

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



*November 8, 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>

# Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

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

**“ We Gather In God’s Presence...”**

## Greeting and Ministry Opportunities

### Call to Worship

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

**Amen!**

### Prayer

### Song

**‘Holy, Holy, Holy’**

NICAEA

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity**

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee  
God ever-living, through eternity**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee  
Though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see  
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee  
Perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity**

## **Call to Confession**

### **Unison Prayer of Confession**

**We confess, O God, that we have had other gods before you. Forgive us for following the false idols of the world. Forgive us when we worship our own image. Forgive us when we do not come before You in humility, knowing that we have done wrong. Help us to repent, to turn away from the ways of the world, and to seek You and Your ways. In the name of Christ, who will come again into our lives and into our world in a new way, we pray...**

### **Song**

#### **'Give Me Oil In My Lamp'**

*Traditional*

**Give me oil in my lamp; keep me burning  
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray  
Give me oil in my lamp; keep me burning  
Keep me burning till the break of day**

**Give me peace in my heart; keep me resting  
Give me peace in my heart, I pray  
Give me peace in my heart; keep me resting  
Keep me resting till the break of day**

**Give me love in my heart; keep me serving  
Give me love in my heart, I pray  
Give me love in my heart; keep me serving  
Keep me serving till the break of day**

## Assurance of Pardon

Song

**'Take Time to Be Holy'**

*HOLINESS*

**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, be calm in thy soul,  
Each thought and each motive beneath His control.  
Thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,  
Thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.**

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

Scripture Reading

**Matthew 25: 1 - 13**

Message

**"Two Sides of the Same Door!"**

**...And Respond with Gratitude**

Offering

**Offertory "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"**

**Penny Woods, soloist**

*Spiritual*

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

## Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

**Song**

**“For the Healing of the Nations”**

*CMW RHONDDA*

**For the healing of the nations  
God, we pray with one accord  
For a just and equal sharing  
Of the things that earth affords  
To a life of love and action  
Help us rise and pledge our word  
Help us rise and pledge our word**

**Lead us forward into freedom  
From despair your world release  
That, redeemed from war and hatred  
All may come and go in peace  
Show us how, through care and goodness  
Fear will die and hope increase  
Fear will die and hope increase**

**You, creator God, have written  
Your great name on humankind  
For our growing in your likeness  
Bring the life of Christ to mind  
That by our response and service  
Earth its destiny may find  
Earth its destiny may find**

**Benediction**

## **GIVING THANKS:**

### **Leading Worship Today:**

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

**WELCOME ... thank you for your faithful following  
of our online services and commitment to  
worshiping the Lord each week with us.**

**Today is Birthday Sunday. Everyone is invited to join our  
virtual celebration once the service is finished.**

**Here is the info to connect via Zoom:**

**Zoom Meeting ID: 824 8316 2684**

**Passcode: 007501**

**Contact Elisabeth Anderson**

**@ [mewanderson@gmail.com](mailto:mewanderson@gmail.com) if you have any questions.**

**The Ladies Bible Study** is continuing to meet this summer on Wednesday evenings at 6 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.

**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).

## Consistory Nominating Committee

Dear STRC family,

There are two vacant positions on consistory for the coming year, (1 *Deacon*, 1 *Elder*). A nominating committee has been asked to collect names of active members to submit for approval. Elders and deacons, along with the minister of Word and Sacrament, comprise the consistory. **Deacons** are men or women who are called by God and uplifted by the church as those who are leaders in ministries of service, mercy and outreach. **Elders** are men or women who are called by God and uplifted by the church as those who are leaders in ministries of discipleship, worship and spiritual oversight. Please share with the members of the nominating committee your input as to whom you believe would serve our congregation well as an elder or deacon. The committee is in need of and is expecting your prayerful participation in this process! Feel free to contact any of the committee members listed below to nominate an active STRC member.

Sarah Hancock  
[sarahfoxvi@gmail.com](mailto:sarahfoxvi@gmail.com)  
(340)643-1497

Mary Howe  
[mhowe54@gmail.com](mailto:mhowe54@gmail.com)  
340.514.9499

Bob Stolz  
[robert.stolz@gmail.com](mailto:robert.stolz@gmail.com)  
703-303-9281

## Lectionary Scripture Readings for this week:

Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123  
Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

## Contact Information

Mailing Address PO Box 301769 St. Thomas, VI 00803

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

Email: [mail@stthomasreformedchurch.org](mailto: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](http://STRCGIVING.ORG)

## STEPS TO RECONCILIATION

II Corinthians 5:17-20

1. Admit there is a barrier, and act - Matthew 5:23-24
2. Pray for God's Spirit to intervene - Philippians 4:6-7
3. Humble yourself/search your heart - Psalm 139:23-24
4. Accept responsibility - I John 1:8-10
5. Ask/Give forgiveness - Proverbs 28:13
6. Make amends where possible - Luke 19:8-9
7. Build a new relationship - Revelation 21:5