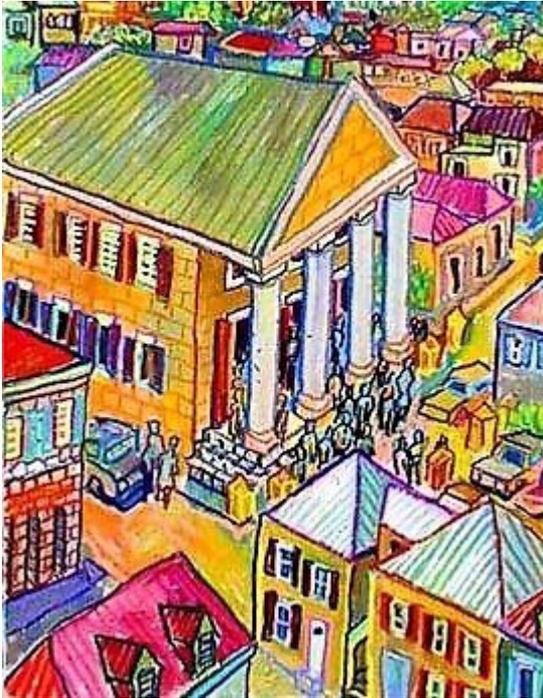


St. Thomas Reformed Church



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

September 9, 2018

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

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

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

Call to Worship

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

Amen!

Surely the Lord is in this place.

This is none other than the house of God.

Let us rejoice and be glad in this day.

We will rejoice and praise the name of the Lord!

Prayer

***Hymn #**

‘Christ, You Call Us All to Service’

IN BABILONE

See page 4

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, our Maker and our Judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed: We have not loved you with our whole heart, we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; We repent, and are sorry for all our sins. God, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord...

Response # 609

‘Take My Life’

HENDON

Verses 1 & 6

Words of Assurance and Hope

Children’s Message

Ordination and Installation of Deacons

***Hymn # 490**

'Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant'

Gillard

Verses 1-3, 5

(Children under the age of 10 are excused to Activity time.)

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

Scripture

James 2:1-17

P 1101

Message

"Too Many Works!"

...And Respond with Gratitude

Offering

Offertory

"Into the Night"

Ray

Tell me what is pure and undefiled?
Which is the greatest of our Lord's
commands?
But to love our God with heart and mind
And to love our neighbor hand in hand

Tell me, what will show the world our
faith?
What will demonstrate our Savior's love?
His to guide; we must in turn obey
That our lives below may point above.

For the widow and the orphan,
for the broken and contrite,
To the shadows, there has come a Light,
and I will carry it into the night

Tell me, who will do what he has heard?
Who will follow as our Savior leads?
We must love each other not with words,
But with action and the proof of deeds.

***Doxology**

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

***Hymn**

'We Are Called to Be God's People'

AUSTRIAN HYMN

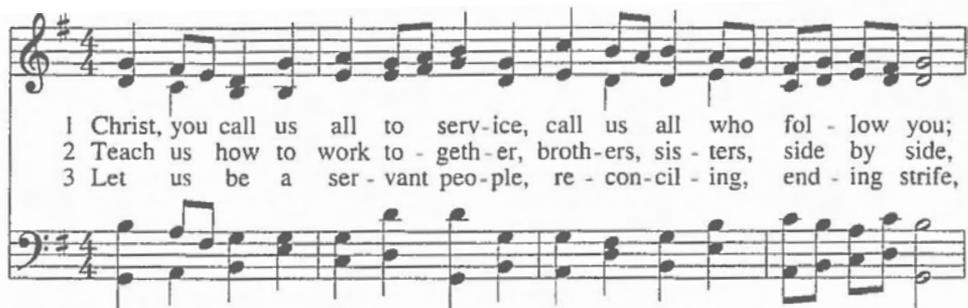
See page 5

***Benediction**

....Depart in peace



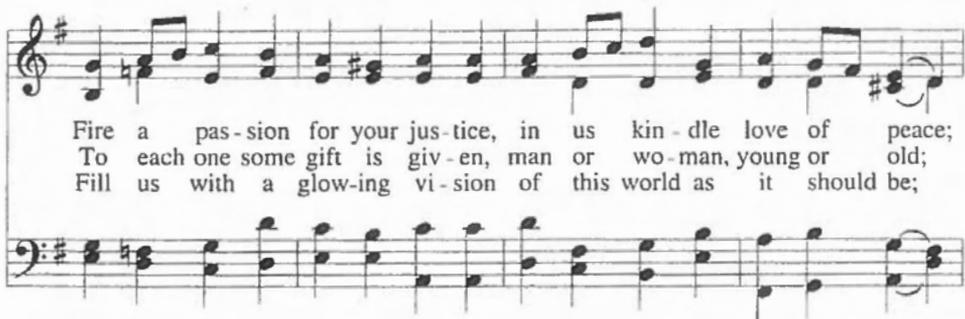
Christ, You Call Us All to Service



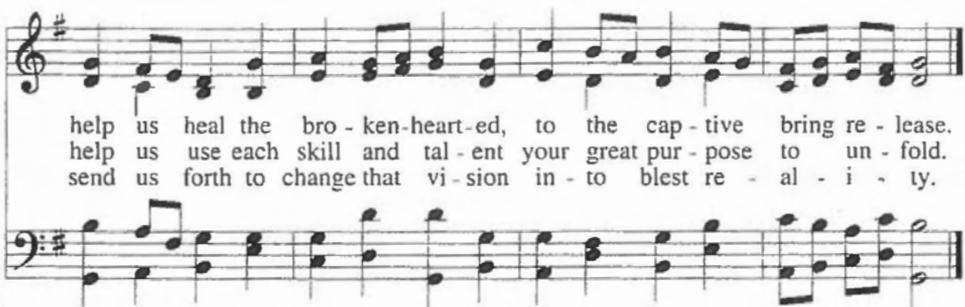
1 Christ, you call us all to serv-ice, call us all who fol - low you;
2 Teach us how to work to - geth-er, broth-ers, sis - ters, side by side,
3 Let us be a ser - vant peo-ple, re - con-cil - ing, end - ing strife,



plant in us a deep com-mit-ment all your work and will to do.
e - qual part-ners in the strug-gle, in the cause of truth al - lied.
seek - ing ways more just of shar-ing and of or - dering hu - man life.



Fire a pas-sion for your jus-tice, in us kin-dle love of peace;
To each one some gift is giv-en, man or wo-man, young or old;
Fill us with a glow-ing vi-sion of this world as it should be;



help us heal the bro - ken-heart-ed, to the cap - tive bring re - lease.
help us use each skill and tal - ent your great pur - pose to un - fold.
send us forth to change that vi - sion in - to blest re - al - i - ty.

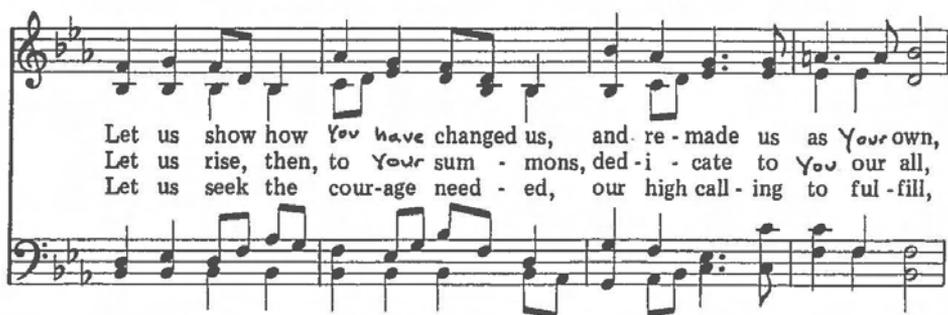
We Are Called to Be God's People



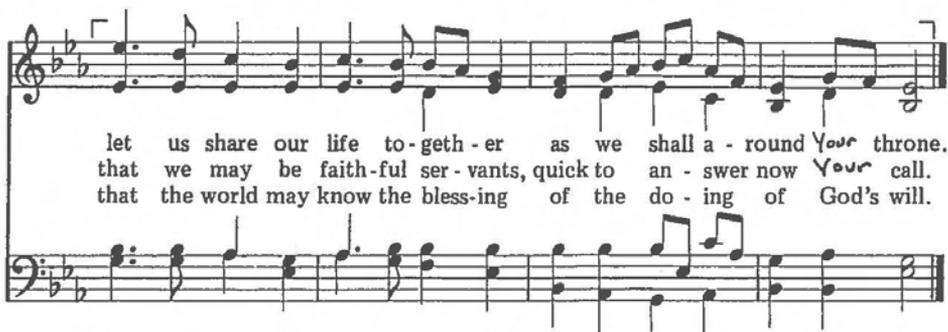
1. We are called to be God's peo - ple, show - ing by our lives God's grace,
2. We are called to be God's ser - vants, work - ing in the world to - day;
3. We are called to be God's proph - ets, speak - ing for the truth and right,



one in heart and one in spir - it, sign of hope for all the race.
tak - ing your own task up - on us, all Your sa - cred words o - bey.
stand - ing firm for god - ly jus - tice, bring - ing e - vil things to light.



Let us show how You have changed us, and re - made us as Your own,
Let us rise, then, to Your sum - mons, ded - i - cate to You our all,
Let us seek the cour - age need - ed, our high call - ing to ful - fill,



let us share our life to - geth - er as we shall a - round Your throne.
that we may be faith - ful ser - vants, quick to an - swer now Your call.
that the world may know the bless - ing of the do - ing of God's will.

GIVING THANKS:

Leading Worship Today:

Ministers:	All the people of the church
Preaching:	Pastor Jeff Neevel
Liturgist:	Rev. Rebecca McDonnell
Music:	Chanelle Schaffer, Lori Abbotts, Andrea Lee and Noel Regalado
Greeters:	Will and Mary Howe
Head Ushers:	Dr. Adam Flowers and Joel Comissiong

Today Pastor Jeff continues a **5-week sermon series** focusing on the book of James and the living out of the St. Thomas Reformed church's Vision, Values and Mission.

STRC Vision

(Timeless expression of desired state-of-being)

A church and faith community dedicated to loving God by inviting others into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ; and by serving one another.

Today we are ordaining & installing three new **deacons** to consistory. These three have been appointed to fulfill the remaining vacant terms until congregational nominations and elections take place at the end of each calendar year. With gratitude for the gifts they bring and their willingness to serve, we give thanks to David Haddow, Randy Shaw and Ryan Wisehart.

Consistory meets this Tuesday at 5:45 pm in Pastor Jeff's office.

Activity Time will continue for a few more weeks. **Thank you** to our Activity Time leader for today, Deborah Merrill along with Kya and Dakota.

A Diabetes Support Group will begin meeting on Wednesday, October 3, at 5:00 in the Community Health Conference Room. This group will offer information about diet and nutrition, testing and insulin, exercise, and stress reduction with time for discussion and answering questions. Please see Mary Howe.

STRC Church APP available! Includes the morning bulletin and scripture passages. Download free and follow STRC on your smartphone! Also, send your prayer requests directly to Pastor Jeff! **WIFI** is now available in the church. The network is STRC and the password is Reformed (use a zero where o is).

CALENDAR

TODAY	9:00 - 9:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:20 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 11:30 a.m. - noon	Café in the Pavilion Sunday Worship Activity Time September Birthday Celebrations Children's Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Tues., Sept 11	11:30 - 1:00 p.m. 5:45 - 8:00 p.m.	Salvation Army Lunch Consistory Meeting (PJM office)
Thurs., Sept 13	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Sat., Sept 15	11:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Bethlehem House Lunch
Sun., Sept 16	9:00 - 9:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:20 a.m.	Café in the Pavilion Communion and Sunday Worship Activity Time

Next Week's Lectionary Scripture Readings

- ◆ Proverbs 1:20-33
- ◆ Psalm 19
- ◆ Isaiah 50:4-9
- ◆ Psalm 116:1-9
- ◆ James 3:1-12
- ◆ Mark 8:27-38

Prison Ministry— If you would like to be involved in our prison ministry, visiting and leading Bible studies every Monday night at 6pm in the local jail, please contact Gabriel Villegas (gjvillegas@yahoo.com) or Dave Haddow (davidjhaddow@yahoo.com).

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK*:

- ◆ Birthday blessings to Edye Pasek who celebrated 94 years on 9/1
- ◆ New Deacons and the work of the consistory
- ◆ Hannah Upp missing since Irmaria (*please check out a new GoFundMe page created to assist in the search for Hannah*)

<https://www.gofundme.com/findhannahupp>

- ◆ Benjamin Salas
- ◆ Prison Ministry

*If you would like prayers added to our Sunday prayer list please contact Pastor Jeff at mail@stthomsreformedchurch.org or call the church office at 340-776-8255.

Music and Arts Updates

YOU are Invited... *STRC's Choirs need YOU!*

Rehearsals for the Children's Choir/Adult Choir resume this week, and ALL are welcome to attend! The **Children's Choir** sings in worship on a monthly basis; their performances are always highlights of the service. We rehearse on **Sunday mornings** after the service, from **11:30 to noon**. This is a great opportunity for your child to learn about music and healthy vocal technique, and to gain experience working in an ensemble and performing in front of others. It also provides a firm theological foundation for faith formation; all songs are based in Scripture and focus on God's love.

The **Adult Choir** sings each week; we rehearse **Thursday evenings from 6 to 7:30 p.m. No previous vocal/choral experience is necessary!!** The only requirement for membership is the ability to match pitch and to follow direction. Some choir members read music; many others don't, so all music is taught by ear, by sight, and by repetition. Rehearsals cover healthy vocal technique, expressive singing, working as an ensemble, and everything is grounded in our desire to share, worship, praise, and glorify God. Come for the singing, stay for the fun and the fellowship—we hope to see you there!

For more information about the choir and/or other worship arts ministries, contact Channele.

STRC Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey Neevel

Minister of Music & Arts: Channele Schaffer

Executive Office Administrator: Dawn Wheatley Comissiong

Retreat Center Coordinator: Maria V. Gomez Christian

Maintenance Supervisor: Charles Edwards

Website Manager and Graphic Designer: Phyllis Carrozza

Contact Information

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