

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



March 21, 2021

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

Follow our service at

[*https://www.facebook.com/stthomasreformedchurch/live*](https://www.facebook.com/stthomasreformedchurch/live)

or

[*https://strchurch.org/site-content*](https://strchurch.org/site-content)

Fifth Sunday of Lent

The liturgical color today is purple for preparation and penitence.

“We Gather In God’s Presence...”

Greeting and Ministry Updates

Call to Worship

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

Amen!

Introit ‘Come, Let Us Return Unto the Lord’

Prosch/Schaffer

**Come, let us return unto the Lord (4x)
In the valley, we are not afraid (4x)
In the darkest night, we’re not alone (4x)
Help us, Lord, to trust in You, we pray (4x)**

Prayer

Hymn ‘Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here’

ST. CATHERINE

**Great God, your love has called us here
As we, by love, for love were made
Your living likeness still we bear
Though marred, dishonored, disobeyed
We come, with all our heart and mind
Your call to hear, your love to find**

Great God, in Christ you call our name
And then receive us as your own
Not through some merit, right, or claim
But by your gracious love alone
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat
And find you kneeling at our feet

Great God, in Christ you set us free
Your life to live, your joy to share
Give us your Spirit's liberty
To turn from guilt and dull despair
And offer all that faith can do
While love is making all things new

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Loving One, we confess that we get caught up in the day-to-day struggles of life, and forget there is so much more. We are tired, exhausted even, and sometimes just want to focus on ourselves. Forgive us for our privilege that at times offers us an escape to ignore the plight of others. Forgive us for failing to recognize the interconnected world we are in. Call us into Your way of love. Help us to let go of the burdens we have taken on unnecessarily. Remind us, Lord, that You called us to be a people of covenant, with You, but also with one another, and that we need each other. Create in us a clean heart, O God. In Jesus' name we pray...

Response

'Spirit of the Living God'

Iverson/Schaffer

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
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

Children's Message

Hymn

'Oh, the Mercy of God'

Bullock

**Oh, the mercy of God
The glory of grace
That You chose to redeem us
To forgive and restore
And You call us Your children
Chosen in You
To be holy and blameless
To the glory of God**

Chorus

**To the praise
Of Your glorious grace
To the praise
Of Your glory and power
To God be all glory
Honor and praise
Forever and ever and ever
Amen**

**Oh, the richness of grace
The depths of Your love
In You is redemption
The forgiveness of sin
And You called us as righteous
Destined in You
To be holy and blameless
To the glory of God (*chorus*)**

**Oh, the glory of God
Expressed in God's Son
God's image and likeness
Revealed to us all
The plan of the ages
Completed in Christ
To be holy and blameless
To the glory of God (*chorus*)**

...To Hear God's Word

Scripture **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

Message **“The Old and The New”** Rev. Fred Northup

And Respond With Gratitude...

Offering STRCGIVING.ORG

Offertory **“Pietà, Signore”** *attr. Stradella*
Laura Strickland, soprano

**Have mercy, Lord
On me in my remorse
Lord, have mercy
If my prayer rises to you
Do not chastise me in your severity
Less harshly, always mercifully
Look down on me, Lord
Almighty God
Never let me be condemned to hell
In the eternal fire by your severity
Have mercy, Lord
On me in my remorse**

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

To Abraham and Sarah
The call of God was clear
Go forth, and I will show you
A country rich and fair
You need not fear the journey
For I have pledged my word
That you shall be my people
And I will be your God

From Abraham and Sarah
Arose a pilgrim race
Dependent for their journey
On God's abundant grace
And in their heart was written
By God this saving word
That you shall be my people
And I will be your God

We of the generation
On whom God's hand is laid
Can journey to the future
Secure and unafraid
Rejoicing in God's goodness
And trusting in God's word
That you shall be my people
And I will be your God

Benediction

Sending Music

“Jesus the King” Go to <https://youtu.be/kmmMZOsABow>

GIVING THANKS:

Leading Worship Today:

Ministers: All of us viewing together
Preaching: Rev. Fred Northup
Liturgist: Rev. Rebecca Broom
Music: Chanelle Schaffer, James Cobb
Laura Strickland
Live Stream Team: James Anderson, James Cobb,
Andrea King, Lucy Sutton

Lectionary Scripture Readings for this week:
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11;
Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)

The Ladies Bible Study meets on
Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm using Zoom. 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!

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.strciving.org)