



St Thomas' Cathedral

Mumbai • Estd 1718

The Church of North India

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion



CHRIST THE KING

A Service of Morning Prayer

Sunday November 22, 2020

*“I was glad when they said unto me,
We will go into the House of the Lord” (Psalm 122)*

Welcome back!

We thank God this morning that the doors of the Cathedral are open once again.

We express our gratitude to the Government and pray for all in positions of authority as they make decisions in these challenging times.

While we are undoubtedly elated that churches have reopened; let us at the same time be mindful of the gravity of the situation created by the ongoing pandemic.

Work has been done to make the Cathedral safe for you. Now, you have a responsibility too.

As per Government and Diocesan guidelines, you are requested to strictly adhere to the following:

- Please cooperate with the security as they carry out the mandatory checks before you enter.
- Make use of sanitizers kept at the entrance.
- Wearing of face covering is mandatory at all times.
- Maintain the distance as indicated by the positioning of the chairs.
- Use of books is not yet permitted. Carry your own Bible and access service bulletins on your phone.
- Leave as soon as the service is over. Please do not gather outside and talk.

Presently administration of Holy Communion is not allowed. Until further instructions from the Bishop, the service will be that of Ministry of the Word. Read the Diocesan advisory carefully.

|The Preparation & Gathering|

Voluntary

*‘Con moto maestoso’
‘Andante tranquillo’*

FELIX MENDELSSOHN, Op. 65 No. 3 (1809 - 1847)

Call to Worship

All stand

Presbyter

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors,
and the King of glory shall come in.

People

Presbyter

“Who is this King of glory?”

People

“The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.”

Presbyter

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors,
and the King of glory shall come in.

People

Presbyter

Who is this King of glory?”

People

“The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.”

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Please be seated.

“Jesus shall reign”

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does his successive journeys run;
his Kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. People and realms of every tongue
dwell on His love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Opening Hymn

Follow the words of the hymn as the Cantor sings.

3. Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all the sons of want are blest.
4. Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

Words: ISAAC WATTS (1674 -1748)
Music: from Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

Adoration

O Lord, open our lips:

And our mouth shall declare your praise.

Early in the morning we make our prayer to you, O Lord;
Surely you will hear our voice.

Glory to the Father, our Creator;
Glory to the Son, our Redeemer;
Glory to the Spirit, who sanctifies us;
**As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
to the end of the ages. Amen.**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might,
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory;
Hosanna in the highest.**

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Penitence and Confession

**O God most holy and merciful,
we confess that we have sinned
against you and one another,
in thought and word and deed,
and in what we have not done.
Therefore we pray you to have mercy on us,
and forgive us our sins. Amen.**

The almighty and merciful God grant us pardon and remission of all our sins, grace to amend our life, and the strength of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

All say the Lord's Prayer

OUR FATHER, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come;
Thy will be done; in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil:
for Thine is the Kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

|The Ministry of the Word|

The Collect for Christ the King

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost will that all things be subject to the dominion of thy beloved Son, and that he may be owned as King over all: We pray thee to heal the nations, wounded and divided by their sins, and knit them together in blessed obedience to the King of kings and Lord of lords, who lieth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Old Testament Lesson

1 Chronicles 11. 1 - 3

Then all Israel gathered themselves to David unto Hebron, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh. And moreover in time past, even when Saul was king, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the Lord thy God said unto thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be ruler over my people Israel. Therefore came all the elders of Israel to the king to Hebron; and David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the Lord; and they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the Lord by Samuel.

Psalm 96

Refrain (all): O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his name;
tell out his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations
and his wonders among all peoples. [R]
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 For all the gods of the nations are but idols;
it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Honour and majesty are before him;
power and splendour are in his sanctuary. [R]
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;
ascribe to the Lord honour and strength.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is king.
He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity. [R]
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
- 12 Let the fields be joyful and all that is in them;
let all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord.
- 13 For he comes, he comes to judge the earth;
with righteousness he will judge the world and the peoples with his truth.
[R]

The Epistle

Colossians 1. 9 – 20

FOR this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulnes; giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: for by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning,

the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

All stand

The Holy Gospel

St John 18. 33 – 37

*When the Gospel is announced all say **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.***

PILATE entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews? Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me? Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

This is the Gospel of Christ.

*All say **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.***

Remain standing and recite together.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth:
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Please kneel as able or sit.

| The Prayers of the People |

Intercessor Let us with confidence present our prayers and supplications to the throne of grace.
We give you thanks, O Lord, that we are once again able to worship in church.
We pray for an end to the pandemic and for all those in positions of power, as they make decisions in these challenging times.
Lord, guide them and each of us. May your reign come;

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We pray for the Church, the sign of your reign, that it may extend your welcome to people of every race and background.
We pray for the ministry of all Church leaders, especially for:
Prem Chand our Moderator; Dharamraj the Moderator of the *Church of South India*; Thedosius Mar Thoma the Metropolitan of the *Mar Thoma Church*;
Prakash our Bishop and Avinash our Presbyter.
May your kingdom come;

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We pray for those whose commitment to truth brings them into conflict with earthly powers, that they may have the courage to endure.
May your rule come;

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We pray for this community of faith, that attentive to your word we may always worship in spirit and in truth.
May your reign come;

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We pray for all engaged in seeking a cure for the virus: God, give them knowledge and wisdom.
We pray for all those who have COVID-19. God, heal them.
We especially pray for Delhi and all other places seeing a resurgence in the pandemic.
God, lift the gloom and despair and give us hope.

People **Amen.**

Cantor

Christ be beside me,
Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me,
King of my heart.
Christ be within me,
Christ be below me,
Christ be above me,
never to part.

*Adapted from 'St Patrick's Breastplate', 8th cent.
Tune: BUNESSAN, Gaelic traditional melody*

Closing Prayer and Benediction *The Presbyter*

God of Eternity, we stand with the courage of those who insisted, even in perilous times, that not even the most powerful rulers of this earth hold our eternal destiny in their hands. We are secure in Christ, whose reign is just, whose power is endless, and whose love is unfathomable. God of Eternity, we join the chorus of saints who continue to declare that Christ is our King. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. **Amen.**

While seated, listen to the hymn as it is played.

"Crown Him with many crowns"

Hymn at the Closing

(Recorded music)

1. Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own:
awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.
2. Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.
3. Crown Him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end,
and round His pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.
4. Crown him the Lord of years,
the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
all hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

*Words: MATTHEW BRIDGES (1800 – 94)
Music: SIR GEORGE ELVEY (1816 – 93) • Tune: DIADEMATA*

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

Organ Voluntary

J.S. BACH, BWV 568 (1685 – 1750)

Prelude in G Major

~~~ Prayer requests and Announcements ~~~

Your prayers are requested for:

- † the invention of a vaccine to combat the pandemic. Thank God for the progress made so far.
- † 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 Delhi.
- † all doctors, nurses and healthcare workers who continue to be in the frontline.
- † the well-being of all patients in hospitals and those in quarantine and self-isolation.
- † all churches as they make arrangements for welcoming the faithful after months of lockdown.
- † all senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for their well-being. Pray for all care providers.
- † all pupils and teachers as they impart learning via online platforms. Especially pray for children who do not have access to digital learning.
- † the Cathedral's security guards and sextons. Pray for their good health and well-being.
- † the Church of St Mary the Virgin and the Revd. Vijay Davidson.
- † the Church of North India's Diocese of Marathwada and the Rt Revd M. U. Kasab.
- † the Church of South India's Diocese of Madurai-Ramnad and the Rt Revd M. Joseph.
- † in the Anglican Communion, the Church of Bermuda (*Extra Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury*) and the Most Revd Nicholas Dill.

- The new liturgical year begins with Advent next Sunday.
- Continue to pray for the new Metropolitan of the Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church, His Grace the Rt Revd Dr Geevarghese Mar Theodosius.
- The Annual General Body Meeting of the Society of St Thomas' Cathedral will be held on Sunday December 6 at 11AM.
- We are hoping henceforth to livestream the 8:45 AM service from the Cathedral on YouTube.
- Our thanks to Reuben Paul for having faithfully compiled the online services during the entire phase of lockdown. This morning's virtual choir has been compiled by Denham Pereira (in Colombo).

~~~ Birthdays this Week ~~~

May God bless you abundantly.

Meera Isaacs (26), Rajeev Ohol (27), Sathya Godson (28)



On this last day of the liturgical year, it will do us well to keep in mind the following:

- † Jesus is ruling even now, and that even what seems terrible is sifted through his loving hands to ensure that it works for our good (*Romans 8.28*).
- † We should look forward in hope to when this beautiful world is renewed and restored to a far greater glory.
- † We can know that that future world will be a time of not only individual salvation but of glorious fellowship among different nations and peoples. While ethnic differences now cause strife, on that day they will bring joy.

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Pastoral visits and administering Communion to the house-bound will resume once the present situation improves.

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Website <http://stthomascathedralmumbai.com>