

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



November 14, 2021

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

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

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

“We Gather In God’s Presence...”

Greeting and Ministry Updates

Introit

“There’s a Spirit of Love in This Place”

Miller

There's a spirit of love in this place
You can't see it, but it's there
Just as precious as the air
There's a spirit of love in this place

There's the presence of peace in this room
In God's tenderness is found
Peace that passes human bounds
There's the presence of peace in this room

Refrain

O alleluia, sing alleluia
We bless Your holy name
O alleluia, sing alleluia
There’s a spirit of love in this place

There’s a space for grace in our hearts
It’s in learning to forgive
That our spirits truly live
There’s a space for grace in our hearts (*refrain*)

Call to Worship (*from Psalm 16:7-9, 11,*)

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

Amen!

I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;

In the night also my heart instructs me.

I keep the LORD always before me;

I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;

My body also rests secure.

You show me the path of life.

In your presence there is fullness of joy.

Prayer

*Hymn

‘Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus’

REGENT SQUARE

Since our great high priest, Christ Jesus
Bears the name above all names
Reigning Son of God, surpassing
Other titles, powers, and claims
Since to heaven our Lord has passed
Let us hold our witness fast

Since we have a priest who suffered
Knowing weakness, tears, and pain
Who, like us, was tried and tempted
Unlike us, without a stain
Since He shared our lowly place
Let us boldly seek His grace

Sacrifice and suffering over
Now He sits at God's right hand
Crowned with praise, no more an outcast
His pre-eminence long-planned
Such a great high priest we have
Strong to help, supreme to save

Love's example, hope's attraction
Faith's beginning and its end
Pioneer of our salvation
Mighty advocate and friend
Jesus, high in glory raised
Our ascended Lord, be praised

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty One, we confess that we turn to our own assurance and comforts instead of seeking You. We look to the ways of the world to measure ourselves instead of Your commandments and wisdom. Forgive us when our actions of holiness are empty and meaningless. Forgive us when we have mistaken the institution for authentic relationship. Call us back to Your way of loving our neighbor as ourselves, seeking forgiveness, healing, and restoration. In the name of Christ we pray...

Response

'Kyrie'

Holmes

Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison
Grant to us your peace, Lord

Words of Assurance and Hope

Children's Message

*Hymn

'There Is a Redeemer'

Green

There is a Redeemer
Jesus, God's own Son
Precious Lamb of God
Messiah, Holy One

Refrain:

Thank You for Your mercy
For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit
Till the work on earth is done

Jesus, my Redeemer
Name above all names
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah
Hope for sinners slain (*refrain*)

When I stand in glory
I will see His face
There I'll serve my King forever
In that holy place (*refrain*)

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

Scripture

Hebrews 10:11-25

Message

"The Five Seasons!"

Pastor Jeff Neevel

And Respond With Gratitude...

Offering

(You are invited to bring your gifts to the altar and place them in the offering plates or in the box by the front sanctuary door. Online giving is also available at www.strcgiving.org.)

Offertory

“Before the Throne”

Bancroft/Shoemake

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
He ever lives and pleads for me

Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
God looks on Him and pardons me

One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His love
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ, my Savior and my God
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
My soul is purchased by His love
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
The Christ, my Savior and my God

*Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!**

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

***Hymn**

'I Then Shall Live'

FINLANDIA

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid
I know my name is clear before my Father
I am His child and I am not afraid
So, greatly pardoned, I'll forgive another
The law of love I gladly will obey

I then shall live as one who's learned compassion
I've been so loved, that I'll risk loving too
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges
I dare to see another's point of view
And when relationships demand commitment
Then I'll be there to care and follow through

Your Kingdom come around and through and in me
Your power and glory, let them shine through me
Your Hallowed Name, O may I bear with honor
And may Your living Kingdom come in me
The Bread of Life, O may I share with honor
And may You feed a hungry world through me

***Benediction**

**Please stand.*

*Portions of today's liturgy © 2021 Rev-o-lution Worship Resources
~ Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell*

GIVING THANKS:

Leading Worship Today:

Ministers:	All the people of the church
Preaching:	Pastor Jeff Neevel
Liturgist:	Pastor Ben Rowe
Music:	Chanelle Schaffer, STRC Adult Choir
Greeter:	Chantal Figueroa
Live Stream Team:	James Anderson, James Cobb, Andrea King, Lucy Sutton, Dave Whitter

A warm welcome to our visitors. You are invited to complete the visitor registration forms on the back table. Please then put them in the offering plate.

You're Invited!

All are welcome to join us this Wednesday from 5:30-7pm as we continue our discipleship ministries. Dinner will be provided. Kids will start their classes at 6pm in the Sanctuary. Adults are encouraged to enjoy their time together and we will do a prayer walk through the neighborhood for all those who wish to join. Additional adult discipleship opportunities will be announced in the weeks ahead. Masks are required when not eating and we will utilize our outdoor spaces for social distancing. **If you have not already done so: sign your kids up at www.strchurch.org.**

Lectionary Scripture Readings

**2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-12, (13-18)
Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93
Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37**

Join the STRC Christmas Choir!

Advent Season will soon be upon us; if you love Christmas music, why not join the Christmas Choir! All who are available are welcome to participate in the full schedule of rehearsals, services, and special events. No previous experience is necessary--the only requirement is the ability to match pitch. If you'd love to sing but can't make a full-time commitment--that's fine! We welcome volunteers throughout the months of November & December, for one or more events. If you're interested, please contact Chanelle at music@stthomasreformedchurch.org

Children's Choir and YouthSong are back!

Both our children's choir (ages 3 to 12) & our choir for teens (ages 13 & up) will begin regular rehearsals in the coming weeks, specific times TBD. We have some wonderful Christmas material to start with, and I know that we all look forward to hearing our young people's voices in worship again soon! For more info, please contact Chanelle--all are welcome!

The 49th Annual Joint Thanksgiving Service
including prayers for Erev Shabbat/ Friday Evening
Friday, November 19, 2021, 7:00 PM

A Special Service
of spirit and strength, celebration and affirmation

in person, and also live-streamed at
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3407744312>
or use Meeting ID 340 774 4312



The Hebrew Congregation of Saint Thomas
The Saint Thomas Reformed Church
held in the Sanctuary of the St Thomas Synagogue

Rabbi Michael L. Feshbach

Pastor Jeffrey Neevel

Pastor Ben Rowe

Chanelle Schaffer, Minister of Music and Arts

COVID protocols remain in place:

We welcome those in person who are vaccinated (if eligible);
the mask mandate for indoor gatherings is still in effect.
Because of the pandemic, we will not serve our usual reception following the service, but look forward to a special celebration next year, for the 50th joint gathering of our two congregations.