor.

People **Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel *John 1:6-8, 19-28*

The Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Homily

The Rector

The Nicene Creed

The People stand.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People (Form IV)

The Leader and People pray responsively

After each petition:

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.
People: Hear our prayer.

Silence is kept, then the Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

People Amen.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Peace

The People stand. The Celebrant says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

The Offertory

*You can leave your offering at the door as you leave or text
Give to 855-938-2085*

The Celebrant takes the paten with the bread, saying

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
for through your goodness
we have received the bread we offer you:
fruit of the earth and work of human hands,
It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Celebrant takes the chalice, saying

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
for through your goodness
we have received the wine we offer you:
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become our spiritual drink.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant says the Preface, ending

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

Celebrant and People

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The People kneel. The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Prayer concludes

...now and for ever.
People AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Celebrant and People

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then is said

People Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant and People

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

The Invitation to Communion

The Celebrant says

Behold the Lamb of God.
Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

The Celebrant and people receive Holy Communion.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People kneel. Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

People And with your spirit.

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter
the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of
God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to prepare the way of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Monday-Saturday

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers (Intercessions) and Mass (Rite II)
except on Wednesday, December 16, when the Eucharist
will follow the shorter Service of Lessons and Carols
Live audio stream webcast continues, and then on-demand.

✠ **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16**

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

*A shorter version of Lessons and Carols will be offered and video-cast.
This service will be followed by a short, Said Mass at the High Altar.*

✠ **NEXT SUNDAY – DECEMBER 20**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

all services are in-person and two are video-cast.

9 a.m. Said Mass (Rite II)

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist (Rite I) with the choir
Video livestream and then available on-demand

3 p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
Video livestream and then available on-demand

For our latest news:

www.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. 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.**

Beginning **Thursday, December 17, at 5:30 p.m.**, please
join us online for a special *Concerts at Saint Thomas* archival
audio presentation of The Boys of the Saint Thomas Choir's
performance of **Britten's A Ceremony of Carols** from
2019. This archival audio presentation as well as **Handel's
Messiah** will be available On-demand through Christmas.
While we cannot be together in person for these annual
events, we hope you will enjoy listening to them during this
Advent and Christmas Season. For more information, visit
us online at www.saintthomaschurch.org/music/concerts.

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*