



Easter
Sunday

historic faith. present love. future hope.

We Welcome One and All

In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

April 5, 2026

10:00 am

St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Founded 1660

www.strchurch.org

EASTER DAY ~ RESURRECTION OF THE LORD!
Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2,14-24, Colossians 3:1-4,
John 20:1-18, Matthew 28:1-10

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE...

Prelude "Wir Danken Dir, Gott (We Thank You, God)"
Kenneth Dake, organ J.S. Bach

Greeting: Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed!

Introit "Christ, the Victorious" Duncan/Tice
Michael Barr and DJ Parson, trumpet

Christ, the Victorious, conquered death
No grave could hold His rising breath
Sing Alleluia!
Free now to live, with Christ we rise
God's Paschal Lamb brought death's demise
Praise to the Spirit! Praise the Lamb!
Sing praise to God, the great 'I AM'!
Sing Alleluia!

Call to Worship (From Psalm 118)

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever.

People: The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made;

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

***Hymn #216 'Christ the Lord Is Risen Today'**

EASTER HYMN

Call to Confession: (From Colossians 3:2)

Prayer of Confession

Response 'In Christ Alone'

Getty/Townend

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Words of Assurance and Hope (From Colossians 3:3-4)

Celebration "Ain't No Grave" Skaggs, arr. Gambill

Andrea Lee ~ Adult Choir ~ Dance Ministry

Oh, shame is a prison as cruel as a grave
Shame is a robber and he's come to take my name
Oh, love is my redeemer, lifting me up from the ground
Love is the power where my freedom song is found
There ain't no grave gonna hold my body down
When I hear that trumpet sound
I'm gonna rise up out of the ground
There ain't no grave gonna hold my body down
Oh, fear is a liar with a smooth and velvet tongue
Fear is a tyrant, he's always telling me to run
Oh, love is a resurrection and love is a trumpet sound
Love is my weapon, I'm gonna take my giants down

Oh, there was a battle, a war between death and life
And there on a tree, the Lamb of God was crucified
And He went on down to hell, He took back every key
He rose up as a lion and He set all captives free
There ain't no grave could hold His body down
When He heard the trumpet sound, He rose up out of the ground
There ain't no grave could hold His body down
If You walked out of the grave, I'm walking too

***Hymn #91 'All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name' v 1,4,5**

CORONATION

**All hail the power of Jesus' name
Let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown him Lord of all
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown him Lord of all**

**Let every kindred, every tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To him all majesty ascribe
And crown him Lord of all
To him all majesty ascribe
And crown him Lord of all**

**O that with yonder sacred throng
We at his feet may fall
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown him Lord of all
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown him Lord of all**

...TO HEAR GOD'S WORDS...

Scripture: Colossians 3:1-4

Sermon: "Raised With Christ" Pastor Nate DeWard

Confession of Faith: (Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 45)

Leader: How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

People: First, by his resurrection, he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he won for us by his death. Second, by his power, we too are already now resurrected to a new life. Third, Christ's resurrection is a guarantee of our glorious resurrection.

...AND RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE

Offering

We give our gifts, tithes and offerings as an expression of gratitude for all of God's blessings. Online giving is available at www.strchurch.org/give



Offertory

"O Happy Day"

Hawkins

STRC Combined Choirs

O happy day, O happy day
When Jesus washed
He washed my sins away
He taught me how to watch, sing, and pray
And live rejoicing every day

*Doxology

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation

The Communion Prayer

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

J. Henry

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power, God of might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes
In the name of the Lord
Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

The Words of Institution

The Communion

Prayer After Communion

The Easter Prayer & the Lord's Prayer (spoken)

Blooming Cross

**The congregation is invited to come forward to place flowers on the cross in memory of loved ones who have passed from life to death to new life, and to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection!*

Song

"Jesus Is Lord"

Clark/Robertson

Song

"We Offer Praise"

Bryant

Andrea Lee, Phoebe Smith-Charles, Yolanda Thorpe

Jesus is Lord

No other king would forsake the glory
That He so richly deserved
Taking His place in redemption's story
He came from heaven to earth
No other king could restore the broken
Quiet the winds and the waves
Even the eyes of the blind were opened
And kingdoms would fall in His Name
Jesus is Lord, human yet holy
King above all kings, worthy of glory
Let all creation, every tribe and nation
Proclaim that Jesus is Lord!
No other name that is under heaven

By which the lost can be saved
Washed in His love we can stand forgiven
Fully redeemed by His grace
No greater love than a man lay down His life for us
No higher praise than the King of kings is worthy of
No other love but the love of Jesus
And one day every tongue will confess
No greater love than a man lay down His life for us
No higher praise than the King of kings is worthy of
No other love but the love of Jesus
And one day every tongue will confess

We Offer Praise

Oh Lord, we give You praise, and
Oh Lord, we bless Your Name, and
We lift our voices to say thank You
For Your goodness and Your mercy toward us
We offer praise
You are worthy of glory, honor
Worthy of all praise

The Benediction (From Colossians 3:4)

***Congregational Response:**

'Hallelujah Chorus'

Handel

(All who wish to sing the Hallelujah Chorus will be invited forward to sing!)

Hallelujah!
For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth
Hallelujah!
The kingdom of this world
Is become the kingdom of our Lord
And of His Christ,
And He shall reign for ever and ever
King of kings, and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forever and ever
Hallelujah!

Postlude "Finale from Symphony No. 1"

Vierne

Transitional Pastors: Nate DeWard and Randy Weener
Minister of Music: Chanelle Schaffer
Adult Choir: Kristin Brabec, Christelle Daceus, Martin Dukes III
Andrea Lee, Dr. Stephen Mange,
Phoebe Smith-Charles, Yolanda Thorpe
Dance Ministry: Camille McKayle Stolz, Ingram Brown, Amber Knight
Naomi Lally, Tresta Richardson
Children's Choir: Kayla Arthur, Annabel Boschulte, Evelyn Grimaldi,
Naomi Lally, Jabaril Murell,
Kenra Plummer, Gianna L. K. Smalls, Lyanna Z. Smalls,
Xianna F. Smalls, Maya Stoller, Rayne Stoller
Band: Kenneth Dake ~ Organ, Michael Barr ~ Trumpet
DJ Parson ~ Trumpet, Dion Parson ~ Drums
Steve Richman ~ Guitar, James Cobb ~ Harmonica
AV/Livestream: James Anderson, James Cobb, Ariel and
Lyra Rosenthal, Trey Thompson and Dave Whitter
Greeters: Jan Swenson and Sharee Winslow

Thanks to all who gave so generously of their time, talent, skills, and gifts, both up front and behind the scenes, to make our Holy Week services possible!

Very Special Thanks to our Worship Planning Team and our wonderful Altar Ministry/Sanctuary Decoration Team, Felipe Ayala, Desiree Francis & CJ Oleari!

Community Opportunity: The Rotary Club of St. Thomas Sunrise announces the 14th Annual Kids Triathlon to be held at Magens Bay on Saturday April 11, 2026. Open to kids ages 5 to 15. this event includes a swim segment, a bike segment and a run segment. Youngsters may participate individually or as a team. On the event morning, registration starts at 7:00 AM and the first race is at 8:00 AM. Participants will need to bring their bikes, helmets, & athletic shoes (required). Loaner bikes/helmets are available for athletes without their own equipment . Triathlon Distances: will be: 5-8 year olds - 25 yard swim, ½ mile bike, ¼ mile run; 9-11 year olds - 100 yard swim, 1 mile bike, ½ mile run and 12-15 year olds - 200 yard swim, 3 mile bike, 1 mile run. All entrants must submit a registration form & waiver signed by a parent or guardian and a \$5.00 entrance fee. Forms are available on the Rotary Club Sunrise STT Facebook page or email <mailto:jsmith@vilaw.com>. We also welcome volunteers – you can contact Jeni at 340-642-7454