

St. Thomas Reformed Church
St. Thomas, U. S. Virgin Islands
Founded 1660



August 1, 2021

We Welcome One and All
In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

The liturgical color today is green for the growth and mission of the church.

“We Gather In God’s Presence…”

Greeting and Ministry Updates

Introit

“Let Everything That Hath Breath”

Raney

Refrain:

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord

Lift up your voices and sing

Rejoice, the Lord is King

We bring thanksgiving and praise

Alleluias we raise

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord

Praise the Lord in the sanctuary

Praise the Lord in the heavens above

Praise the Lord for great acts of power

Praise the Source of endless love

Praise the Lord with resounding symbols

Praise the Lord with the harp and lyre

Praise the Lord with the sounding of the trumpet

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord

Oh, worship the King all-glorious above

Oh, gratefully sing God’s power and God’s love

Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days

Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise (*refrain*)

Call to Worship (*Psalm 51:15*)

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth!

Amen!

O Lord, open our lips,

and our mouths will declare your praise!

Prayer

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
Pilgrim through this barren land
I am weak, but thou art mighty
Hold me with thy powerful hand
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
Feed me till I want no more
Feed me till I want no more

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer
Be thou still my strength and shield
Be thou still my strength and shield

When I tread the verge of Jordan
Bid my anxious fears subside
Bear me through the swelling current
Land me safe on Canaan's side
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee
I will ever give to thee

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden. 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...

Response

"Seek Ye First"

Lafferty

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
And God's righteousness
And all these things will be added unto you
Allelu, Alleluia!

We do not live by bread alone
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God
Allelu, Alleluia!

Words of Assurance and Hope

Children's Message

Hymn

'Give Me Jesus'

Spiritual

In the morning, when I rise
In the morning, when I rise
In the morning, when I rise
Give me Jesus

Refrain

Give me Jesus
Give me Jesus
You may have all this world
Give me Jesus

And when I am alone
Oh, when I am alone
Yes, when I am alone
Give me Jesus (*refrain*)

And when I come to die
Oh, when I come to die
Yes, when I come to die
Give me Jesus (*refrain*)

...To Hear God's Word...

Scripture

John 6:24-35

Message

"Feed Me!"

And Respond With Gratitude...

Offering

(You are invited to bring your gifts to the altar and place them in the offering plates or in the box by the front sanctuary door. Online giving is also available at www.strcgiving.org)

Offertory

“The 23rd Psalm”

Sorenson

The Lord is my shepherd and I shall not want
I shall not want

I shall not want

The Lord is my shepherd and I shall not want
How could I ask for more?

He leads by still water, and I shall not want
How could I ask for more?

He is enough for every need

He is enough for every broken dream

The Lord is my shepherd

I shall not want

I'm satisfied with what He gives

He will provide and faithfully supply

The Lord is my shepherd

I shall not want

He leads through the valley, and I shall not want
How could I ask for more?

He is the Night, He is the Day

He is the Sun, He is the Shade.

He is the Ocean, He's the Stream

In every song, He is my theme

And if we wander off alone

His mercy calls us back to home

I feast at His table, and I shall not want

I shall not want for more

He is the strength to conquer sin

He's faithful when my trust is thin

I shall not want

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

***Apostle's Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
And born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy Christian Church
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen

A Celebration of Communion

(All who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome at the table. Beginning with the back pews, you are invited to come forward using the side aisles, to take a communion cup back to your seat using the center aisle.)

“The Last Supper”

Rachel DeWalt, soloist

Jesus took the bread he broke
Jesus shared the bread he broke
And said, “Do this,
Do this in memory of me”
Jesus took the wine he poured
Jesus shared the wine he poured
And said, “Do this,
Do this in memory of me”

I am the vine
You are the branches
And all who live in me
Will bear great fruit

I am the bread
Come down from heaven
And all who eat this bread
Will have eternal life

All who come to me
Shall not hunger
And all who come to me
Shall not thirst

Jesus took the bread he broke
Jesus shared the bread he broke
And said, “Do this,
Do this in memory of me”
Jesus took the wine he poured
Jesus shared the wine he poured
And said, “Do this,
Do this in memory of me”

MEANING OF THE SACRAMENT

Beloved in the Lord Jesus, the meal which we are about to celebrate is a feast of remembrance, communion, and hope.

We come to remember that Jesus was sent into the world to assume our flesh and blood, to become God with us, that we might be redeemed. We come to have communion with this same Christ who has promised to be with us even to the end of the world. We come in hope, believing that this bread and this cup are a pledge and a foretaste of a new heaven and a new earth, where we shall behold God.

Jesus said, I was hungry and you gave me food;

I was thirsty and you gave me drink.

Here is the bread of life given for us;

let all who hunger come and eat.

Here is the fruit of the vine, poured out for us;

let all who thirst come and drink.

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Holy and right it is to give you thanks and praise at all times and in all places, O God our Creator.

Source of all life and goodness, You created heaven with all its hosts and the earth with all its plenty and preserve us by your providence.

With your whole church on earth and with all the company of heaven we proclaim your glory.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full**

**Full of Your glory
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna in the highest
Blessed is He who comes
In the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna in the highest**

Most righteous God, we remember in this meal the perfect sacrifice offered once on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ for the sin of the whole world. United with Christ in his suffering, strengthened by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the power of God to triumph over evil, we wait in joyful hope for the fullness of God's reign.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray, that the bread which we break and the cup which we bless may be to us the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Grant that, being joined together in him, we may attain the unity of the faith and grow up in all things into Christ our Lord.

And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf, and these grapes from many hills into one cup, grant, O Lord, that your whole Church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

COMMUNION

***THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION**

Brothers and sisters, since the Lord has now fed us at his Table, let us praise God's holy name with heartfelt thanksgiving!

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and do not forget all his benefits—

who forgives all your iniquity,

who heals all your diseases,

who redeems your life from the Pit,

who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him,
who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all,
and will also give us all things with him.

**Therefore shall my mouth and heart show forth the praise
of the Lord, from this time forth forevermore. Amen.**

From Psalm 103, with additions

***The Lord's Prayer**

Malotte

(The congregation is invited to stand and sing)

**Our 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil

**For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever
Amen**

***Benediction**

Postlude

"O Worship the King"

arr. Raney

David McConnell, organ/Chanelle Schaffer, piano

GIVING THANKS:

Leading Worship Today:

Ministers:	All of us viewing together
Preaching:	Pastor Jeff Neevel
Music:	Chanelle Schaffer, Rachel Himes-DeWalt David McConnell, and the Adult Choir
Live Stream Team:	James Anderson, James Cobb, Andrea King, Lucy Sutton, David Whitter

A warm welcome to our visitors! You are invited to complete the visitor registration forms on the back table. Please then place them in the offering box.

The offering box is located on the small table at the back of the church. The online link is STRCGIVING.ORG

Bathrooms for the congregation's use are in the Undercroft and inside the gate going to Bakery Square.

The church office will be closed on Mondays.

This morning we welcome back guest organist David McConnell. He holds degrees from Westminster Choir College, Temple University, and the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. David is the Minister of Music at Immanuel United Church of Christ in Reading, PA, and teaches at both Alvernia University and Pennsylvania University. Additionally, he founded Vox Philia Chamber Choir and Berks Sinfonietta Chamber Orchestra, both of which are highly respected performance groups in Reading.

Lectionary Scripture Readings

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33; Psalm 130
1 Kings 19:4-8; Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

The Jazz Vespers service is this afternoon here in the **Sanctuary from 5 to 7 p.m.** Please come back for this **very special musical event; featuring Dion Parson & Friends**, STRC vocalists and musical guests! It promises to be an inspiring afternoon/evening of jazz & gospel with some of the best musicians around. This will be the first in a series of musical events at STRC; it's a wonderful opportunity for us to reconnect with each other, and to get reacquainted with the wider island community. Light refreshments will be served; come for the entire time, or just pop in & out as your schedule permits--but don't miss it!!

STRC is excited to welcome a **new Co-pastor** to work alongside Pastor Jeff. Help us welcome the Rowe family. They will temporarily be making their home in our Retreat Center (RC2). Stop by the office **before August 6** to bring any or all of the following:

-A note of welcome

-A picture of your family with your names and/or your contact information.

-An invitation to join your family for a meal, a beach day, or some favorite activity.

-A gift certificate to one of your "favs": tourist attraction, restaurant, grocery store, etc.

-Something you cannot live without: toilet paper? toothpaste? soap? Oreos?! (and of course: Peanut Butter)

Join Rev. Rebecca Broom in STRC's worship center as she tells the story of the Noah. From Young Children and Worship. © 1989 Sonja M. Stewart and Jerome W. Berryman Here is the link. <https://youtu.be/gFzlQn9C1xY>

Contact Information

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