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Saint Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church
44561 Avenida de Misiones, Temecula 92592

A Mission of the Diocese of San Diego
The Right Reverend Susan Brown Snook, Bishop
Gathering via Zoom in Temecula and Surrounding Communities!

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2020 9 o'clock in the morning

Announcements

Coffee Hour with the Bishop's Committee TODAY

“Hear the Word of God” every Tuesday at 2 p.m. Lani-Karyn Jones introduces then read passages of the Bible. This is a time to immerse yourself in the beloved Word, to let it wash over you, and carry you into deeper relationship with God and the human family. Zoom Meeting ID: 812 1569 2448 No Password Required.

Thank You for keeping your pledge current;

Payments can be made through the mail, or electronically via the Donate button on the Saint Thomas website www.episcopalchurchtemecula.org

*Today's Worship Leaders include:
Mike Bramhall, Tess Crawford, Elena Gimpel, Donna Happ, Russell Higgins, Warren
Rippe, Mary Lou Thomas, Barry Weiss, and The Reverend Julie D Bryant.*

Musical Interlude - ' Crown Him with Many Crowns'

The Word of God

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Musical Interlude - ' Be Thou my vision'

The First Lesson

Elena Gimpel

Lector A Reading from the First Book of Kings. 3:5 - 12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:129-136

Barry Weiss

Prayed by whole verse, alternating Reader and Congregation

Your decrees are wonderful; *

therefore I obey them with all my heart.

When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.

I open my mouth and pant; *

I long for your commandments.

Turn to me in mercy, *

as you always do to those who love your Name.

Steady my footsteps in your word; *

let no iniquity have dominion over me.

Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.

Let your countenance shine upon your servant *

and teach me your statutes.

My eyes shed streams of tears, *

because people do not keep your law.

The Epistle

Tess Crawford

Lector A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans. 8:26 - 39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who

justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.** 13:31-33,44-52

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

Musical Interlude - 'Jesu, joy of man's desiring'

The Nicene Creed

All standing as they desire, or are able.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the 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.**

The Prayers of the People

Donna Happ begins

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Mike Bramhall

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Mary Lou Thomas

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Warren Rippe

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Russell Higgins

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Donna Happ

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Mike Bramhall

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Mary Lou Thomas

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Warren Rippe

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

Russell Higgins concludes

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Celebrant Acknowledging our longing to be physically close to one another, to share the blessing of Communion in common, and praying that when we do so, we remember this longing for you.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as you are already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Musical Interlude - 'The Lord's Prayer' in Japanese

The Lord's Prayer

The Celebrant invites the people to join in the Lord's Prayer, saying

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

**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.**

Musical Interlude - 'Thy Kingdom Come'

The Blessing

The Celebrant pronounces God's blessing

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

The Peace

All stand as they are able; the Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

*The people greet those nearby and at a distance with gestures and signs of love.
Please stay connected for Coffee Hour!*

*Today's question:
Mustard seeds. Yeast. Hidden Treasure. A fine pearl. A fishing net.
How might you more fully encounter God's blessings
in the everyday objects you encounter?*

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
People **Thanks be to God!**

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