

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



August 23, 2020

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://strchurch.org/site-content>

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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

“ We Gather In God’s Presence...”

Greeting and Ministry Updates

Introit

“Sanctuary”

Thompson/Scruggs

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving
I’ll be a living sanctuary for you**

**Lord, empower me to be a witness for you
Acting boldly in your name
Seeking justice where there is hurting
Offering hope where there is pain**

Call to Worship*

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

Amen!

The God of our ancestors calls to us today;

May we have the faith of our ancestors to go where God leads us.

The God of our children calls to us today;

May we work for justice and peace to build up the reign of God on earth.

Jesus, the son of the Living God, calls to us now;

May we worship God, follow Jesus, and be moved by the Spirit to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer

Come, we that love the Lord
And let our joys be known
Join in a song with sweet accord (2x)
And thus surround the throne (2x)

Refrain

We're marching to Zion
Beautiful, beautiful Zion
We're marching upward to Zion
The beautiful city of God

Let those refuse to sing
Who never knew our God
But children of the heav'nly King (2x)
May speak their joys abroad (2x) (*refrain*)

Then let our songs abound
And ev'ry tear be dry
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground (2x)
To fairer worlds on high (2x) (*refrain*)

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, hear our prayer. When we have failed to do justice; when we have failed to show mercy to others but expect it for ourselves, forgive us Lord. Wake us up to see the violence, the injustice and oppression in our world. Call us away from worldly ways of looking after ourselves and our loved ones, to Your ways of seeing all of Your people as our kin, all of creation as our home. Forgive us, help us to repent, to turn to You and to live into your ways of justice, peace and mercy. In Christ we pray...

Response **'Spirit of the Living God'** *Iverson/Schaffer*

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me (2x)

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

Spirit of the living God, may Your Kingdom come

Take my will, my life, my all; may Your will be done

Lead me, guide me, walk beside me

Spirit of the living God, may Your Kingdom come

Words of Assurance and Hope

Song **'Take My Life'** *Havergal/Walker*

Take my life and let it be

Consecrated, Lord, to Thee

Take my hands and let them move

At the impulse of Thy love

At the impulse of Thy love

Take my feet and let them be

Swift and beautiful for Thee

Take my voice and let me sing

Always, only, for my King

Always, only, for my King

Refrain

Take my life, take my life

Take my life, I give it once again

Take my lips and let them be

Filled with messages for Thee

Take my silver and my gold

Not a mite would I withhold

Not a mite would I withhold (*refrain*)

Take my love, my God, I pour
At Thy feet, its treasures store
Take myself and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee
Ever, only, all for Thee
...To Hear God's Word...

Scripture Reading Exodus 1:8 - 22

Message "Preserving Life"

...And Respond with Gratitude

Offering STRCGIVING.ORG

Offertory "Order My Steps"
Penny Woods, soloist

Burleigh

Order my steps in Your word, dear Lord
Lead me, guide me every day
Send Your anointing, Father, I pray
Order my steps in Your word
Please, order my steps in Your word

Humbly, I ask Thee teach me Your will
While You are working, help me be still
'Cause Satan is busy, God is real
Order my steps in Your word
Please, order my steps in Your word

I want to walk worthy
My calling to fulfill
Please order my steps, Lord
And I'll do Your blessed will
The world is ever-changing
But You are still the same;
If you order my steps, I'll praise Your name

Bridle my tongue, let my words edify
Let the words of my mouth be acceptable in Thy sight
Take charge of my thoughts both day and night;
Order my steps in Your word
Please order my steps in Your word

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Hymn

'Here I Am, Lord'

Schutte

I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save
I who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart

I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them
They turn away
I will break their hearts of stone
Give them hearts for love alone
I will speak my word to them
Whom shall I send? (*refrain*)

I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send? (*refrain*)

Benediction

GIVING THANKS:

Leading Worship Today:

Ministers: All of us viewing together
Preaching: Pastor Jeff Neevel
Music: Chanelle Schaffer, Penny Woods
Live Stream Team: James Anderson, James Cobb, Lucy Sutton

WELCOME ... and thank you for
joining in worship this morning!

Lectionary Scripture Readings for this week:

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b;
Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8;
Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

The Ladies Bible Study is continuing to meet this summer on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm using Zoom. We will be studying the lectionary series posted in the bulletin. If you are interested in participating please contact Edye Ciaccia at 678-772-5412 for meeting info and Zoom sign in information. All ladies are welcome.

The Men's Ministry Bible Study also meets on Wednesdays using Zoom. They start at 6:30 pm. Please call or email Forrest Broom for more information 340-474-0472 or forrestbroom@gmail.com.

Contact Information

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