

In the Name of Christ We Welcome You

# Saint Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church

Temecula, California



## The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Wednesday, December 25, 2019 10 am



### **We're glad that you are here!**

If you are a visitor, we want to greet you and get to know you.

If you have not done so, please sign the Guest Book. Whether you are looking for a church home or just passing through, we would be glad to tell you more about our congregation.

### **Mission Statement**

To share Christ's life-changing love with all people, invite and welcome them into the Body of Christ, and equip them for worship, ministry, and service.

A Pet-Friendly Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

# The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

*The Congregation's spoken portions of the service are in **Bold**.*

*The ringing of the bell signals that our worship is about to begin. Please stand as you are able.*

## The Word of God

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his 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.**

*Celebrant* Lord, have mercy.

*People* **Christ, have mercy.**

*Celebrant* Lord, have mercy.

## Collect for the Nativity of Our Lord

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit, he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## First Reading

*Lector* A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah. (9:2-7)

The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness--  
on them light has shined.  
You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.  
For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 96** Cantate Domino

Sing to the LORD a new song; \*  
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.  
Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; \*  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.  
Declare his glory among the nations \*  
and his wonders among all peoples.  
For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; \*  
he is more to be feared than all gods.  
As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \*  
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.  
Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \*  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!  
Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; \*  
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.  
Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; \*  
bring offerings and come into his courts.  
Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; \*  
let the whole earth tremble before him.  
Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! \*  
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."  
Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \*  
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.  
Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, \*  
when he comes to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness \*  
and the peoples with his truth.

## The Epistle

*Lector* A Reading from the Letter to Titus. (2:11-14)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## The Holy Gospel

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. (2:1-20)

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## The Sermon

The Reverend Julie D. Bryant, DMin.

## The Nicene Creed

*The Celebrant and People pray together, standing as they 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

*The Intercessor and People pray responsively, standing or kneeling as they are most comfortable*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy".

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Susan our Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Thomas of Canterbury and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

**To you, O Lord our God.**

*After a brief silence, the Celebrant adds the following Doxology*

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

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

*People* **And also with you.**

## **Welcome & Announcements**

## **The Holy Communion**

### **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 him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us: who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

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

*Celebrant and People pray together,*

**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 Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

*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.

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion; everyone is welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*We use wheat-based hosts and wine for Communion; if you prefer gluten-free bread, please inform the priest.*

*If you are unable to go to the Altar for Communion, please notify an Usher. Communion will be brought to you. If you would like to bring your pet with you to the Communion Rail for a blessing, please do so.*

### **The Post-Communion Prayer**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People and Celebrant, standing as they are able*

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you, as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

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

### **The Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**





# Christmas Flower Dedications



In Loving Memory of      Dedicated By

My brother, Larry Huchette	<i>Melissa Christiansen</i>
John & Joan Tangas	<i>Viki Iredale - Tangas</i>
Virginia Mocker	
Edward Jones, husband	<i>Lani Jones</i>
June Spivey, mother	
Raymond & Mimi Klippert	<i>Cary &amp; Jackie Klippert</i>
Anthony & Anna Buccola	
Dolly Fish & Mable Kessler	
Noah Ragsdale, Noah Ragsdale, Jr	<i>Bill &amp; Andrea Liesman</i>
Grace Ragsdale, Joyce Ragsdale	
Sandy Ragsdale, Joey Brown Ragsdale	
Rita Riley, Gene Freeman, Marvin Moon	
Su Wing, Hillary Liesman, Madison Duncan	
Robert & Ann Ross	<i>Barbara Mina</i>
Ramses & Mary Mina	
John Ivelich & Glen Gumban	
Carlos Palma, Alicia Palma, Elizabeth Wessel	<i>Laura Palma</i>
James & Carrie Patton, Patricia Patton	<i>Joel Patton</i>
Herbert & Laura Webster	<i>Virginia Patton</i>
William R. Hilligoss & Robert L. Williamson	
Thomas H. Reid & Raymond Long	<i>Tom &amp; Susan Reid</i>
Helen Robbins, John Robbins	<i>Harry &amp; Mary Robbins</i>
Merle Chapman, her Mother, missing her	<i>Diane Swarts</i>
Family & friends I love but see no more	<i>Mary Lou Thomas</i>
Ada Marie Walton	<i>Monica &amp; Vince Walton</i>
Ruby Lewis & Eric Lewis	
Our loved ones and Reggie	<i>Frank &amp; Lisa Simpson</i>
Parents – Don & Sue MacDowell	<i>Donna Weiss</i>

In Thanksgiving For      Dedicated By

The Glory of God	<i>John &amp; Carolyn Holmes</i>
Our family & church family and	<i>Cary &amp; Jackie Klippert</i>
all that God has blessed us with.	
The Glory of God	<i>Phil &amp; Ana Mibok</i>
My friends of support	<i>Laura Palma</i>
The Glory of God	<i>Ed &amp; Kay Rather</i>
The Glory of God	<i>John Rhew</i>
Youth of St. Thomas	<i>Monica &amp; Vince Walton</i>
The Glory of God	<i>Barry Weiss</i>

## Today's Liturgical Ministers

<b>Ministry</b>	<b>Minister</b>
Greeters	Joan Haneishi Liz Barclay
Ushers	Andrea Liesman Roland Steele
Readers	Lani Jones Elena Gimple
Intercessor	Joan Haneishi
Chalice Bearers	Rick Barclay Bill Liesman
Acolytes	Rick Barclay Bill Liesman
Altar Guild	Lani Jones Elena Gimpel
Celebrant & Preacher	The Reverend Julie D. Bryant, DMin.

### Saint Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church and School

44651 Avenida de Misiones Temecula, CA 92592  
951 302 4566 [www.episcopalchurchtemecula.org](http://www.episcopalchurchtemecula.org)

Worship: Sundays, 8 and 10:15 in the morning; Wednesdays 7 p.m.  
Preschool: Monday through Friday, 7 am to 6:30 pm

The Reverend Julie D. Bryant, DMin, Priest-in-Charge  
Ms. Sandra Guajardo, Preschool Director

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSENT

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