

St. Thomas Reformed Church



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

September 29, 2019

*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

Introit **“God Has Done Great Things for Me”** Dixon

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 91)*

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

Amen!

We come into the presence of the Most High, we abide in the shadow of the Almighty, we say to the LORD,

My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.

Let us worship God as one.

Alleluia and Amen.

Prayer

***Hymn #537** **‘My Hope Is Built’** Mote/Bradbury

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

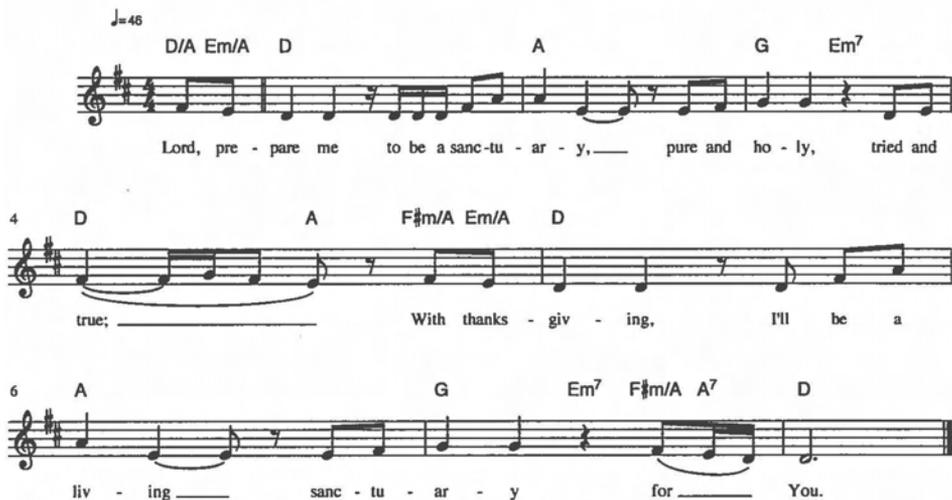
Merciful God, our Maker and our Judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed: we have not loved you with our whole heart, we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Gracious Lord, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of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

Response

'Sanctuary'

Thompson/Scruggs

$\text{♩} = 46$



D/A Em/A D A G Em⁷

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and ho - ly, tried and

4 D A F[#]m/A Em/A D

true; With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a

6 A G Em⁷ F[#]m/A A⁷ D

liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for You.

Words of Assurance and Hope

This is the good news that comes from God: I will hear your prayers, I will answer with hope and peace, I will deliver you from your sins.

God has covered us with grace; under God's hope we will find shelter. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Anthem

"I Will Serve the Lord All My Days"

Besig/Price

Commissioning of Sunday School Teachers (See insert)

*Hymn # 583

'Lead Me, Guide Me'

Akers

“ ...To Hear God’s Word...”

Scripture

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

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Message

“Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is”

“...And Respond with Gratitude!”

Offering

Offertory

“Honest Prayers”

Sorenson

*Doxology

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord’s Prayer

*Hymn # 545

‘He Leadeth Me’

Gilmore/Bradbury

*Benediction

... Depart in peace



GIVING THANKS:

Leading Worship Today:

Ministers:	All the people of the church
Preaching:	Rev. Jeff Neevel
Music:	Chanelle Schaffer, the Adult Choir
Greeters:	Adam, Vicky and Gabriel Christian
Head Ushers:	Joel Comissiong, Dr. Adam Flowers
Audio/Video:	James Cobb

Sunday School classes began today and will continue every Sunday at 9:15 am. It's not too late to register your children. We are sharing the Good News of God's love with your children. It is with great joy and gratitude that we commission the following teachers who have committed to teach our children:

<u>PRE-SCHOOL / KINDERGARTEN</u>	<u>1st / 2nd GRADE</u>	<u>3rd / 4th GRADE</u>
Deb Merrill	Kelly Neevel	Ryan Wisheart
Bridget Gallagher	Marcella Sertich	Billie Hodges
Rebecca Broom		
<u>5th / 6th GRADE</u>	<u>7th / 8th GRADE</u>	<u>High School</u>
Gail Prince	Malcolm Schweizer	Don Hancock
Andrea King		

XYG (eXamine Your God) will have its first Senior High Youth Group and Mission Team organizational parent's meeting next **Sunday, October 6** after worship in the Undercroft. (*Please disregard previous flyer*). All students, grade 9-12, are invited with their parents to attend this brief meeting to begin making plans for **XYG Mission 2020!!!**

Sea View Nursing Home Senior Citizen Visit: All are welcome! Put on your calendar that we will be visiting the seniors at Sea View the **THIRD** Thursday of every month at 5:30. For more information please contact Kim Bourne-Vanneck at kimvanneck@yahoo.com

Monthly Men's Breakfast! Beginning **Saturday October 5 at 8 am** in our own Retreat Center (RC2)! Reserve your place at the table today. A sign up sheet is on the back table in the Sanctuary. For more information or if you wish to help, contact Forrest Broom: 340-474-0472 or email forrestbroom@gmail.com.

Nursery care is available in Bakery Square with a live feed from the sanctuary. Adult supervision is provided.

Save the Date: Sunday, October 6 Church Picnic at Magens Bay

All are welcome. We will be at shed #1 from noon to 4. Please bring a dish to share. A grill will be set up with burgers and hot dogs provided by the church.

A volunteer is needed to help serve lunch every Tuesday at the Salvation Army from 11:45 to 1. Please contact Edye Ciaccia for more info, 678-772-5412.

Bathrooms for the congregation's use are in the Undercroft and inside the gate going to Bakery Square.

Music and Worship

YOU are Invited... *STRC's Choirs Want YOU!* Rehearsals for the Children's Choir, YouthSong (Youth Choir) and the Adult Choir continue this week, and ALL are welcome to attend!

Children's Choir Sings Next Sunday!

The Children's Choir will sing in worship next **Sunday, October 6th**. Parents, please plan to have your child/children attend morning's rehearsal to prepare.

YouthSong is open to all teens (Jr. High/ High School). We meet on **Sundays from noon to 12:30 p.m.** Each session, we'll cover vocal technique and performance skills as we work on songs to sing in worship and beyond. If you like to sing, if you're interested in developing a strong, healthy voice, and if you want to use your voice to praise the Lord--come join us! As we build repertoire, we'll also work on soloing and audition techniques.

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 Chanelle.

CALENDAR

TODAY	9:15 - 9:50 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 - noon Noon - 12:30	Christian Education Classes Sunday Worship Children's Choir Rehearsal (MR) YouthSong Rehearsal (MR)
Tue., Oct 1	11:45 - 1:00 p.m. 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Salvation Army Lunch Book Study (Main Office)
Wed., Oct 2	6:15 - 7:15 p.m.	Ladies Bible Study (Edye Ciaccia's house)
Thurs., Oct 3	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal (MR)
Sat., Oct 5	8:00-9:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast (RC ²)
Sun., Oct 6	9:15 - 9:50 a.m. 10:00 a.m. After church Noon - 12:30 Noon to 4 p.m.	Christian Education Classes Communion and Sunday Worship XYG/Mission Trip Organization Mtg YouthSong Rehearsal (MR) Church Picnic (Magens Bay)

Lectionary Scripture Readings for this week:

Lamentations 1:1-6; Lamentations 3:19-26 or Psalm 137;
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalm 37:1-9; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

STRC Social Media Coordinator Needed

St. Thomas Reformed Church wishes to contract with a vendor for a website and social media position. The Social Media Coordinator will boost the online presence of the STRC by integrating social media, search engine optimization techniques, and blogging into the STRC's identity. He/she will increase both the amount of online traffic and brand exposure through various social media outlets. This person must live on St. Thomas. Please send resumes to officeadmin@stthomasreformedchurch.org by Oct 7, 2019.

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK*:

-For healing and hope: Donna Black, Scott Burnley, Mary Ann Hancock, Brandon King, Dr. Mark Livingston, Baby Myra, James Nimmo, Jim Ryan

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

**Composer/Performer Ken Medema Returns next month --
Volunteers Needed!**

The wonderful **Ken Medema will be returning to St. Thomas from** October 31st through November 9th. If you were here last December and were able to witness his ability to touch hearts and lives through his ministry of hope, healing, and joy, you know what a blessing it is for us to be able to host his second visit! In addition to offering a special concert at STRC, Ken hopes to visit as many schools, assisted-living facilities, and other venues as possible. Ken's housing is taken care of, but **volunteers are needed to assist with coordinating his schedule, and to host/ provide transportation to performance venues on a daily basis.** If you can help, please sign up on the sheet in the back of the Sanctuary *This is a wonderful opportunity to be of service by helping Ken share his gifts with the widest possible audience!*

STRC Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey Neevel
Minister of Music & Arts: Chanelle Schaffer
Church Administrator: Dawn Wheatley Comissiong
Operations Administrator: Vicky Gomez Christian
Maintenance Supervisor: Charles Edwards
STRC @ LPCC Directors: Noel Regalado and Lucy Sutton
Website Manager: Phyllis Carrozza

Contact Information

Office Phone 340-776-8255

Street Address 2105 Crystal Gade # 5 St. Thomas, VI 00802-6661

Mailing Address PO Box 301769 St. Thomas, VI 00803

Website: www.stthomasreformedchurch.org

Email: mail@stthomasreformedchurch.org

STRC "APP" free from iTunes and Google Play

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

Commissioning of Sunday School Teachers

Invitation

(As you are called, please come forward and stand before the congregation.)

To the teachers:

Our Lord, who came among us to serve, calls us to faith and a life of gratitude. At the celebration of baptism, we pledge ourselves to nurture one another in the faith. As you fulfill this calling with joy, I ask you now...

*Do you promise, by the grace of God,
to give yourselves to this calling
with diligence, energy, and love
and to be guided by the Spirit and the Word of God?*

I do, by the grace of God.

To the congregation:

Do you the members of this congregation receive these your sisters and brothers in Christ and pledge to them your support and prayers?

To the teachers:

Servants of Christ, accept the service with which you have been entrusted. Do not neglect the gift that is in you. Present yourselves to God as approved workers, ever faithful to the Spirit of God. Remember always that Jesus called you friends as well as servants. Attend to prayer, for without God you can do nothing. Let us pray together:

The congregation prays in unison:

O God, giver of all good gifts, we commend ourselves and our sisters and brothers to your constant love and guidance. Fill them with grace as they teach our children and grant them the strength and peace of your spirit. In the name of Christ, our master, servant, and friend. Amen.

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