



St Thomas' Cathedral

Mumbai • Estd 1718

The Church of North India

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

This is an abridged service bulletin to serve as an online aid to worship.

The links to the hymns and choral music are indicated in red.



THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday September 20, 2020

|The Preparation & Gathering|

Call to Worship

Presbyter Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns and yet God provides for the basic sustenance of life.

People **May our hearts be open to trust you.**

Presbyter From the corners of worry and fear, from the shadows where we huddle with our doubts,

People **God calls us to this place of sanctuary where we can draw from love's deep wells.**

Presbyter In every person who embraces us with acceptance, in every touch that offers healing and hope,

People **the Spirit calls us to see those around us as God's beloved, our sisters and brothers of grace.**

Opening Hymn

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6XjRYtMHthw>

| The Word of God |

The Collect for the Day

KEEP, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy Church with thy perpetual mercy; and, because the frailty of man without thee cannot but fall, keep us ever by thy help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lesson

Joshua 24. 14 - 25

NOW therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the Lord, to serve other gods; For the Lord our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed: and the Lord drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the Lord; for he is our God.

Continued overleaf.

Reflections on Matthew 6:24

We need a word from the Lord Jesus this morning to remind us that his kingship is not built on the anxiety of his people. He has made himself king over us for the very opposite purpose, namely, to take away our anxiety. To seek the kingship of God first in every affair and every moment of life is a thrilling way to live.

Seek first in all you do to make known his kingship over your life. This and this alone is the way to freedom from anxiety. ~ JOHN PIPER

And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the Lord: for He is an holy God; He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. If ye forsake the Lord, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good. And the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the Lord. And Joshua said unto the people, Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the Lord, to serve Him. And they said, We are witnesses. Now therefore put away, said he, the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the Lord God of Israel. And the people said unto Joshua, The Lord our God will we serve, and His voice will we obey. So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.

Psalm 119: 113 - 120

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wbWJLBB5N8>

The Epistle

Galatians 6.11-18

YE see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand. As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh. But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

The Holy Gospel

St. Matthew 6.24 - end

JESUS, said unto his disciples, No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and Mammon. Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air; for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field how they grow: they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to-day is, and to-morrow is cast into the oven; shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow; for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself: sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

All recite **The Nicene Creed**

I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, light of light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, through whom all things were made: Who for us men, and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

The Sermon

The Revd Avinash Rangayya

| The Sharing of the Peace |

Presbyter 'Where two or three are gathered together in my name,' says the Lord,
'there am I in the midst of them.'
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

| The Prayers of the People |

Invocation

[View in YouTube link](#)

“Pass me not, O gentle Saviour”

1. Pass me not, O gentle Saviour,
hear my humble cry;
while on others Thou art calling,
do not pass me by.
2. Let me at Thy throne of mercy
find a sweet relief;
kneeling there in deep contrition,
help my unbelief.
3. Trusting only in Thy merit,
would I seek Thy face;
heal my wounded, broken spirit,
save me by Thy grace.
4. Thou the spring of all my comfort,
more than life to me,
whom have I on earth beside Thee,
whom in Heav'n but Thee.

*Refrain: Saviour, Saviour,
hear my humble cry,
while on others Thou art calling,
do not pass me by.*

Words: FRANCES CROSBY (1844 - 1915)
Music: WILLIAM DOANE (1832 - 1915)

Intercessory Prayers

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for
† the Universal Church,
† the nation and all who govern,
† the welfare of the world, especially in these times of great uncertainty and anxiety
† the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed.
We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church — the Body of Christ.

| The Liturgy of the Lord's Table |

*The Celebrant receives the Body and Blood of Christ on behalf of the people gathered online.
All those who are unable to receive are able to make a Spiritual Communion.
The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith,
giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly
“eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ”,
Although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves.
The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building
but by the Body of Christ of which we are members.
In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere
to be nourished by the one who tells us, “I am the Bread of Life.”*



| The Thanksgiving |

Closing Prayer and Benediction *The Presbyter*

The peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Hymn at the Closing

“All things bright and beautiful”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPMA5I3-0Jw>

Dismissal

Presbyter Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

~~~ Prayer requests and Announcements ~~~

Your prayers are requested for:

- † humanity at large as we seek to cope as best we can given the trying circumstances.
- † the safe and speedy development of a vaccine to combat the Corona virus. Thank God for the clinical trials.
- † the reduction in the number of COVID - 19 cases. Pray especially for our City.
- † all doctors, nurses and healthcare workers. Especially for those in the Cathedral family: Evangeline Samuel, Samantha Dawson, Rekha Solomonraj, Sooraj Vijayan. Pray for their safety and well-being.
- † the well-being of all patients in hospitals and those who are in quarantine and self-isolation.
- † public worship to resume again and for church leaders as they make necessary arrangements.
- † the family of Surekha Salvi. Surekha, passed away last week after a prolonged illness. May her soul rest in peace in the Lord and may light perpetual shine upon her.
- † all senior citizens in our community and those who are unwell. Pray for their care providers.
- † the Cathedral's security guards and sextons, Johnson and Prakash.
- † Pandita Ramabai Church and the Revd. Ulhas Devkule.
- † the Church of North India's Diocese of Chhattisgarh and the Rt Revd Robert Ali.
- † the Church of South India's Diocese of East Kerala and the Rt Revd VS Francis .
- † in the Anglican Communion, the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and the Most Revd Justin Badi Aram.

~~~ Birthdays ~~~

May God bless you abundantly.

Deepa Thomas (20), Rachel Pasgon (21), Ammini Ipe (24), Sandeep Magar (24), William Millns (24), David Sinate (25), Saras Ratnaswamy (26)

~~~ Wedding Anniversaries ~~~

*Be blessed with love, joy and companionship all the years of your life.*

Jacob & Annie Abraham (20)



*The Collect for*  
**Saint Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist**  
*September 21*

O Almighty God, who by Thy blessed Son  
didst call Matthew from the receipt of custom to be an Apostle and Evangelist:  
Grant us grace to forsake all covetous desires and inordinate love of riches,  
and to follow the same Thy Son Jesus Christ,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
one God, world without end.

**Bank details** to make your online offering and payment for your membership

SOCIETY OF ST THOMAS CATHEDRAL

Account No.: 917010054452406

Fort, Mumbai - 400 001

Bank name: AXIS BANK LTD.

IFS Code: UTIB0000004



**Zooming INTO church from home!**

Contact the Presbyter for the zoom link and invitation.

|       |          |                                                               |
|-------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun   | 10 am    | Prayer and fellowship lasting approximately 45 minutes.       |
|       | 11:15 am | Sunday school                                                 |
|       | 7:30 pm  | Bible study for the youth.                                    |
| Daily | 6pm      | Prayer cycle led by the Women's Fellowship.                   |
| Sat   | 5 pm     | Class on liturgy & theory of music for the junior choristers. |