

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



*September 12, 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>

# Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*The liturgical color today is green representing the mission of the church!*

## “We Gather In God’s Presence...”

Prelude

James Cobb-guitar

Greeting and Ministry Updates

Call to Worship

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

**Amen!**

Loving God, we come to worship you today.

**We come to sing, pray, and listen.**

You always hear us,

**Help us to hear you.**

Prayer

\*Hymn

‘Amazing Grace-My Chains’

Tomlin

Amazing grace how sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear

And grace my fears relieved

How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed

*My chains are gone, I've been set free*

*My God, my Savior has ransomed me*

*And like a flood His mercy reigns*

*Unending love, amazing grace*

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures

He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow

The sun forbear to shine

But God who called me here below

Will be forever mine, will be forever mine

You are forever mine

## Call to Confession

### Unison Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, You have asked us to bear fruit in our lives and to share our faith with others. Yet so many times we have failed You in doing this. We have let You down and let ourselves down. Our thoughts and words have failed You; we have missed opportunities to speak up for our belief in You, choosing to remain silent instead of witnessing for You. Our discipleship has been weak and often non-existent. Our faith has been shallow, and we have failed You in so many ways. In Your forgiving mercy and grace cleanse our hearts and minds that we may better serve You and so that we can feel strengthened to follow You more faithfully each day. In Jesus' name...

Response

**'Amazing Grace'**

Pastor Ben & Emily Rowe

### Words of Assurance and Hope

To all who turn from sin in sorrow, to all who turn to God in hope, this is God's Word of grace: we are accepted, we are forgiven, we are loved. This gift we have from God.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

*To the praise of God's glorious grace  
To the praise of God's 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 God's love  
In You is redemption, The forgiveness of sin  
You called us as righteous, Predestined in You  
For the praise of God's glory Included in Christ

Oh the glory of God expressed in the Son  
His image and likeness revealed to us all  
The plan of the ages completed in Christ  
That we be presented perfected in You

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

Scripture

Proverbs 1:20-33

Message

“The Last Laugh”

Pastor Jeff Neevel

## And Respond With Gratitude...

Offering

Online giving available at [www.strcgiving.org](http://www.strcgiving.org)

Offertory

“He Looked Beyond My Fault”

Rambo

Laura Strickling, soprano (recorded July 12, 2021)

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

“Grace Alone”

Brown/Nelson

Ev'ry promise we can make, Ev'ry prayer and step of faith  
Ev'ry diff'rence we will make Is only by God's grace  
Ev'ry mountain we will climb Ev'ry ray of hope we shine  
Ev'ry blessing left behind Is only by God's grace

Grace alone which God supplies  
Strength unknown God will provide  
Christ in us our Cornerstone  
We will go forth in grace alone

Ev'ry soul we long to reach, Ev'ry heart we hope to teach  
Ev'rywhere we share God's peace Is only by God's grace  
Ev'ry loving word we say Ev'ry tear we wipe away  
Ev'ry sorrow turned to praise Is only by God's grace

Benediction

## GIVING THANKS:

### Leading Worship Today:

Ministers: All of us viewing together  
Preaching: Pastor Jeff Neevel  
Liturgist: Pastor Ben Rowe  
Music: James Cobb-guitar, Andrea Lee &  
Emily Rowe-vocals  
Greeter: Chantal Figueroa  
Live Stream Team: James Anderson, James Cobb,  
Andrea King, Lucy Sutton, Dave Whitter

**Welcome and thank you** for joining with us in worship.

**Join Rev. Rebecca Broom** in STRC's Worship Center to hear the story of the Light - Jesus, the light of the world. This is your light!

From Young Children and Worship © 1989 Sonja M. Stewart and  
Jerome W. Berryman

Here is the link. <https://youtu.be/jOXWhuo6vrY>

## Lectionary Scripture Readings

**Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1;**

**Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 54;**

**James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37**

## Limited Attendance on Sundays

*"I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." -  
Psalm 122:1*

**STRC is opening** its doors again today, September 12 for 10am worship! In order to comply with Governor Bryan's restrictions on large gatherings, seating is limited to 50 people. Please use this link <https://bit.ly/strctogetheragain> to reserve a spot. As before, please enter through the center front door for temperature checks where sanitizing stations are located. Please social distance. **Masks are required to be worn throughout the entire service.** As we grieve daily losses due to Covid, we encourage you, if you haven't already, to please get vaccinated to help stop the spread of this Delta variant so that we can soon gather as the entire St Thomas Reformed Church family!

*"I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"*

## Contact Information

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