

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



August 29, 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>

Fourteenth 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

Introit

“I Love You, Lord, Today”

Hubbard

I love You, I love You
I love You, Lord, today
Because You care for me
In such a special way

And so I praise You
I lift You up
And I magnify Your Name
That’s why my heart is filled with praise

My heart, my soul
My life belongs to You
You paid the price for me
Way back on Calvary

Call to Worship

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

Amen!

Let us worship God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**All honor and glory, praise and thanksgiving, we offer to you,
almighty and loving God.**

Prayer

Hymn

‘Come, All Christians, Be Committed’

BEACH SPRING

Come, all Christians, be committed
To the service of the Lord
Make your lives for God more fitted
Tune your hearts with one accord
Come into God’s courts with gladness
Each your sacred vows renew
Turn away from sin and sadness
Be transformed with life anew

Of your time and talents give ye
They are gifts from God above
To be used by Christians freely
To proclaim God's wondrous love
Come again to serve the Savior
Tithes and off'rings with you bring
In your work, with Christ find favor
And with joy Christ's praises sing

Come in praise and adoration
All who on Christ's name believe
Worship Him with consecration
Grace and love you will receive
For His grace give Christ the glory
For the Spirit and the Word
And repeat the gospel story
Until all Christ's name have heard

Call to Confession (*from Psalm 66*)

Unison Prayer of Confession

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 and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Response

'Cry of My Heart'

Butler

Chorus: It is the cry of my heart to follow You
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You
It is the cry of my heart to follow
All of the days of my life

Teach me Your holy ways oh Lord
So I can walk in Your truth
Teach me Your holy ways oh Lord
And make me wholly devoted to You (*chorus*)

Open my eyes so I can see
The wonderful things that You do
Open my heart up more and more
And make it wholly devoted to You (*chorus*)

Words of Assurance and Hope

A Shared Leadership Model @ STRC

Hymn

'Lord, I Want to Be a Christian'

Spiritual

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart

Refrain

In my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart (*refrain*)

Lord, I want to be more righteous in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more righteous in my heart (*refrain*)

Lord, I want to be forgiving in my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be forgiving in my heart (*refrain*)

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

Scripture

James 1:17-27

Message

"Asking The Question"

Pastor Ben Rowe

And Respond With Gratitude...

Offering

Online giving available at www.strcgiving.org

Offertory

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness (Beginning to End)"

Emily Rowe, soloist

arr. Ingram

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not; Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love

Chorus

Beginning to end, my life in Your hands
Great, great is Your faithfulness
You never let go; this one thing I know
Great, great is Your faithfulness

Pardon for sin, and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning, new mercies I see
All I have needed, Thy hand has provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Hymn

'All Things Are Yours'

DUKE STREET

**All things are Yours: we make that true
When we return our gifts to You
And so we give, and so we share
In Christ's strong name expressing care**

**"Give out of love", Your Word commands
We are Your head, Your heart, Your hands
Your Word You underscore with deeds
By using us to answer needs**

O what a joy to give, and then
Out of compassion give again
You have no needs--though that be true
The gifts we share are given to You

All things are Yours: we make that true
When we return our gifts to You
And so we give, and so we share
In Christ's strong name expressing care

Benediction

GIVING THANKS:

Leading Worship Today:

Ministers: All of us viewing together
Preaching: Pastor Ben Rowe
Liturgist: Pastor Jeff Neevel
Music: Chanelle Schaffer, Emily Rowe
Live Stream Team: James Anderson, James Cobb,
Andrea King, Lucy Sutton, Dave Whitter

Welcome and thank you for joining us remotely.

Join Rev. Rebecca Broom as she shares "The Promised Land".
From Young Children and Worship © 1989 Sonja M. Stewart and Jerome W.
Berryman
Here is the link. <https://youtu.be/TkrA1f3amdQ>

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalm 125

Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146

James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 7:24-37

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 will be live-stream ONLY with a target date of regathering on Sunday, September 26.** 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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<https://www.facebook.com/stthomasreformedchurch/>

Online giving:

[STRCGIVING.ORG](https://www.strcgiving.org)