



Happy Mothers Day!

historic faith. present love. future hope.

We Welcome One and All

In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

May 12, 2024

10:00 am

St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Founded 1660

www.strchurch.org

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1John 5:9-13;
John 17:6-19

...“WE GATHER IN GOD’S PRESENCE...”

Gathering Music

Greeting | Ministry Opportunities

Call to Worship (from Psalm 47)

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

AMEN!

Clap your hands, all you peoples!

Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,

God reigns over the whole earth.

Sing praises to God, sing praises,

For God reigns over the whole earth!

Sing praises with a psalm,

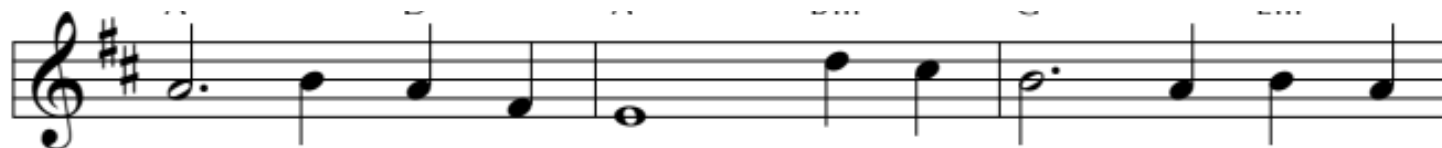
For God reigns over all!

Prayer

***Hymn 'Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us' AUSTIN**



1 Like a moth - er who has borne us, held us
2 Like a fa - ther who has taught us, grasped our
3 Though as chil - dren we have wan - dered, placed our
4 When we of - fer food and com - fort, grasp our



close in her de - light, fed us free - ly from her
 hand and been our guide, lift - ed us and healed our
 trust in power and might, left be - hind our broth - ers,
 neigh - bor's hand in love, tread the path of peace and



bod - y, God has called us in - to life.
 sor - rows, God has walked with us in life.
 sis - ters, God still calls us in - to life.
 jus - tice, God still walks with us in life.

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Eternal One, we confess the ways in which we fail to follow the Way. At times we are stuck on visions of a future we want but may not be what is best for everyone, even ourselves. We confess our own impatience at waiting for Your divine plan to be revealed. Forgive us for taking matters into our own hands, often motivated by selfish desires rather than by Your providential plan for good. Holy One, help us not to hope for something different without changing the world today, and may we not long for a past with rose-colored glasses. Instead, guide us to live into Your way, Your truth, and Your life, here and now, through Jesus Christ...

Response 'Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying' Medema

Lord, listen to your children praying
Lord, send your Spirit in this place
Lord, listen to your children praying
Send us love, send us power, send us grace

Words of Assurance and How We Are Called to Live

Anthem. "I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy" Traditional

The STRC Mother & Child Choir

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy
Down in my heart
Down in my heart to stay

And I'm so happy
So very happy
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart

I've got the love of Jesus
Down in my heart
Down in my heart to stay

I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer
Way down in the depths of my heart
Down in the depths of my heart to stay

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

Children's Message

(Teachers and students are dismissed to faith formation classes)

Chorus

It is the cry of my heart
To follow You
It is the cry of my heart
To be close to You
It is the cry of my heart
To follow
All of the days of my life

Teach me Your holy ways, oh Lord
So I can walk in Your truth
Teach me Your holy ways, oh Lord
And make me wholly devoted to You *(chorus)*

Open my eyes so I can see
The wonderful things that You do
Open my heart up more and more
And make it wholly devoted to You *(chorus)*

Scripture:

Acts 1:21-26

Sermon:

"Divine Luck"

Pastor Jeffrey Neevel

...AND RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE...

We give our gifts, tithes and offerings as an expression of gratitude for all of God's blessings. Giving "mites" are available at the church entrance for anyone who gives online and desires to join in the act of giving here today. Online giving is available at www.strchurch.org/give

Offertory

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

*Song 'God of Creation, All-Powerful'

SLANE

God of creation, all powerful, all wise
Lord of the universe, rich with surprise
Maker, Sustainer and Ruler of all
We are Your children--You hear when we call

God of the ages, through time's troubled years
You are the One in whom history coheres
Nations and empires Your purpose fulfill
Moving in freedom, yet working Your will

God of our now, all our trust is in You
Covenant God, ever faithful and true
Sovereign Creator, Redeemer and Lord
Now and forever Your name be adored

*Benediction

Announcements:

PRAYER WALK WEDNESDAYS – Join together for mid-week prayer every Wednesday at Magens Bay, near Shed 3, beginning at 7am. After a time of prayer, all are encouraged to walk/run and continue to pray for the needs of our church, community and world.

XYG T-Shirts Available to Purchase for \$25.00. Please consider purchasing this year's "The Other 6" XYG T-shirt! T-Shirts are in the office. All sizes available. Get one while they last! All proceeds will be rolled back into the 2025 Youth Mission Trip. Help leave a legacy for the next group of teens!

Mark Your Calendars to honor and celebrate our teachers on the last day of Sunday School - May 19. Please Join us for a special fellowship after worship in the pavilion.

NEXT SUNDAY (5/19) is PENTECOST – a day to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. We will celebrate our teachers and mark the end of this Sunday School program year. In preparation for Pentecost, take some time this coming week to reflect on ways we can invite the Holy Spirit into our community to enrich and expand our relationships, and grow together in faith, joy, and Christian love. Next week, a questionnaire will be included in the bulletin (and posted on the website) featuring suggested options/opportunities to come together with others in our church family for service, various activities, and just plain fun. If you have a favorite hobby/activity you don't see listed, write it in! **NEXT WEEK you are invited to wear RED, ORANGE and/or YELLOW to celebrate!**

Graduation season is upon us. Blessings upon all graduates and their families. If someone in your family is graduating, please let us know! (Call or email our Office administrator Vicki Whitter 340-776-8255 officeadmin@stthomasreformedchurch.org)

Special thanks to Felipe Ayala for providing the flowers given to the women of the church this morning!

Music- The STRC Mother & Child Choir, the Adult Choir

The funeral service for Joan Smith (the mother of choir member Phoebe Smith-Charles) will be held at 10 a.m. this Thursday, May 16th at the Shiloh SDA Tabernacle; (Estate Tutu across from the Fire Station); viewing is from 9:00 am to 10 am. All are welcome to attend.

GIVING THANKS

Leading Worship Today:

- Ministers:** All of us worshiping together
Preaching: Pastor Jeffrey Neevel
Music: Chanelle Schafer, STRC Mother & Child Choir and the Adult Choir
AV/Livestream: James Anderson, James Cobb, Chase Rosenthal, Trey Thompson and Dave Whitter

NEXT STEPS

1. **START HERE** - Fill out our online connect card at www.strchurch.org/im-new
2. **SIGN UP TO TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP** www.strchurch.org/next-steps

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