



Sunday, December 21, 2025

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

8 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:sttimothyspreschool432@gmail.com">sttimothyspreschool432@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.

For those with little ones, there are rocking chairs located at the back of the sanctuary 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.

### Vestry

**Sr. Warden** – Rick Wilson (2027)

Johnny Ellis (2028)

Emily Litz (2026)

Matt Schumann (2027)

Varun Lal (alternate)

John McGrath (2028)

Midori Yanagihara (2026)

**Jr. Warden** – Rob Huizar (2027)

Vilma Lemus (2026)

Wanda Rixon (2028)

### Trustees

Tom McLenigan

†Keith Sinclair

Deke Smith

## **HOLY EUCHARIST- RITE I**

*At the tolling of the bell, please stand.*

### **Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity (BCP 323)**

**Celebrant:** Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

**People:** **His mercy endureth for ever.**

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

### **Trisagion (BCP 324)**

**Celebrant:** Lord, have mercy upon us.

**People:** **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

**Celebrant:** Lord, have mercy upon us.

## The Collect for the Day (BCP 160)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

### A Reading from Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 (Read Responsively)

- 1 Hear O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
**shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.**
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh, \*  
**stir up your strength and come to help us.**
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, \*  
**how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
**you have given them bowls of tears to drink.**
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
**the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

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.*

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

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

**People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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 be to thee, Lord Christ.**

*Please stand as able.*

### **The Nicene Creed (BCP 326)**

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 331)**

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God:

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

### **Absolution (BCP 332)**

**Celebrant:**           Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Celebrant:**           God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

*(John 3:16)*

*Please stand.*

### **The Peace (BCP 332)**

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

**People:**             **And with thy spirit.**

*Please be seated.*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **The Offering**

*Please Stand*

### **The Holy Communion**

### **The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer I, BCP 333)**

**Celebrant:**           The Lord be with you.

**People:**             **And with thy spirit.**

**Celebrant:**           Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

**People: It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

### **The Sanctus (BCP 334)**

**All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Stand or kneel, as you are able.*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy

whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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 Fraction (BCP 337)**

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore let us keep the feast.**

### **The Invitation (BCP 338)**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### **Administration of Communion**

### **Post-Communion Prayer (BCP 339)**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**All: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. 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.**

*Please stand.*

### **Dismissal (BCP 340)**

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## 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), Randy Davis, 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)

## 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 – Al 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).

## 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).

## **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!

### **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

The church office will be closed between Christmas and New Year's. If you have an urgent matter, please email the church office at [\*\*office@saint-timothys.org\*\*](mailto:office@saint-timothys.org) and someone will get back to you.

### **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, 2025, beginning 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 away.**

