



historic faith. present love. future hope.

We Welcome One and All

In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

April 28, 2024

10:00 am

St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Founded 1660

www.strchurch.org

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-34; 1John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

...**"WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE...**

Gathering | Music Greeting | Ministry Opportunities

Introit **"All the Way My Savior Leads Me"** Crosby/Tomlin

All the way my Savior leads me
Who have I to ask beside
How could I doubt His tender mercy
Who through life has been my guide
All the way my Savior leads me
And cheers each winding path I tread
And gives me grace for ev'ry trial
Feeds me with the Living Bread
You lead me and keep me from falling
You carry me close to Your heart
And surely Your goodness and mercy will follow me

Call to Worship

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

AMEN!

Eternal God, Lord of heaven and earth, we praise you for your greatness.

Your wisdom is seen in all your works.

Your grace and truth are revealed in Jesus Christ your Son.

Your presence and power are given to us through the Holy Spirit.

Here in this place of worship, with the congregation of the faithful, we lay down our fears, to boldly worship and sing God's praise.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty!

Prayer

***Hymn 'O God in Whom All Life Begins' ELLACOMBE**

O God in whom all life begins
Who births the seed to fruit
Bestow your blessing on our lives
Here let your love find root
Bring forth in us the Spirit's gifts
Of patience, joy, and peace
Deliver us from numbing fear
And grant our faith increase

Unite in mutual ministry
Our minds and hands and hearts
That we may have the grace to seek
The power your peace imparts
So let our varied gifts combine
To glorify your name
That in all things by word and deed
We may your love proclaim

Through tears and laughter, grief and joy
Enlarge our trust and care
So bind us in community
That we may risk and dare
Be with us when we gather here
To worship, sing, and pray
And give us strength and power and faith
To live the words we say

Call to Confession | Unison Prayer of Confession

Loving Lord, called to be one body, we confess that we fragment ourselves into a million selfish pieces; your children of love, we often end up despising our sisters and brothers; though your Perfect Love was broken for us, we are often afraid to give of ourselves to the world. Abide in us, Author of Life. Forgive us of our sins, so we may live boldly, love fearlessly, and proclaim unceasingly that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior...

Words of Assurance and Hope *(2 Corinthians 5:19)*

In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

Because God abides in us, we can live for others, allowing God's love to bear fruit in us.

Hear then Christ's word of grace: Your sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

Anthem "Find Our Way Home" Drennan/McGuire

We are born into a fallen world
Turned away from our Creator's face
Wand'ring far from our eternal home
We're in need of love's redeeming grace
Mercy meets us in our wilderness
Reaches out a hand to ev'ry stray
Then, as lambs who hear the Shepherd's call
We will follow Jesus all the way

When we follow the Shepherd
We are never alone
For with Jesus, our Shepherd
We will find our way home
Follow, follow the Shepherd
We will never be alone
For with Jesus as our Shepherd
We will find our way home

Storms may come to us along the way
But we listen to the Shepherd's voice
We find Jesus even in the storms
So our weary hearts can still rejoice

...TO HEAR GOD'S WORD...

Children's Message

XYG Mission Trip Commissioning

"The Other 6!"

***Hymn #490 'Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant' v 1-3, 5**

Gillard

(Teachers and students are dismissed to faith formation classes)

Scripture

1 John 4:7-21

Sermon

"Getting Home!"

Pastor Fred Northup

...AND RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE...

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

"Precious Lord"

Dorsey

Dr. Ronald Nimmo

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, help me stand
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand, precious Lord
Lead me home

Precious Lord, You're the One
That I build my life upon
You're my Rock, You're my Hope
You're my Song
You picked me up and made me strong
Led the way when I went wrong
Here's my hand, precious Lord
Lead me home

Precious Lord, I love Your Name
When I look back from whence I came
Sometimes stumbling, sometimes falling
Sometimes alone
Friends and loved ones I held dear
Some are gone, but still I'm here
Take my hand, precious Lord
Lead me on

***Doxology**

Pastoral Prayer /The Lord's Prayer

***Hymn 'Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers'**

HOLY MANNA

Thank our God for sisters, brothers
One by grace in harmony
Joining heart to heart with others
Making strong community
With the cross of Christ our standard
Let us sing as with one voice
Glory, glory, yours the promise
We who are the church rejoice

Praise to God for congregations
Keeping faith with Christ as guide
Many tongues of many nations
Song and service unified
Sweet the psalm and sweet the carol
When our song is raised as one
Glory, glory, yours the power
As in heaven, your will be done

Holy is your name forever
Heal divisions that remain
Bless the church's new endeavors
Make our witness one again
One in Christ and in Christ's gospel

Make us one, we now implore
Glory, glory, yours the glory
Then and now and evermore

*Benediction

*Postlude

Announcements:



**BUILDING KINSHIP IN
CUSCO, PERU**

*RCA Woman's
Global Mission
Immersion*

JULY 31-AUGUST 10, 2024

Partnering with the Rodriguez family in the mountains of Peru where we will Equip and Empower Quechua young women through:

- Cultural Exchange
- Love and Encouragement
- Teaching and Discipleship

TOTAL COST: \$2300
MEALS, BOARD, TRANSPORTATION ,
EXCURSIONS INCLUDING: TOUR OF THE
SACRED VALLEY, OVERNIGHT AT MACHU
PICCHU, PERUVIAN COOKING CLASS

REGISTER NOW

Sign up by May 15
\$410 deposit
katielandry83@gmail.com

Welcome Rev. Fred Northup!

XYG Commissioning TODAY - Please keep this team in prayer as they travel to NYC (Monday April 29 - Saturday May 4) to work with the New York School of Urban Ministry. Come back next Sunday 5/5 to hear their stories!

Team: Luke Berry, James Boschulte III, Jeffrey Boschulte Jr., Shadeen Honore, JR Oriol, Trey Thompson & Ellis Wisehart.

Leaders: Bob & Camille Stolz

PRAYER WALK WEDNESDAYS – Meet near Shed #3 every Wednesday at Magens to pray promptly at 7am. Tom Kennington will lead this week. After a time of prayer, all are encouraged to walk/run and continue to pray for the needs of our church, community and world.

Mother & Child Musical Ministry!

On Mother's Day, May 12th, the moms will be joining the Children's Choir in song--Mothers, please plan to attend this morning's rehearsal for details!

Thanks to Dr. Ronald Nimmo for this morning's music.

The Adult Choir is off this month; rehearsals resume on May 9th.

Leading Worship Today:

Ministers:	All of us worshiping together
Preaching:	Pastor Jeffrey Neevel
Music:	Chanelle Schaffer, Dr. Ronald Nimmo
AV/Livestream:	James Anderson, James Cobb, Chase Rosenthal, Dave Whitter

Jeffrey Neevel -

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