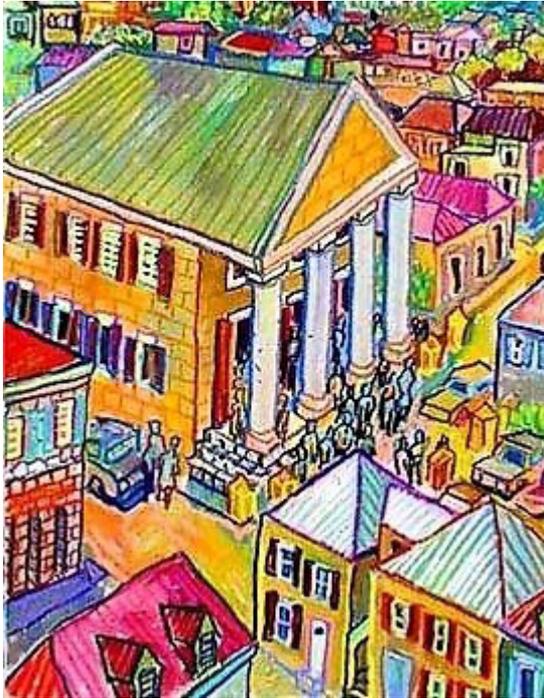


# *St. Thomas Reformed Church*



St. Thomas, U. S. Virgin Islands  
Founded 1660

Oct 7, 2018

*All are Welcome*  
*In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ*

# World Communion Sunday

*The liturgical color today is green representing the growth and mission of the Church!*

## “ We Gather In God’s Presence...”

### Prelude Music

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

### Greeting and Ministry Updates

#### Introit

“Tuya Es La Gloria”

*Latin America*

“Uyai Mose”

*Zimbabwe*

### Call to Worship

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

**Amen!**

The world belongs to God,

**the earth and all its people.**

How good and lovely it is

**to live together in unity.**

Love and justice come together,

**justice and peace join hands.**

If the Lord’s disciples keep silent

**the very stones themselves would shout aloud that our world**

**belongs to God**

**and God is building a global hope.**

Open our lips, O God,

**and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

### Prayer

#### Hymn # 442

‘We Are Walking/Siyahamba’

*South Africa*

## Call to Confession

### Unison Prayer of Confession

God, forgive my incompleteness: not growing in Christ, not expanding my knowledge of the Scriptures, not developing all my talents.

God, forgive my disinterest: a lack of concern for needs around me, blindness to hurts I could help heal.

God, forgive my dishonesty: taking the easy way rather than the right way, speaking in one manner while living in another.

God, forgive my loudness: talking when I should be listening, proclaiming when I should be studying, busying myself with new tasks when I should be finding a quiet place to rest.

God, forgive my silence: feeling love and failing to whisper it, reeling with joy and not shouting hallelujah, knowing truth and forfeiting an opportunity to share it.

God, please forgive me...

**Response # 111**

'Santo, Santo, Santo'

*Argentina*

### Words of Assurance and Hope

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we are assured that there is no sin so terrible that God cannot forgive, no hurt so terrible that God cannot heal. God accepts, God forgives, and God sets free. Receive the forgiving love of God.

**Thanks be to God. Amen!**

## How We Are Called to Live

**Children's Choir Anthem**

"Come On In This House"

*Spiritual*

### Children's Message

**\*Hymn # 687**

'In Christ There Is No East or West'

*ST. PETER*

## ...To Hear God's Word...

**\*Scripture**

John 14:15-21

P 983

**Message**

'Our Response: Gratitude!'

Rev. Scott Brown

## ...And Respond with Gratitude

**Offering**

**Offertory**

"Imagine"

Lennon

Penny Woods, soloist

**\*Doxology**

### **A Celebration of Communion**

*(All who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome at the table. Beginning with the back pews, you are invited to come forward using the side aisles, break off a piece of bread and dip your bread into the cup. Then return to your seat using the center aisle.)*

**Communion Music**

"Laudate Dominum"

Taizè/France

Laura Strickling, soloist

"My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness"

Getty

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

**\*The Lord's Prayer**

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

**\*Benediction**

**\*Organ Postlude**

...Depart in peace



"It began last night- as you were going to bed - World Communion Sunday.

Asian Christians shared the bread and the wine. Churches in China met in secret so that they would not be arrested. Christians in the Middle East, some of whom were saved only by having dreams of Jesus, met under the watchful eye of the government as they celebrated the Eucharist. In Europe, Christians gathered in churches that used to be much fuller and celebrated the Lord's Supper. In Africa the sacrament was celebrated in great numbers by a growing number of Christians, many of whom bear scars of persecution as they commune together.

Those celebrating today include Presbyterians, Methodists, Catholics, Lutherans, Pentecostals, Baptists, thousands of other denominations, and even those without denominations.

Christ-followers met both in public and in secret. Some met in freedom while others gathered under threat of persecution and death. Some take the sacrament today with organ music, others with simple singing, and still others in quiet so as not to be arrested.

In wealthy churches and in desperate poverty the sacrament is observed. In churches, homes, huts, and in God's creation this seal of the covenant was experienced. The bread is given to people that could overeat all day and to people who had no idea what they would eat or where they would get it today.

The one thing in common- We all come to the same table of our Lord." -Jordan Rimmer

## GIVING THANKS:

### Leading Worship Today:

Ministers:	All the people of the church
Preaching:	Rev. Scott Brown
Music:	Chanelle Schaffer, Noel Reglado, Laura Strickland, Penny Woods and the children's choir
Greeters:	Don and Sarah Hancock
Ushers:	Joel Comissioning and David Haddow
Audio:	Steve Marsella and Henry Ong

**Today** we welcome Rev. Scott Brown from the Colt's Neck Reformed Church in New Jersey as he leads us in worship and the celebration of communion. Pastor Scott Brown has been the Senior Pastor at Colts Neck Reformed Church in New Jersey since 1999. He is married to Kay Neevel Brown (Pastor Jeff's only sister). He graduated from the State University of NY, Albany, and New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Prior to being senior Minister, he served as Associate Pastor at Colts Neck Reformed Church from 1985-1994 and as solo pastor at the Three Bridges (NJ) Reformed Church from 1994-1999. He has served the wider church as president of the Classis of New Brunswick, the (New Jersey) assembly of 28 Reformed Churches, and as president of the Regional Synod of Mid-Atlantics, the 150 Reformed Churches in New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania.

**We also welcome** the second team of volunteers from Colts Neck Reformed Church who will be with us until next Saturday. We said good-bye to the first group yesterday and expressed our deep gratitude for all they were able to accomplish at the Salvation Army property down near the Market Square.

**The Women's Bible Study** group will be meeting on Mondays, starting tomorrow for the next six weeks. The ladies meet at Billie Hodges' home on Skyline Drive from 6:15 until 7:45-8 to discuss and watch a DVD series titled "Fight Back with Joy" by Margaret Feinberg. All women are welcome. For more information please call Billie at 340-514-2623.

## CALENDAR

TODAY	9:00 - 9:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Café in the Pavilion Communion and Sunday Worship
Mon., Oct 8	6:15 - 7:45 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (Hodges' Home)
Tues., Oct 9	11:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Salvation Army Lunch
Thurs., Oct 11	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal (MR)
Sat., Oct 13	11:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Bethlehem House Lunch
Sun., Oct 14	9:00 - 9:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:20 a.m. 11:30 - noon	Café in the Pavilion Sunday Worship Activity Time Children's Choir Rehearsal

### Long Path After School Program Updates

If you wish to support our after-school program at Long Path Community Center, follow this link to an Amazon Wishlist for STRC @ LPCC.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/1QVS7ZOSNI5HF>

Feel free to share with others! Thank you for your contributions to our after school program!

For more information about the program or to volunteer:

contact Lucy Sutton & Noel Regalado at email: [strcatlpcc@gmail.com](mailto:strcatlpcc@gmail.com)

**XYG - (eXamine Your God):** If you are a high school student (*grades 9-12*) and want to be part of a life-changing Mission Trip experience next Spring, come find out what it's all about. **Sunday, October 28 after worship!**

## Next Week's Lectionary Scripture Readings

- ◆ Job 23:1-9, 16-17;
- ◆ Psalm 22:1-15
- ◆ Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
- ◆ Psalm 90:12-17
- ◆ Hebrews 4:12-16
- ◆ Mark 10:17-31

**Prison Ministry**– The BOC looking for volunteers to help supervise students 2 at a time in the BOC library. The program takes place Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. Please speak to Gabriel Villegas if interested.

### STRC Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey Neevel  
Minister of Music & Arts: Chanelle Schaffer  
Executive Office Administrator: Dawn Wheatley Comissiong  
Retreat Center Coordinator: Vicky Gomez Christian  
Maintenance Supervisor: Charles Edwards  
Website Manager and Graphic Designer: Phyllis Carrozza  
Docent: John Paul Sperlich

### Contact Information

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**STRC "APP" free from iTunes and Google Play**

**Like us on Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/stthomasreformedchurch/>

# ST. THOMAS REFORMED CHURCH



## PRAYER PLEDGE

**ST. THOMAS REFORMED CHURCH**  
**PRAYER PLEDGE**

**Name** (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact** (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Prayer pledge:** “I promise to pray for: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Prayer request** (*for the elders and pastor*): “Please pray for:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

***“The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.” -James 5:16***