

# ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



historic faith. present love. future hope.

**We Welcome One and All**

In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

**June 1, 2025**

**10:00 am**

St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Founded 1660

[www.strchurch.org](http://www.strchurch.org)

# SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;

Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21; John 14:8-17,(25-27)

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

## Gathering Music

*(Please take time to prepare for worship and silence electronic devices)*

## Greeting and Ministry Updates

Introit

**"The Gift of Home"**

Schram/Williams

## Call to Worship

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

**Amen!**

We come to this place of prayer,

**For here we can bring our hopes and dreams, our hidden fears and the doubts we dare wear on our sleeves.**

We come to this place of grace,

**For here we learn compassion and joy, and discover how deeply we are loved.**

We come with these people called the church,

**To be blessed by the variety of gifts, to live as one for our God.**

## Prayer

**\*Hymn**

**'O Christ, the Great Foundation'**

AURELIA

O Christ, the great foundation

On which your people stand

To preach your true salvation

In every age and land

Pour out your Holy Spirit

To make us strong and pure

To keep the faith unbroken

As long as worlds endure



Baptized in one confession  
One church in all the earth  
We bear our Lord's impression  
The sign of second birth  
One fellowship united  
In love beyond our own  
By grace we were invited  
By grace we make you known

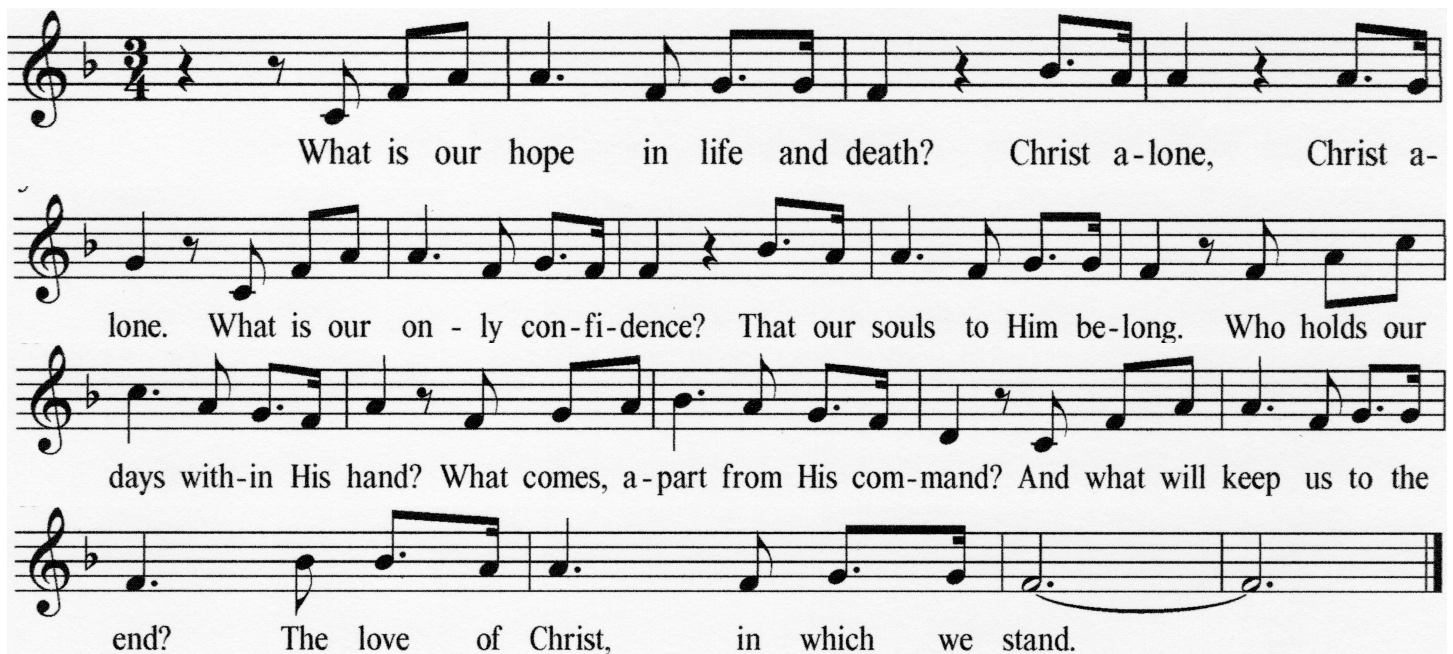
The church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ, our Lord  
We are Christ's new creation  
By water and the Word  
From heaven, Christ came and sought us  
In love to set us free  
With precious love, Christ bought us  
For all eternity

## Call to Confession | Unison Prayer of Confession

We come asking forgiveness for our foolish lives, Eternal Blessing.  
Deliver us, and break the chains of sin and death which hold us captive.  
Open us to that grace You offer, and give us the gift of the Spirit so we  
may live as people of the Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

## Response 'Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death'

Getty



What is our hope in life and death? Christ a-lone, Christ a-  
lone. What is our on - ly con-fi-dence? That our souls to Him be-long. Who holds our  
days with-in His hand? What comes, a-part from His com-mand? And what will keep us to the  
end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

## Words of Assurance and Hope

In the beginning was God, and at the end will be God, and in every moment in between, there is God: creating, redeeming, and sustaining us.

**And through Christ, gracious love is poured into our empty souls; through the Spirit, peace becomes the gift we can share with those around us.**

If Christ sets you free, you shall be free indeed!

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Confirmation

Introduction of Mentors and Students

Sharing of Personal Credo

Covenant Promise

*Asked to each individual...*

Q: \_\_\_\_\_, who is your Lord & Savior?

**A: Jesus Christ is my Lord & Savior!**

*Asked to the group...*

Q: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A: That I am not my own but I belong, body and soul, in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

Q: Do you now accept your baptism into Christ's church as your own and promise to be loyal in your faith as a member of Christ's church, by regularly attending the worship of God, by pursuing spiritual instruction, by faithfully offering yourselves and your resources to God; and will you continue to seek the things that make for unity, purity and peace?

**A: I WILL, WITH GOD'S HELP!**

*Will the congregation please stand if able...*

Q: Will you, the members of the St. Thomas Reformed Church, welcome these new members in Christ, and will you walk with them in the Spirit of Christian fellowship, pray for them, and help them seek the things that make for unity, purity and peace?



A: We will, with God's help.

Prayer & Laying on of Hands - (Elders & deacons are invited forward)

\*Hymn

'Welcome'

Miller

1. Let's walk to-gether for a while and  
2. Let's talk to-gether of a time when  
3. Let's dream to-gether of the day when

ask where we be - gin to build a world where  
we will share a feast, where pride and pow - er  
earth and heaven are one, a ci - ty built of

love can grow and hope can en - ter in, to be the hands of  
kneel to serve the lone - ly and the least, and joy will set the  
love and light, the new Je - ru - sa - lem, where our mour - ing turns to

heal - ing and to plant the seeds of peace, Sing - ing  
ta - ble as we join our hands to pray, Sing - ing  
danc - ing, ev - ery crea - ture lifts its voice! Cry - ing

wel - come, welcome to this place. You're in - vit - ed to come and know  
God's grace. All are wel - come the love of God to share 'cause  
all of us are wel - come here; all are welcome in this place.

## Scripture

## Acts 16:16-34

## Message

**"This is Still the Place!"** -Pastor Jeff Neevel

## Offering

(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](http://www.strchurch.org/give))

## Offertory

### 'A Place Called Home'

Joncas

A place called home with comfort for the weary  
A place called home of nourishment and rest  
A place called home that welcomes in the stranger  
Where one unknown becomes a welcome guest  
Where love can find a human habitation  
God grant us all this grace: a place called home

A place called home where tenderness can flourish  
A place called home, a haven from all harm  
A place called home where children sleep in safety  
Where hurts are healed, a shelter from the storm  
Where peace can find a human habitation  
God grant us all this grace: a place called home

A place called home, a promise for tomorrow  
A place called home, a vision handed down  
A place called home for all God's sons and daughters  
Where love prevails and peace is ever found  
Where hope can find a human habitation  
God grant us all this grace: a place called home

## Congregation:

**A place called home for every human being  
A place called home where arms are opened wide  
A place called home where all extend the welcome  
Where none are lost, alone, or cast aside  
But members of a single human family  
God grant us all this grace: a place called home**

## \*Doxology

# **We Gather Around the Table**

*(The Liturgy for Communion is found in the back of the red hymnal.)*

## **Communion Music     "I Bless Your Name"** Andrea Lee & Yolanda Thorpe, soloists

Goodine

### **Communion**

*(All who desire to receive the Lord's Supper are invited forward. Beginning with the back pews, come forward using the side aisles, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and return to your seat using the center aisle Single serve cups are also available up front.)*

### **\*Thanksgiving after Communion**

### **\*The Lord's Prayer**

*(The congregation is invited to stand, join hands and sing)*

### **\*Benediction**

### **Announcements:**

**TODAY IS CONFIRMATION!** We rejoice that four of our young adults will profess their faith and become full communicant members of STRC with their mentors standing with them. We rejoice with:

**Luke Berry** – Dave Whitter

**Jeffrey Boschulte Jr.** – Chantal Figueroa

**Trey Thompson** – Ty Troutman

**Ellis Wisheart** – Gail Prince

### **Congratulations and blessing to all our graduates! Graduating from High School this year:**

Mia Benjamin, Luke Berry, Andrew Bornn, Jeffrey Boschulte Jr., Jean Rene Oriol, Kayra Plummer & Trey Thompson.

### **TODAY at 5 p.m.!**

**STRC presents "A Legacy of Praise: Honoring Pastor Jeffrey Neevel"**, a very special afternoon of music, TODAY at 5 p.m. Join us as we celebrate his 19+ years of faithful service: featured artists include Payge Turner, Andrea Lee, Dr. Ron Nimmo, Dion Parson, DJ Parson, Sherwin Williams, the STRC Children's Choir, the Adult Choir, and more! The concert is FREE and open to all--refreshments will be available. **Please note that the concert WILL NOT BE LIVE-STREAMED, but will be recorded and released at a later date.**

**Children's Choir rehearses today!** The group will rehearse from 11:15 to 11:45 (following Sunday School) with Chanelle in the Music Room. All children ages 4-12 are encouraged to participate. Join us as we prepare for "A Legacy of Praise", the concert in honor of Pastor Jeff!

**An Artistic Opportunity for Children & Youth!** 81C is offering two summer art programs for children and youth ages 8 to 17, designed to nurture students' artistic skills and foster creative self-expression in a supportive and engaging environment. Scholarships are available. For more details, see the flyers at the back of the Sanctuary, visit [81CVI.org](http://81CVI.org), or speak with Joseph Hewes.

**Summer Camp 2025 "Bread of Life - Feed Us With Your Love!"** is this year's theme based on John 6:35 - "I am the bread of life..." Registration is presently FULL. To be put on the waiting list go to: [www.strchurch.org](http://www.strchurch.org)

**For those Women interested in joining us for a Fun Summer Weekly Bible Study of :** *She is Called ~ Women of The Bible Study Series Part 1 & Part 2* . Please sign up or for more information please contact - Sharee Winslow at [shareewinslow@icloud.com](mailto:shareewinslow@icloud.com)

**Leading Worship Today:**

<b>Ministers:</b>	All of us worshiping together
<b>Preaching:</b>	Pastor Jeffrey Neevel
<b>Liturgist:</b>	Madison Wyatt
<b>Music:</b>	Chanelle Schaffer, Andrea Lee, Yolanda Thorpe & the Adult Choir
<b>AV/Livestream:</b>	James Anderson, Luke Berry, James Cobb, Trey Thompson & Dave Whitter
<b>Greeters:</b>	Paula Lorentzen and Teshawn Mills

<b>Jeffrey Neevel -</b>	<b>Senior Pastor</b> <a href="mailto:pastorjeff@strchurch.org">pastorjeff@strchurch.org</a>
<b>Chanelle Schaffer -</b>	<b>Minister of Music and Arts</b> <a href="mailto:music@stthomasreformedchurch.org">music@stthomasreformedchurch.org</a>
<b>Vicky Gomez-Christian -</b>	<b>Operations Administrator</b> <a href="mailto:retreat@stthomasreformedchurch.org">retreat@stthomasreformedchurch.org</a>
<b>Vicki Whitter -</b>	<b>Administrative Assistant</b> <a href="mailto:officeadmin@stthomasreformedchurch.org">officeadmin@stthomasreformedchurch.org</a>