



Sunday, December 21, 2025

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

10 am



*goodnewstext.org*

### Weekly Services

Sunday, 8:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite I, spoken
Sunday, 10:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite II, with Choir (Godly Play for ages 3–8, Sunday School for ages 9-12)
Sábado, 7:00 pm	La Santa Misa, en español

### Staff

*Church office hours are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday through Friday.*

<b>The Rev. Charles R. Cowherd</b> , Rector (x12)	<a href="mailto:priest@saint-timothys.org">priest@saint-timothys.org</a>
<b>The Rev. Philene Ware Dunn</b> , Interim Latino Supply Priest	<a href="mailto:pwaredunn@cox.net">pwaredunn@cox.net</a>
<b>Ms. Ellie Singer</b> , Senior Seminarian	<a href="mailto:esinger@vts.edu">esinger@vts.edu</a>
<b>Ms. Marie Esther Duvert</b> , Seminarian	<a href="mailto:mduvert@vts.edu">mduvert@vts.edu</a>
<b>Deb Angerman</b> , Bookkeeper (x13)	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@saint-timothys.org">bookkeeper@saint-timothys.org</a>
<b>Julio Cuellar</b> , Latino Service Musician	<a href="mailto:juliocuellarmusic@yahoo.com">juliocuellarmusic@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Todd Grivetti</b> , Organist/Choirmaster (x16)	<a href="mailto:music@saint-timothys.org">music@saint-timothys.org</a>
<b>Allyson Showalter</b> , Preschool Director (x14)	<a href="mailto:sttimothypreschool432@gmail.com">sttimothypreschool432@gmail.com</a>
<b>Debbie Stolar</b> , Parish Administrator (x10)	<a href="mailto:office@saint-timothys.org">office@saint-timothys.org</a>

## Information For Our First-Time Guests

We invite you to fill out a Welcome Card in the pew rack in front of you or on the podium in the Narthex. Please place the completed card in the offertory plate or give it to an usher.

Children are welcome to stay with parents in the Sanctuary or they may head downstairs for Godly Play after the reading of the Collect. For your convenience, there are also rocking chairs located at the back of the sanctuary to soothe little ones and worship bags with quiet activities in the Narthex.

We invite you to share in Holy Communion. To receive, come forward and kneel/stand at an open space on the altar rail. Both bread and wine will be offered (or a rice wafer/separate chalice for those allergic to wheat/ gluten intolerant). If you do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing. Please indicate that by placing your arms across your chest.

## HOLY EUCHARIST The Word of God

### Prelude

*Veni Emmanuel*

August Maekelberghe

*At the tolling of the bell, all stand*

### Opening Hymn (66)

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Stuttgart

### Opening Acclamation (BCP 355)

Celebrant: Blessed the Lord who forgives all our sins;

**People: His mercy endures for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Trisagion (S 100)

*Holy God*

David Hurd

### Opening Collect (BCP 212) - *Children may head downstairs after this reading.*

Celebrant: Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



17 And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

### **A Reading from Romans 1:1-7**

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Sequence Hymn (54)**

*Savior of the Nations, Come!*

Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland

### **Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**The Nicene Creed (BCP 358)**

**People:** We believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

**We** believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man;

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried;

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

**We** believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

**We** believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

**We** acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We** look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Please stand, or kneel, as you are able*

**The Prayers of the People**

Leader: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Leader: For peace throughout the world,

**People: that God's justice may guide relations between nations.**

Leader: For the holy church of God,

**People: that it may grow spiritually, living out the values of the Gospel in good times and in bad times.**

Leader: For all bishops, priests, and deacons,

**People: that they may worthily preach the Word and administer the Sacraments.**

Leader: For all who hold executive, legislative or judicial office in our nation, state and community.

**People: that they may exercise their authority to ensure that all people are treated with due process of law.**

Leader: For immigrants in our own country and throughout the world,

**People: that they may know God's love through our ministry to them.**

Leader: For the poor, for refugees, for those who have lost health care and for the unemployed,

**People: that we may redouble our efforts to stand by them and seek justice for them.**

Leader: For the sick, their families and those who care for them,

**People: that they may know God's healing touch.**

Leader: For the dead, the dying and their loved ones,

**People: that they may know God's comfort and peace.**

Leader: For us and our community,

**People: that united in love with St. Timothy and all the saints, we may grow in loving acceptance of all God's creation.**

Leader: Send down your blessings on your servants who labor in government, who so generously devote themselves to helping others. Grant them courage when they are afraid, wisdom when they must make decisions, strength when they are weary, and compassion in all their work. In these trials and tribulations, grant them the peace that passes all understanding and allow them the patience and courage to continue to faithfully serve you in their neighbor.

**People: Amen.**

Celebrant: Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

**People: Amen.**

## Confession of Sin (BCP 360)

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

## Absolution (BCP 360)

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

*Please stand.*

## The Peace (BCP 360)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

## Welcome and Announcements

### Offertory Sentence

### The Offering

## Choral Anthem

*Magnificat*

Roland E. Martin

(If you would like to reflect on the text while you listen, it can be found in Canticle 15, BCP pg. 91.)

## Presentation Hymn

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Veni Emmanuel

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all  
crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host:  
praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - jice! Re - jice!  
Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## Holy Communion – Eucharistic Prayer D (BCP 372)

### The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every magnify you as we sing:

### Sanctus (S 124)

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

David Hurd

*Please stand or kneel, as you are able.*

Celebrant: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**All: We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Celebrant: Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Timothy and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The bread is broken. Silence is kept.*

**Fraction Anthem (S 154)**

*Christ our Passover*

David Hurd

## **The Invitation (BCP 364)**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## **Administration of Communion**

**Communion Hymn (60)**

*Creator of the Stars of Night*

Conditor alme siderum

*Please stand or kneel, as you are able.*

## Postcommunion Prayer (BCP 365)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**All:** Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Blessing

Celebrant: The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn (56 v 5-8)

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

## Dismissal (BCP 366)

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

Johann S. Bach

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## PRAYER LIST:

*(Please email [careteam@saint-timothys.org](mailto:careteam@saint-timothys.org) with any prayer concerns.)*

**Rest of the Soul:** Sandra Jean Melick (sister of Gayle Rippe), Robert Breckenridge (father of Betsy Bosworth)  
Phyllis Hogan

**Health:** Deb Angerman (breast cancer), Peter Hwoschinsky, Melissa Druitt (concussion/vision), Maddox Schneider (grandson of the McGraths), Dan Nichols (cancer), Karen Nichols (cancer), Bill Nichols (heart disease), Giovanni Tagnesi, Dennis Beard (pneumonia)

**Long Term:** Sid, Maryanne, Chris W., Donna W., Chris, Chuck and Peggy, Catherine Hutcheon (Long Covid & sudden hearing loss), David & Mabel Tettyfio (stroke, arthritis, hip pain), Brian Law, Jane Perry, Jerry Vandenberg, Chris Connelly (Barb Kimmel's brother, severe depression), Barb Benson (Parkinson's), Eric Benson (heart failure), Elizabeth Martinson, Cecelia Kimble (Shon Beury's mother), Philly Hoffman (kidney cancer), Maria Fernandez, Ed Patterson (brain tumor), Dick Joyce, Mike Delacy and Arnie Goldman (friends of Ron Boggio), MaryAnn Garrahan, Eleanor Day, Vicki Beeman (cancer)

## 2026 VESTRY MEMBERS ELECTIONS

**In January we will be electing 3 new vestry members and 1 alternate.** This is a great way to get more involved and help our church! Each vestry member is a liaison to a ministry and the vestry meets once a month. Questions? Please

ask a member of the Vestry Nominating Committee which, per our Bylaws, consists of Vilma Lemus, Emily Litz, Midori Yanagihara (departing vestry members), as well as Tom Davis and Dave Dopsovich (non-vestry members).

## THIS WEEK at ST. TIMOTHY'S

### Sunday, December 21

8:00 AM Rite I Holy Eucharist – Sanctuary

9:00 AM Adult Choir Warm-up – Sanctuary

10:00 AM Rite II Holy Eucharist – Sanctuary/Livestream

11:30 AM Decorate the Church for Christmas – Prep & Clean

### Monday, December 22

12:15 PM Step into Recovery – AA

7:00 PM Hope For Today – AI Anon

8:30 PM Monday Night Milkshake Group – AA

### Tuesday, December 23

3:00 PM Decorate the Church for Christmas

### Wednesday, December 24

5:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Service w/Pageant

7:30 PM Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist

### Thursday, December 25 – Merry Christmas

No Events

### Friday, December 26 – Church Office Closed

Scout Troop 159 Loft Clean Up

### Saturday, December 27

9:00 AM Altar Guild Set-Up – Sanctuary

7:00 PM La Santa Misa – Sanctuary

## HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS!

- \* **TODAY! From 11:30 am - 2 pm**, with light lunch. Clean and prep sanctuary and narthex, change banners and frontals, place candles and hurricanes
- \* **December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3 pm; fellowship hour at 5:30 pm**. Place poinsettias, complete sanctuary & organ arrangements.
- \* If you can donate **Holly branches** with intact berries, please contact [altarguild@saint-timothys.org](mailto:altarguild@saint-timothys.org).

## ST. TIMOTHY'S 2025 ANNUAL MEETING – January 25 at 11 AM

Please join us in Henry Hall for our Annual Meeting. We will celebrate our outgoing and incoming Vestry, hear about Church Ministry Reports, take a look at the 2026 Budget, and much more. The January 15<sup>th</sup> eNews will have a link to the reports that you may review prior to the meeting. Lunch will be provided!

## MINISTRY LEADERS:

Please submit any outstanding vouchers for 2025 to the church office. This is important because it allows our bookkeeper to close the books out for this year!

## LOFT CLEANUP

Our boy Scout group, Troop 159, is sadly disbanding after this calendar year. As one last act of service to St. Tim's, they are cleaning out the Loft area of all their items, and have offered to do the same for any church items that need to be cleaned out or moved. **The Scouts plan to do this project after Christmas, on December 26<sup>th</sup> starting at 10 am. All ministry leaders who have items stored in the Loft should make sure that they are labeled, and let the Church office know if they need anything to be moved or thrown out.**

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED** – Closed between Christmas and New Year's.

