



# St Thomas' Cathedral

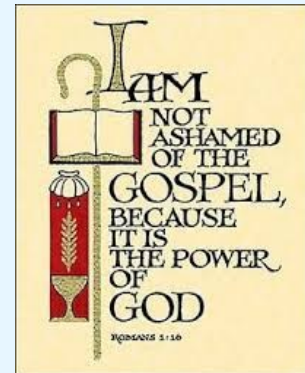
Mumbai • Estd 1718

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.



## REFORMATION SUNDAY *observed*

*Twentieth Sunday after Trinity*

Sunday October 25, 2020

### |The Preparation & Gathering|

#### Call to Worship

Presbyter      God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.  
People          **“Be still, and know that I am God.”**  
Presbyter      If you continue in my Word,  
People          **you are truly my disciples;**  
Presbyter      you will know the truth,  
People          **the truth will make you free**

#### Opening Hymn

“Christ is made the sure Foundation”

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bC0tgG\\_bIE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bC0tgG_bIE)

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the head and cornerstone,  
chosen of the Lord and precious,  
binding all the church in one;  
holy Zion's help forever,  
and her confidence alone.
2. To this temple, where we call Thee,  
come, O Lord of hosts, today:  
with thy constant loving-kindness  
hear thy people as they pray;  
and your fullest benediction  
shed within its walls always.
3. Praise and honour to the Father,  
Praise and honour to the Son,  
Praise and honour to the Spirit,  
ever Three and ever One,  
One in might, and One in glory,  
while unending ages run.

Words: 7<sup>th</sup> cent. Latin, trans. by JOHN MASON NEALE (1818 – 1866)

Music: HENRY PURCELL (c. 1659 -1695)

#### Reformation Sunday.....What's it all about?

Reformation Sunday is observed on the last Sunday in October by many Protestant Churches. This commemorates the occasion in 1517 when, Martin Luther, posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany.

The Reformation produced many catechisms and confessions. Reformed churches did not try to formulate one universal creed. Reformed theologians believed that a kind reader could hear the voice of Christ speaking in each confession, and that this would provide the unity that any one confession lacked.

On Reformation Sunday, we rejoice in the recovery of the biblical gospel of grace. Simply put, “Christ saves sinners” (1 Timothy 1:15) We do not and cannot add anything to our salvation. Seeing that Jesus saves us from beginning to end by His grace alone makes proud people humble, rude people grateful, and despairing people joyful. The Reformation reminds us that Christianity is more of a grace-filled journey than a moral code. We are rescued by mercy and not by merit.

• THIS IS AN ONLINE AID TO WORSHIP. FEEL FREE TO SHARE. •

## | The Word of God |

### The Collect for Reformation Sunday

ALMIGHTY and eternal God, in mercy you give the light of your Gospel to your Church. Keep us in sound teaching, so that we may firmly believe and faithfully follow your saving Word. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### The Lesson

*2 Kings 23:1-9*

THEN the king called together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. He went up to the temple of the Lord with the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the prophets—all the people from the least to the greatest. He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the Lord. The king stood by the pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the Lord—to follow the Lord and keep His commands, statutes and decrees with all His heart and all His soul, thus confirming the words of the covenant written in this book. Then all the people pledged themselves to the covenant.

The king ordered Hilkiah the high priest, the priests next in rank and the doorkeepers to remove from the temple of the Lord all the articles made for Baal and Asherah and all the starry hosts. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron Valley and took the ashes to Bethel. He did away with the idolatrous priests appointed by the kings of Judah to burn incense on the high places of the towns of Judah and on those around Jerusalem—those who burned incense to Baal, to the sun and moon, to the constellations and to all the starry hosts. He took the Asherah pole from the temple of the Lord to the Kidron Valley outside Jerusalem and burned it there. He ground it to powder and scattered the dust over the graves of the common people. He also tore down the quarters of the prostitutes that were in the temple of the Lord, the quarters where women did weaving for Asherah.

Josiah brought all the priests from the towns of Judah and desecrated the high places, from Geba to Beersheba, where the priests had burned incense. He broke down the gateway at the entrance of the Gate of Joshua, the city governor, which was on the left of the city gate. Although the priests of the high places did not serve at the altar of the Lord in Jerusalem, they ate unleavened bread with their fellow priests.

### Psalm 46

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zks9bCgclGw>

### The Epistle

*Romans 11:1 - 6*

I ask, then, has God rejected His people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? “Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.” But what is God’s reply to him? “I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal.” So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

### The Holy Gospel

*St Luke 11:33-53*

NO one lights a lamp and puts it in a place where it will be hidden, or under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, so that those who come in may see the light. Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are healthy, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are un-healthy, your body also is full of darkness. See to it, then, that the light within you is not darkness. Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it dark, it will be just as full of light as when a lamp shines its light on you.

When Jesus had finished speaking, a Pharisee invited Him to eat with him; so He went in and reclined at the table. But the Pharisee was surprised when he noticed that Jesus did not first wash before the meal.

Then the Lord said to him, “Now then, you Pharisees clean the out-side of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wicked-ness. You foolish people! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? But now as for what is inside you—be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.

“Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without leaving the former undone.

“Woe to you Pharisees, because you love the most important seats in the synagogues and respectful greetings in the market places.

“Woe to you, because you are like unmarked graves, which people walk over without knowing it.”

One of the experts in the law answered him, “Teacher, when you say these things, you insult us also.”

Jesus replied, “And you experts in the law, woe to you, because you load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them.

“Woe to you, because you build tombs for the prophets, and it was your ancestors who killed them. So you testify that you approve of what your ancestors did; they killed the prophets, and you build their tombs. Because of this, God in His wisdom said, ‘I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and others they will persecute.’ Therefore this generation will be held responsible for the blood of all the prophets that has been shed since the beginning of the world, from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who was killed between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, this generation will be held responsible for it all.

Woe to you experts in the law, because you have taken away the key to knowledge. You yourselves have not entered, and you have hindered those who were entering.”

When Jesus went outside, the Pharisees and the teachers of the law began to oppose him fiercely and to besiege Him with questions about many things, trying to lay traps for Him and catch Him saying something wrong.

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     We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People         **And also with you.**

## | The Prayers of the People |

**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.*

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## |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.*

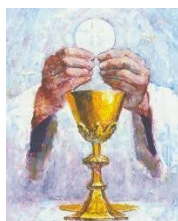
*The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly "eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ",*

*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."*

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## |The Thanksgiving |

### Gloria in Excelsis

**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

*"A Mighty Fortress is our God"*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8XUYZoguhEQ>

1. A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
our helper He, amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing:  
for still our ancient foe  
doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great,  
and, armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.
2. Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing,  
were not the right Man on our side,  
the Man of God's own choosing:  
dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is He;  
Lord Sabaoth, His Name,  
from age to age the same,  
and He must win the battle.
3. And though this world, with devils filled,  
should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed  
His truth to triumph through us;  
The Prince of Darkness grim,  
we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure,  
for lo, his doom is sure,  
one little word shall fell him.
4. That word above all earthly powers,  
no thanks to them, abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours  
through Him Who with us sideth;  
let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill:  
God's truth abideth still,  
His Kingdom is forever.

By MARTIN LUTHER (1483 – 1546)

### The Dismissal

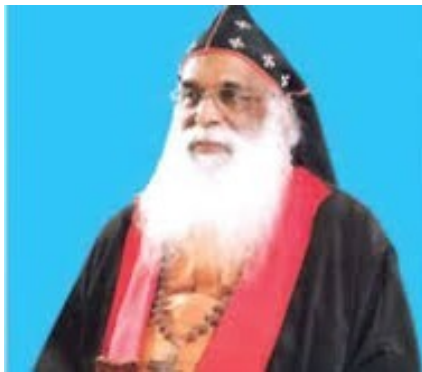
*Presbyter* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

~~~ Prayer requests and Announcements ~~~

Your prayers are requested for:

- † greater responsibility and restraint among members of the public as restrictions are further relaxed.
  - † the reduction in the number of COVID - 19 cases. Pray especially for our City.
  - † all who continue to be in the frontline in the fight against the pandemic.
  - † 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 authorities as they make necessary arrangements.
  - † all senior citizens in our community and those who are unwell. Pray for their care providers.
  - † St James's Church and the Revd. Rajendra Bhonsle.
  - † the Church of North India's Diocese of Gujarat and the Rt Revd Silvans S. Christian.
  - † the Church of South India's Diocese of South Kerala and the Most Revd Dharmaraj Rasalam (*Moderator*).
  - † in the Anglican Communion, the Church in Wales and the Most Revd John Davies (*Archbishop of Wales*).
  - † the new Bishop of Colombo, the Rt Revd Dushantha Rodrigo.
  - † the new Archbishop of York, the Most Revd and Rt Honourable Stephen Cottrell.
- October 24 was *United Nation's Day*. Pray for the UN and its role in promoting peace among nations.
  - November 1 is All Saint and November 2 is All Souls.



*Rest in peace and rise in glory*

His Grace Metropolitan Joseph Mar Thoma

27 June 1931 – 18 October 2020

The Primate of the *Malankara Mar Thoma Church*, His Grace Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma passed away last week. His grace was the primate of the *Mar Thoma Church* since 2007.

He was the President of the *National Council of Churches in India*, Senior President of CCA, and the chairman of CASA. He was an ardent environmentalist.

We give thanks to God for the life and witness of Metropolitan Joseph Mar Thoma.

*The Church of North and The Church of South India* are in intercommunion with the *Mar Thoma Church*.

~~~ Birthdays ~~~

*May God bless you abundantly.*

Rhea Daniel (25), Patricia Bijlani (25), Mohini Patil (31), Gaurav Salvi (31)

**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. |