

## *Let's Take Ten!*

As part of our life-long learning, we'll spend a few minutes each week before worship highlighting something about the service, or the source of prayers and mediations.

Julie +

### Saint Thomas Episcopal Preschool 'Appreciation Parade'

This Thursday we will celebrate our Preschool Teachers; join us in saying 'Thank You!' The first full week of May is Teacher Appreciation Week, and is often marked by small gifts or goodies prepared by families of students. Our teachers were all furloughed when the Preschool closed, yet are continuing to stay in touch with families, to facilitate gatherings via Zoom, to record story and chapel offerings for children and parents at home. And, they are beginning to image how and when we might re-open to serve children of essential workers and then to the general public.

This year, we've invited students to join a driving parade to wave and holler at the Teachers who are so eager to see their classes of children.

Please join us 11 to 11:30 Thursday, May 7th.

If you would like to contribute a small thank-offering to the staff, please be in touch with Mother Julie. If you are able to paint signs or serve as traffic control Thursday morning, please let her know that as well.

## Saint Thomas Rocks!

**Forward Day by Day** for May, June, July have arrived. Please let Mother Julie know if you'd like a copy mailed to you. 310 625 9377 or [juliedbryant@yahoo.com](mailto:juliedbryant@yahoo.com)

### Cleaning Out Your Closets?

The congregation is planning a July Rummage Sale - please keep your donations for a bit, so we'll have more to offer!

### *Graduation Celebrations*

Please make sure we know who's graduating in your immediate or extended family.

We want to send our congratulations and remember them in our prayers; send Name, School, Degree or Diploma conferred, and their relationship to you to [juliedbryant@yahoo.com](mailto:juliedbryant@yahoo.com)

**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](http://www.episcopalchurchtemecula.org).



Saint Thomas of Canterbury  
44561 Avenida de Misiones, Temecula 92592  
*Gathering via Zoom in Temecula and Surrounding  
Communities!*

The Fourth Sunday of Easter  
May 3, 2020 9 o'clock in the morning

*Today's Worship Leaders include:  
Mike Bramhall, Yvette Jackson, Lani-Karyn Jones, Darren Jump, Bill Liesman,  
Allan O'Neil, Frank Rojas, Mary Lou Thomas,  
The Reverend Dr David Jackson, The Reverend Julie D Bryant.*

### **The Word of God**

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**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.**

**Gloria in excelsis** *prayed in unison*

**Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee,  
we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## The Collect of the Day

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

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson

*Allan O'Neil*

*Lector* A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

**Psalm 23** Dominus regit me *prayed responsively by half-verse* *Yvette Jackson*

The Lord is my shepherd; \*  
**I shall not be in want.**

He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
**and leads me beside still waters.**

He revives my soul \*  
**and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.**

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; \*  
**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
**you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.**

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
**and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

## The Epistle

Frank Rojas

*Lector* A reading from the first Letter of Peter. 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

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

## The Holy Gospel

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. 10:1-10

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

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon

**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**

*Coronavirus Litany*

*[Adapted from 'A Coronavirus Prayer' by Kerry Webber]*

*Darren Jump prays*

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global pandemic of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love. Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Mary Lou Thomas prays*

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Bill Liesman prays*

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Lani-Karyn Jones prays*

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Be with all those who have been quarantined or restricted in their movements. Grant them patience, health and reassurance during their time of isolation and waiting.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Mike Bramhall prays*

Be with those whose livelihoods or finances are or will be negatively affected by this virus. Help them find the resources they need to take care of themselves and their families.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Darren Jump prays*

Be with our elderly, vulnerable, and immunocompromised. Help us to be mindful and vigilant of their vulnerabilities; and guide us to avoid carelessness so that they may remain whole.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Mary Lou Thomas prays*

Be with the homeless in our neighborhood and across our planet. May they be shown kindness and care in this time of fear and insecurity.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Bill Liesman prays*

Be with those who feel overwhelmed by the torrent of media coverage and information. Help them to discern what is important to know and what to set aside.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Lani-Karyn Jones prays*

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at eternal rest with you.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Mike Bramhall prays*

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Darren Jump prays*

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Mary Lou Thomas prays*

Be with our local, state, national and world leaders. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of all they are meant to serve.

Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for

and deal with outbreaks and its challenges. Above all, give them the courage to work together for the greater good.

Let us pray to the Lord : **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Bill Liesman prays*

Whether we are at home, or in the community; surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare.

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Lani-Karyn Jones prays*

Lord Jesus Christ, give us courage to hope for better times. Help us to be vigilant and generous. Make us courageous to continue to be your hands in our community. Teach us to pray honestly and expectantly, and when our prayers seem to fail, bring us to pray again and again; for you are our help and our shield, through our Savior Jesus Christ, now and forever. **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.**

### **Announcements - Birthdays and Anniversaries**

#### **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.**

#### **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 with thy spirit.**

*The people greet those nearby and at a distance with gestures and signs of love.*

### **The Blessing**

*The Celebrant pronounces God's blessing*

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever.

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

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**

*Deacon*      Let us go in peace to love and serve the Risen Christ!  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

*People*                      **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!**

*Please stay connected for Coffee Hour!*