

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



*July 26, 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>

# Eighth 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

“Bless the Lord”

*Taizé*

Bless the Lord, my soul  
And bless God’s holy name  
Bless the Lord, my soul  
Who rescues me from death  
Who leads me into life

### Call to Worship

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

**Amen!**

Come, you that are sick, come and seek healing!

**We have entered the reign of God.**

Come, you that are oppressed, come and find freedom!

**We are participating in the reign of God.**

Come, you that are outcast, come and find welcome!

**We are building the reign of God.**

Come, let us all worship our God.

### Prayer

Hymn

‘O Worship the King’

LYONS

O worship the King, all glorious above  
And gratefully sing God’s wonderful love  
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days  
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise

**The earth with its store of wonders untold  
Almighty, your power has founded of old  
Established it fast by a changeless decree  
And round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea**

**Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light  
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain  
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain**

**Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail  
In you do we trust, not find you to fail  
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end  
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend**

## **Call to Confession**

### **Unison Prayer of Confession**

**Ancient of Days, You guided our ancestors,  
wandering Arameans, across the desert into a homeland  
You prepared for them. You called our ancestors out  
of slavery into freedom. You promised our ancestors  
a future with hope. You gave the world Your Son,  
Jesus the Messiah, who taught us a new way to live in  
the world by loving You foremost and loving our neighbors  
as ourselves. When we disgrace our homeland, fall into  
slavery of sin, and fail to live according to the greatest  
commandment, forgive us Lord. Call us out of our comfort  
zone to share our story of Your love with the world. In the  
name of Christ, the Living Word, the Author of our Life,  
we pray...**

**Response**

**'How Great Are You, Lord'**

*DeShazo*

**How great are You, Lord  
How great is Your mercy  
How great are the things  
That You have done for me**

**How great are You, Lord  
Your lovingkindness  
Is filling my heart as I sing  
How great are You, Lord**

**How great is Your love  
It reaches to the heavens  
How great is the heart  
That sought and rescued me**

**Words of Assurance and Hope**

**Song**

**'Blessed Assurance'**

*Crosby/Knapp*

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine  
O what a foretaste of glory divine  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God  
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood**

***Refrain***

**This is my story, this is my song  
Praising my Savior, all the day long  
This is my story, this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long**

Perfect submission, perfect delight  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight  
Angels descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love [Refrain]

Perfect submission, all is at rest  
I, in my Savior, am happy and blest  
Watching and waiting, looking above  
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love [Refrain]

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

Scripture Reading      Genesis 29:15 - 30

Message      "It Could Happen to You!"  
(Genesis Sermon Series 4 of 7)

### ...And Respond with Gratitude

Offering      [STRCGIVING.ORG](http://STRCGIVING.ORG)

Offertory      "Promise Song"      *Fair, arr. Nolan*  
Rachel & Tate DeWalt, Amy & Dave Himes, Tama McConnell

As long as the sun keeps rising from the east to the west  
As long as the moon keeps glowing to grace us as we rest  
You are my God; You are my Lord  
You are my Savior, I am Yours

As long as the earth keeps spinning and the tides turn the sea  
As it was in the beginning, and evermore shall be  
Loved with everlasting love  
Loved with grace that has no end

Perfect heart from heaven above  
You are God, yet gentle friend  
Blessed to know such love divine  
I am His, and He is mine

As long as there's life within me,  
As long as I have voice  
My heart will keep on singing,  
Forevermore rejoice  
Alleluia! Lord, I am Yours

## Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Hymn            'If You Will Trust in God to Guide You'

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

If you will trust in God to guide you  
And hope in God through all your ways  
God will give strength, whate'er betide you  
And bear you through the evil days  
Who trusts in God's unchanging love  
Builds on a rock that will not move

God will embrace your pain and weeping  
Your helpless anger and distress  
If you are in God's care and keeping  
In sorrow, will God love you less?  
For Christ, who took for you a cross  
Will bring you safe through every loss

**Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving  
So do your own part faithfully  
And trust God's word, though undeserving  
You'll find God's promise true to be  
God never will forsake in need  
The soul that trusts in God indeed**

## **Benediction**

### **Choral Response “Prayer of Dedication”**

*Besig/Price/Tomer*

Go with us, Lord, as now we depart  
Calming the fears that trouble each heart  
Keep us all in your grace  
Until we come, again, to this place  
God be with you till we meet again  
Loving counsels guide, uphold you  
With a shepherd's care enfold you  
God be with you till we meet again

## **GIVING THANKS:**

### **Leading Worship Today:**

Ministers: All of us viewing together  
Preaching: Pastor Jeff Neevel  
Liturgists: Tony & Isabella Romano  
Music: Chanelle Schaffer, Amy & Dave Himes,  
Rachel & Tate DeWalt, Tama McConnell  
Virtual Choir: Lori Abbotts, Joy Aird, Geoffrey Barnard,  
Will Howe, Colleen Imbriale, Andrea Lee,  
Steve Mange, Fred Northup, Julie Northup,  
Jeff Smith, Judy Spurrell, Bonnie Troutman,  
Penny Woods  
Audio/Video: James Anderson, James Cobb  
Social Media: Lucy Sutton

## **Second Week of St. Thomas Reformed Church's 2020 Virtual Summer Camp**

**Greetings STRC Summer Camp Family!  
Though we all wanted to be gathered on the beach  
at Magens Bay just like any normal summer,  
2020 has been anything but “normal”!**

**It was a tough decision to host STRC Summer camp  
as a virtual program, but the safety and well-being  
of our camp family has always been our top priority.  
While we cannot be together during this time, we  
could not fathom the idea of not having any  
connection with you for more than a year!**

**We have worked hard to put together this virtual  
program – accessible on our Facebook page.**

<https://www.facebook.com/STRC-Summer-Camp/live>

**The videos will also be posted to the St. Thomas  
Reformed Church's YouTube Channel**

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCvFA8vUToP3W257eL8pf4pw](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvFA8vUToP3W257eL8pf4pw)

**Continuing tomorrow July 27 2020, STRC Summer Camp will share a thirty minute video to our Facebook page at 9 a.m. AST every weekday until this Friday, July 31, 2020! Just like any other day of camp at Magens Bay, the daily videos will include Bible study, singing, drama, games, arts & crafts and recreation/physical activity.**

**Campers can interact with camp staff LIVE during the broadcast of the video! We encourage campers to revisit the video after it has premiered to enjoy each activity at their own pace.**

**LIVE ZOOM VIRTUAL LUNCH BUNCH – Join other campers and camp staff for a virtual lunch every day from 12 to 1 p.m. AST.**

**Email [summercamp@strchurch.org](mailto:summercamp@strchurch.org) to request access to the Zoom meeting.**

**Whatever God created us to be,  
He wants us to just “bee”.....**

**This year’s STRC Summer Camp is free of charge and open to all! Please “share” this post with your friends and family. #STRCathome**

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

**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](mailto:forrestbroom@gmail.com).

**Lectionary Scripture Readings** for this week:

Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 55:1-5;  
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

**Contact Information**

**Mailing Address** PO Box 301769 St. Thomas, VI 00803

**Website:** <https://strchurch.org/>

**Email:** mail@stthomasreformedchurch.org

**STRC "APP" free from iTunes and Google Play**

*Like us on our Facebook page:*

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

**Online giving:**

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