

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*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023 AT 4 P.M.
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SOLEMN EVENSONG
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*
Samuel Lee
John G. Oghia
Benita Potters
Inge Reist
Karl C. Saunders, *Treasurer*

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



PRELUDE

Fugue No. 2 (*from A Triptych of Fugues*)

Gerald Near
(b. 1942)

INTROIT

Gerre Hancock
(1934-2012)

PREPARE ye the way of the Lord: make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low:
the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.
The glory of the Lord shall be revealed: the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Isaiah 40:3-5

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

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Kenneth Leighton
(1929-1988)

The Officiant and Choir sing the opening responses.

- ℣. O Lord, open thou our lips.
℞. *And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.*
- ℣. O God, make speed to save us.
℞. *O Lord, make haste to help us.*
- ℣. 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.*
- ℣. Praise ye the Lord.
℞. *The Lord's Name be praised.*

The People sit.

WELCOME

PSALM 40

Sung by the Choir

Anglican Chant (*Buck, Filsell*)

EXPECTANS EXPECTAVI

IWAITED patiently for the Lord : and he inclined unto me, and heard my calling.
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.
And he hath put a new song in my mouth : even a thanksgiving unto our God.
Many shall see it, and fear : and shall put their trust in the Lord.
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.
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.
If I should declare them, and speak of them : they should be more than I am able to express.
Sacrifice and meat-offering thou wouldest not: but mine ears hast thou opened.
Burnt-offerings, and sacrifice for sin, hast thou not required : then said I, Lo, I come,
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.
 I have declared thy righteousness in the great congregation :
 lo, I will not refrain my lips, O Lord, and that thou knowest.
 I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart :
 my talk hath been of thy truth and of thy salvation.
 I have not kept back thy loving mercy and truth : from the great congregation.
 Withdraw not thou thy mercy from me, O Lord:
 let thy loving-kindness and thy truth always preserve me.
 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.
 O Lord, let it be thy pleasure to deliver me : make haste, O Lord, to help me.
 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.
 Let them be desolate, and rewarded with shame: that say unto me, Fie upon thee, fie upon thee.
 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.
 As for me, I am poor and needy : but the Lord careth for me.
 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.

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 22:1-28

The People stand for the Office Hymn and Magnificat.

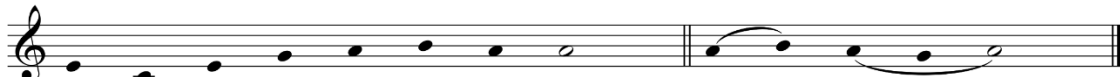
OFFICE HYMN

VERBUM SUPERNUM PRODIENS

1 O heaven - ly Word, e - ter - nal Light,
 2 pour light up - on us from a - bove,
 3 and when, as judge, thou draw - est nigh
 4 O let us not, for e - vil past,
 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,

1 be - got - ten of the _____ Fa - ther's might,
 2 and fire our hearts with _____ ar - dent love,
 3 the se - crets of our _____ hearts to try,
 4 be driv - en from thy _____ face at last,
 5 and God the Spi - rit, _____ ev - er One,

1 who in these lat - ter _____ days wast born
 2 that, as we hear thy _____ truth to - day,
 3 to rec - om - pense each _____ hid - den sin
 4 but with thy saints for _____ ev - er - more
 5 praise, hon - or, might, and _____ glo - ry be



1 for bless - ing to a world for - lorn;
 2 all wrong de - sires may burn a - way;
 3 and bid the saints their reign be - gin; (5) A - men. _____
 4 be - hold thee, love thee, and a - dore.
 5 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

O heavenly Word, eternal Light, #63 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymnal 1982*. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.
 Music: *Verbum superum prodiens*, plainsong, Mode 2, Nevers MS., 13th cent.; acc. Howard Don Small (b. 1932).

MAGNIFICAT

St. Mark's Service

Gerald Near
(b. 1942)

MY 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.

The People sit.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 15:4-13

The People stand for the Nunc Dimittis and the Creed.

NUNC DIMITTIS

St. Mark's Service

Gerald Near

LORD, 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.

THE 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.

THE PRAYERS

Sung by the Choir

℣. The Lord be with you.
℞. And with thy spirit.

The People kneel.

Let us pray.

℞. Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*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. Amen.*

℣. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
℞. And grant us thy salvation.

℣. O Lord, save the State.
℞. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

℣. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
℞. And make thy chosen people joyful.

℣. O Lord, save thy people.
℞. And bless thine inheritance.

℣. Give peace in our time, O Lord.
℞. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.



℣. O God, make clean our hearts within us.
℟. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

MERCIFUL God, who didst send 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 COLLECT FOR ADVENT

ALMIGHTY 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 COLLECT FOR PEACE

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 both 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 COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

LIGHTEN 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.*

The People sit.

ANTHEM

Christus Maris

Francis Shaw
(b. 1942)

EARTH 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 (b. 1934-1999)

SERMON

The Reverend Matthew J. Moretz

Vicar



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HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY

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.



THE BLESSING

The Rector says

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 ADVENT PROSE

The People join in singing the antiphon after each verse.

Antiphon



BE not wroth very sore, O Lord,
neither remember iniquity forever:
thy holy cities are a wilderness,
Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:
our holy and our beautiful house,
where our fathers praised thee. *Antiphon*

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,
and we all do fade as a leaf:
and our iniquities, like the wind,
have taken us away:
thou hast hid thy face from us:
and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. *Antiphon*

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,
and my servant whom I have chosen:
that ye may know me and believe me:
I, even I, am the Lord,
and beside me there is no Saviour:
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. *Antiphon*

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people,
my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud
thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee:
For I am the Lord thy God,
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer. *Antiphon*

VOLUNTARY

Vox Clara Intonat

Gerald Near

5:15 P.M. ORGAN RECITAL

*Immediately following the service, we invite you to stay for the Sunday Recital Series
featuring Maks Adach, Associate for Musical Studies and Assistant Organist*



The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following:
Mrs. Robert L. Dodge, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, Dr. Lewis Rutherford Morris, and Harold V. Smith

WORSHIP THIS WEEK

* indicates livestreamed.

Today

5:15 p.m. Organ Recital

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

Monday - Saturday

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers and Holy Eucharist*

Tuesday - Our Lady of Guadalupe

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Wednesday - Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong*

sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

Thursday - John of the Cross, Mystic, 1591

5:30 p.m. Concert: Christmas on Fifth Avenue

*The Boys of Saint Thomas Choir, with The Juilliard Music
Advancement Program String Ensemble*

Saturday

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

Confessor: Fr. Gioia

4 p.m. The Blessing of the Crèche

*A service for children and their families
sung by the Noble Singers*

Next Sunday: December 17,

The Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)

7:45 a.m. Said Mass

9 a.m. Sung Mass

followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish House

11 a.m. Festal Eucharist*

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

12:30 p.m. Christmas Carols

*Sung from the historic 5th Avenue staircase of the
church, immediately following the 11 a.m. Mass
sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys*

4 p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*

*sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys
featuring works of French, M. Martin, Latona,
Wilcox, Moore, Rutter, and Chilcott*

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.

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.

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 5th Floor of the Parish House and are streamed online. For more info, contact Fr. Luigi Gioia: lgioia@saintthomaschurch.org.

Children and Family Ministries: Following on from the Feast of Saint Nicholas (December 6), today we look forward to greeting our first Child Bishop at the 9am Mass and welcoming back a familiar Saint to Sunday School at 10am in the Parish House. This Sunday, the Nursery continues to be available for the sole use of babies and toddlers with their parents/caregivers, from 9am-1pm in the Parish House, 3rd floor. To receive our Children and Families weekly newsletter, to participate in our Creche Service on Saturday, December 16 at 4pm or to register your interest in any of our other Advent and Christmas events, please contact 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. (Please note that the weekly Bible Study is on hiatus until January 12.)

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.

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.

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 TOMORROW, Monday, 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.



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

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