

# *St. Thomas Reformed Church*



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

*Oct 6, 2019*

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

# Seventeenth 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

### Processional

"Uyai Mose"

Gondo

### Call to Worship *(from Psalm 46)*

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

**Amen!**

From north and south, from east and west, we come:

**God's people are called to the Table where simple grace nourishes us.**

From down the street to across the island, from single households, villas, apartments and beach condos:

**God's people are called to community, where we live and serve one another.**

From every class, every race, every status; from little ones with sippy cups to elders with overflowing hearts:

**God's people are called to witness to God's hope, to offer peace to a shattered world.**

### Prayer

\*Hymn # 356

‘We, Your People, God, Confessing’

IN BABILONE

### Call to Confession

#### Unison Prayer of Confession

Ever loving God, even as we seek to make your love known to all people, we acknowledge our failure to live as you intend. When we have given more weight to our success and our happiness than to your will, forgive us Lord. When we have eaten without a thought for the hungry, and spoken without an effort to understand others, forgive us Lord. When we have kept silence instead of speaking the truth, and judged others, forgetting that you alone are the judge, forgive us Lord. Help us to live as true followers, disciples of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.



1. Long-ing for light,\_\_\_ we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for

5. Man - y the gifts,\_\_\_ man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



1. truth,\_\_\_ we turn to you. Make us your own,\_\_\_

5. hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



1. your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see. \_\_\_

5. to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come. \_\_\_

REFRAIN:



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts,



Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!



Shine in your church gath-ered to - day. \_\_\_

## Words of Assurance and Hope

**Musical Offering**

**“Old Church Choir”**

*Williams, arr. Barrett*

*There's revival, and it's spreading like a wildfire in my heart  
Sunday morning, Hallelujah, and it's lasting all week long  
Can you hear it? Can you feel it? It's the rhythm of a gospel song  
Once you choose it, you can't lose it  
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy*

*I've got an Old Church Choir singing in my soul  
I've got a sweet salvation, and it's beautiful  
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored  
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy*

*When the valleys that I wander turn to mountains that I can't climb  
You are with me, never leave me  
'Cause there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy*

*Clap your hands and stomp your feet  
'Till you find that gospel beat, cause He's all you'll ever need*

**“ ...To Hear God's Word...”**

**Scripture**

**2 Timothy 1:1-14**

Page 1084

**Message**

**“Your Walk With Christ”**

## **“...And Respond with Gratitude!”**

### **Offering**

#### **Offertory**

#### **“In the Sanctuary”**

STRC Children’s Choir

*Carr*

*\*We lift our hands in the sanctuary.*

*\*We lift our hands to give You the glory.*

*\*We lift our hands to give You the praise,  
And we will praise You for the rest of our days;  
Yes, we will praise You for the rest of our days.  
(we clap our hands, we sing our song, hallelujah)*

*Jesus, we give You the praise.*

*Emmanuel, we lift up Your name,*

*Heavenly Father, coming Messiah;*

*And we will praise You for the rest of our days,*

*Yes, will praise You for the rest of our days*

#### **\*Doxology**

**\*Apostle’s Creed** (*a statement of faith #359 in the hymnal*)

### **Pastoral Prayer & the Lord’s Prayer**

#### **A Celebration of Worldwide 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.)*

#### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion**

#### **\*The Lord’s Prayer**

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

#### **\*Benediction**

*... Depart in peace*



## GIVING THANKS:

### Leading Worship Today:

<b>Ministers:</b>	All the people of the church
<b>Preaching:</b>	Pastor Jeffrey Neevel
<b>Liturgy:</b>	Pedro Nieves
<b>Music:</b>	Chanelle Schaffer, The Adult Choir, Children's Choir, Noel Regalado
<b>Dance Ministry:</b>	Rebecca Broom, Camille McKayle-Stolz, Amy & Petra Schweizer
<b>Greeters:</b>	Linda Gidley, Curtis Walcott
<b>Head Ushers:</b>	Joel Comissiong, Dr. Adam Flowers
<b>Audio/Video:</b>	James Cobb

**Today we** observe **World Communion Sunday** and join Christians throughout the world as we celebrate Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. All are welcome at the Lord's table!

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

**Church Family Picnic TODAY** at beautiful Magens Bay, Shed # 1 from noon to 4. Everyone is welcome! We celebrate the beginning of the new church year, and bid a special farewell to our sister and friend Mary Jo Thomas. Mary Jo has been an integral part of our church family; her joyful spirit, commitment to service, and love for Christ touch everyone she meets, and she will be sorely missed! Please plan to stop by so that she leaves Saint Thomas with a heart filled with our gratitude and love. Come enjoy grilled goodies provided by the church and sides dishes contributed by all. Bring your own drink container.

**Sunday School classes** meet every Sunday at 9:15 am.

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

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

## CALENDAR

TODAY	9:15 - 9:50 a.m. 10:00 a.m. After Service Noon to 4 p.m.	Christian Education Classes Communion and Sunday Worship XYG Parents' Meeting Church Picnic (Magens Bay Shed #1)
Tue., Oct 8	11:45 - 1:00 p.m.	Salvation Army Lunch
Wed., Oct 9	6:15 - 7:15 p.m.	Ladies Bible Study (Ciaccia home)
Thurs., Oct 10	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal (MR)
Sat., Oct 12	8:00-9:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast (RC <sup>2</sup> )
Sun., Oct 13	9:15 - 9:50 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:20 a.m. 11:30– noon Noon—12:30	Christian Education Classes Sunday Worship Sr High Bible Study (PJN office) Children's Choir (MR) YouthSong Rehearsal (MR)

**Next Sunday** we welcome guest preacher: **Dr. Michael Bos** – Senior Minister at Marble Collegiate Church in NY. Dr. Bos is a pastor, author, interfaith proponent, family guy, and adventure seeker. He is president of The Collegiate Churches of New York and serves as chaplain of the Collegiate School, where he also teaches Islam. He has written two books with coauthor, Dr. William Sachs: [\*A Church Beyond Belief: The Search for Belonging and the Religious Future\*](#) and [\*Fragmented Lives: Finding Faith in an Age of Uncertainty\*](#). Dr. Bos was raised in West Michigan, received his B.S. in psychology from Grand Valley State University, M.Div. from Western Theological Seminary, did post-graduate work at the Free University (the Netherlands) in Hebrew Scripture and the theology of religions, and doctoral work at the University of Exeter (U.K.) on Islam and religious pluralism. He recently completed his Doctor of Ministry at Duke University Divinity School with a focus on leadership in the Christian tradition. He established an interfaith center in the Arabian Peninsula, and developed programs with institutions such as Princeton Theological Seminary, the Center for Interfaith Reconciliation, and the U.S. State Department. Working with the U.S. Embassy and government of Oman, he helped establish a first of its kind program on religious diplomacy in the Middle East for the top chaplains in the U.S. armed services. For his work in bringing together Christians, Muslims, and Hindus in Oman to aid low-income workers, he received the U.S. Ambassador's Award for Community Service.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK\*:**

- ♦ For healing and hope: Baby Myra, Nina Lewis
- ♦ Mary Ann Hickey off island for a procedure
- ♦ Mary Jo Thomas as she relocates after 52 years of living on island
- ♦ Prison Ministry and Leroy Hodge, his life, future and witness to others.

***\*If you would*** like prayers added to our Sunday prayer list please contact Pastor Jeff at [mail@stthomasreformedchurch.org](mailto:mail@stthomasreformedchurch.org) or call the church office at 340-776-8255

### **Lectionary Scripture Readings for this week:**

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; Psalm 66:1-12; 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15;  
Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

### **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**

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

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



## STRC Social Media Coordinator Needed

**St. Thomas Reformed Church** wishes to contract with a vendor for a website and social media services.

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](mailto:officeadmin@stthomasreformedchurch.org) by Oct 7, 2019.

## St. Thomas Reformed Church Directory Update

### STRC has gone digital!!!

We brought our church directory into the 21st Century and made it available on your mobile device. You can search for other members and connect via hyperlinks to email, phone and text. The app is free on both Apple and Android stores. Email any updates or corrections to [officeadmin@stthomasreformedchurch.org](mailto:officeadmin@stthomasreformedchurch.org).

### It's easy to get started!

1. Go to your device's App Store
2. Search for Instant Church Directory
3. Enter your email as it's listed in our directory
4. Follow the directions on the screen to complete the login process.

If your email address isn't listed in the directory, send an email to [STRC.Directory@gmail.com](mailto:STRC.Directory@gmail.com) with your contact information (name, address, phone, email, family members) and we'll add it. Attach your favorite portrait photo, too.

If you want more information, have corrections to your contact info or have any questions, email us at [STRC.Directory@gmail.com](mailto:STRC.Directory@gmail.com).

**~Save the Date!~**

STRC welcomes back acclaimed performer and composer **Ken Medema in concert** on **Sunday, November 3rd at 4 p.m.** A brief reception will follow with light refreshments. You won't want to miss this very special performance. Invite your friends and neighbors-- spread the word! **Admission is FREE & all are welcome.**

**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!*