

Lord,
e. -Ps. 27:4



to live in
all the o
to behold
and to

One thing I asked of the Lord;
this I seek:
to live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord,
and to inquire in his temple. -Ps. 27:4



historic faith. present love. future hope.

We Welcome One and All

In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

January 22, 2023

10:00am Service

St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Founded 1660

www.strchurch.org

Third Sunday After Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

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

Gathering Music

Greeting and Ministry Announcements

Call to Worship | Prayer

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

AMEN!

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

*Hymn

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

'God, You Call Us to This Place'

God, you call us to this place
Where we know your love and grace
Here, your hospitality
Makes of us one family
Makes our rich diversity
Richer still in unity
Makes our many voices one
Joined in praise with Christ, your Son

Now assembled in Christ's name
All your mercies to proclaim
In the hearing of your Word
In our prayer through Christ, the Lord
In the ministries we share
Learning how to serve with care
In the Spirit let us be

One in faith and unity
In the water we were born

Of the Spirit, in the Son
Now a priestly, royal race
Rich in every gift of grace
Called, forgiven, loved, and freed
For the world we intercede
Gather into unity
All the human family

Call to Confession | Unison Prayer of Confession

O God, we confess the blindness that is not even aware of sinning;
the pride that dares not admit that it is wrong;
the selfishness that can see nothing but its own will;
the righteousness that knows no fault;
the callousness that has ceased to care;
the defiance that does not regret its own sins;
the evasion that always tries to make excuses;
the coldness of heart that is too hardened to repent.
God, forgive us our sin; be merciful to us, we pray...

Response

'Kyrie'

Garnaas-Holmes

Voice

Ky-ri-e e - le-i-son Chris-te e - le - i - son - Ky-ri-e e -
le - i - son Grant to us your peace, Lord.

Words of Assurance and Hope

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

Amber Knight and Dave Whitter: Do you reaffirm the vows you made when you confessed your faith in Christ and became a communicant member of Christ's Church? **I do.**

Do you believe in your heart that you are called by God's Church and therefore by God to your respective office? **I do.**

Do you believe the books of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God and the perfect doctrine of salvation; rejecting all doctrines contrary thereto? **I do.**

Will you oversee and encourage the spiritual growth of this congregation; providing for the proclamation and hearing of God's Word, the reverent celebration of sacraments, and the loving care of the members? **I will, with the help of God.**

—The Congregation is invited to stand—

Do you, the members of the St Thomas Reformed Church, receive Amber and Dave in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, as duly elected and ordained servants of Christ? **We do.**

Do you promise to respect them for the sake of the office for which they have been chosen and ordained? **We do.**

Do you promise to encourage and pray for them, to labor together in obedience to the gospel for the unity, purity, and peace of the church, the welfare of the whole world, and the honor of our Lord Jesus Christ? **We do.**

All present who have been ordained to the office of elder or deacon may come forward for the laying on of hands.

Prayer for Ordination | Declaration

'Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers'

Thank our God for sisters, brothers	Praise to God for congregations
One by grace in harmony	Keeping faith with Christ as guide
Joining heart to heart with others	Many tongues of many nations
Making strong community	Song and service unified
With the cross of Christ our standard	Sweet the psalm and sweet the carol
Let us sing as with one voice	When our song is raised as one
Glory, glory, yours the promise	Glory, glory, yours the power
We who are the church rejoice	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

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

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Message: "Unity and Other Wishful Thinking!" *-Pastor Jeff*

...AND RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE..."

Offertory: 'The Spirit of the Lord' Scholters, arr.

You are invited to come forward to bring gifts, tithes and offerings as an expression of gratitude for all of God's blessings. Online giving is available at www.strchurch.org/give. Teachers and students are dismissed to faith formation classes.

We are one in the Spirit of the Lord
 We will pray with the Spirit of the Lord
 They will know we're children of the Lord
 We are children of the Lord

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

If we love one another with the love of the Lord
Then our peace with each other will be restored
If we live in the Spirit and we walk with the Lord
They will know we are Christians by our love

All praise to the Creator, from whom all things come
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one
And they'll know we are Christians by our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

Let us join hands together with the love of the Lord
Let us walk with each other in one accord
Let us live in the Spirit, let us walk with the Lord
Then they'll know we are Christians by our love
They will know we are Christians by our love

***Doxology**

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

***Congregational Response**

NETTLETON

'We Give Thanks for Our Salvation'

**We give thanks for our salvation
In the grace of Christ, we're found
We are brought from isolation
Into lives of those around**

All together, we lack nothing
As Christ's work is now revealed
God is faithful and has called us
Into fellowship, we're sealed

Let our speech reflect our oneness
Echoing the words You said
Keep us selfless in our actions
Leading others where You led
End divisive motivations
Give us grace in unity
That surpasses our emotions
And restores us perfectly

We are baptized into Jesus
Barriers topple from within
Equally, the water frees and
Cleanses us from all our sin
Jesus Christ is not divided
We are baptized in one name
Unified in our redemption
Christ's salvation we proclaim

*Benediction



GIVING THANKS

Leading Worship Today:

Ministers:	All of us worshiping together
Preaching:	Pastor Jeff Neevel
Liturgist:	Pastor Ben Rowe
Music:	Chanelle Schaffer, Adult Choir
AV Team:	James Anderson, James Cobb, Dave Whitter, Andrea King

NEXT STEPS

1. **START HERE** — Fill out our online connect card at www.strchurch.org/im-new

2. **TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP** | www.strchurch.org/next-steps

—sign ups available in the back of the sanctuary—

- Learn more about STRC by joining our Inquirers Class. This class will be held today following worship.
- Sign up for Confirmation to publicly profess your faith!
- Join a Breaking Bread Group www.strchurch.org/breaking-bread

3. **STAY IN THE KNOW**

- **Employment Opportunities** www.strchurch.org/join-our-team

We are currently looking for an Administrative Assistant for our front office and a Camp Director for our July summer camp. If you know someone who may be a good fit or interested, please send them to the link found above..



CONTACT INFORMATION

Jeffrey Neevel -	Pastor of Congregational Engagement pastorjeff@strchurch.org
Ben Rowe -	Pastor of Congregational Formation pastorben@strchurch.org
Chanelle Schaffer -	Minister of Music and Arts music@stthomasreformedchurch.org
Vicky Gomez-Christian-	Operations Administrator retreat@stthomasreformedchurch.org

The St. Thomas Reformed Church | P.O. Box 301769 | St. Thomas, VI 00803
mail@stthomasreformedchurch.org