

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



August 15, 2021

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

<https://www.facebook.com/stthomasreformedchurch/live>

Or

<https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCvFA8vUToP3W257eL8pf4pw>

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

The liturgical color today is green representing the mission of the church!

“We Gather In God’s Presence...”

Greeting and Ministry Updates

Prelude

“Bird-Song no. 1: Kestrel”

Geller

Bonham Geller

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 130:5-7)*

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

Amen!

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

And in God’s word I hope;

My soul waits for the Lord

More than those who watch for the morning

Hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with God is great power to redeem.

Prayer

Hymn

‘God of the Ages, History’s Maker’

BUNESSAN

God of the ages, history's Maker
Planning our pathway, holding us fast
Shaping in mercy all that concerns us
Here, now, we praise you, Lord of the past

God of this morning, gladly your children
Worship before you, trustingly bow
Teach us to know you, always among us
Quietly sovereign– Lord of our now

God of tomorrow, strong overcomer
Princes of darkness own your command
What then can harm us? We are your people
Now and forever kept by your hand

Lord of past ages, Lord of this morning
Lord of the future, help us, we pray
Teach us to trust you, love and obey you
Crown you each moment, Lord of today

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Loving Lord, You have given us precious life. Forgive us for letting the world tell us how to live it; for getting caught in busy-ness and forgetting You day to day, for letting time slip away, and not taking the time to notice Your wonder; for not thanking You every day whether we feel joy or heartache; and for not showing Your love to those around us. May we instead praise Your name by living each day for You. Please help, guide, and strengthen us. Amen.

Response

'Jesus in the Morning'

Traditional

*Jesus, Jesus
Jesus in the morning
Jesus in the noon-time
Jesus, Jesus
Jesus when the sun goes down

*Love Him

*Praise Him

Words of Assurance and Hope

“While we were still weak, at the right time, Christ died for us.

God proves His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Surely then we have been justified and saved through Him.

More than that! We even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we now have received reconciliation.”

Believe this Good News and go forth to live in peace.

Amen.

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord
Abide in God always, and feed on God’s Word
Make friends of God’s children, help those who are weak
Forgetting in nothing God’s blessing to seek

Take time to be holy, the world rushes on
Spend much time in secret, with Jesus alone
By looking to Jesus, like Him thou shalt be
Thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see

Take time to be holy, let Christ be thy Guide
And run not before Him, whatever betide
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord
And, looking to Jesus, still trust in His Word

... To Hear God’s Word...

Scripture

Ephesians 5:15-20

Message

“Perfect Timing”

Pastor Jeff Gargano

And Respond With Gratitude...

Offering

Online giving available at www.strcgiving.org

Offertory

“We Wait Upon You”

Sanchez

Blessed Lord, blessed Savior
Blessed God, we wait upon You
Blessed Lord, awesome Creator
There's no end to what You can do
We wait upon You

For Your healing, restoration
Your power for those who are weak
For Your wisdom and salvation
Savior, we wait upon Thee

They that wait on the Lord
Their strength is renewed
Their strength is renewed
They shall mount up with wings
Walk and not faint as they wait

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Hymn

'I Waited Patiently for God'

New Britain

I waited patiently for God
For God to hear my prayer
And God bent down to where I sank
And listened to me there

God raised me from a miry pit
From mud and sinking sand
And set my feet upon a rock
Where I can firmly stand

And on my lips a song was put
A new song to the Lord
Many will marvel, open-eyed
And put their trust in God

Great wonders you have done, O Lord
All purposed for our good
Unable every one to name
I bow in gratitude

Benediction

GIVING THANKS:

Leading Worship Today:

Ministers:	All of us viewing together
Preaching:	Pastor Jeff Gargano
Liturgist:	Pastor Ben Rowe
Music:	Chanelle Schaffer, Bonham Geller, Lori Abbotts, and Andrea Lee
Live Stream Team:	James Anderson, James Cobb, Andrea King, Lucy Sutton, Dave Whitter

Welcome and thank you for joining us remotely.

Today we welcome Pastor Jeff Gargano: our guest preacher. He is the pastor of the Reformed Church of the Tarrytowns which continues the ministry of the Old Dutch Church of Sleepy Hollow. Prior to Tarrytown Jeff served the St. Thomas Reformed Church (1995-2009).

We also have newly arrived Co-Pastor Ben Rowe as the liturgist. He and his wife, Emily, along with Christine, Gwendolyn, Lydia and William are temporarily living in the Retreat Center and adjusting to island life.

Join Rev. Rebecca Broom as she tells the story of “Exodus”.

From Young Children and Worship © 1989 Sonja M. Stewart and Jerome W. Berryman

Here is the link. https://youtu.be/nMMa0l_zCHs

Lectionary Scripture Readings

1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43; Psalm 84
Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18; Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69

Message from the STRC Consistory

Praying all is well with you. As you know, Covid cases are on the rise in the VI. Based on a 10%+ positivity rate Consistory has voted YES on the following:

STRC is doing its part to help stop the spread of Covid-19 and its Delta variant. **All Sunday services in August will be live-stream ONLY with a target date of regathering on Sunday, September 5.** The STRC Sanctuary and meeting rooms will be closed immediately for deep cleaning. No in-person meetings will be scheduled until further notice.

Please do your part: wear a mask in public, observe social distancing protocols, avoid mass gatherings and get vaccinated!

Join us in prayer for all those directly affected by this virus and for the health and safety of our medical professionals and staff working on the front lines.

We walk by faith and not by fear. By faith, we know we will get through this... together!

Contact Information

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