



St Thomas'

Cathedral *Mumbai • Estd 1718*

The Church of North India

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

A Service of Morning Prayer

Sunday December 6, 2020

Today is the second Sunday in Advent.. In the season of Advent (from the Latin, 'Adventus' for 'coming') we look back and look forward. We look back, remembering the story that leads to the birth of Jesus. We look forward to his coming again.

On each of the four Sundays in Advent we light a candle. On the second Sunday we light the candle of peace. We remember the Prophets and reflect on the way the birth of the Messiah was 'foretold'.

|The Preparation & Gathering|

Voluntary

'Wachet auf!
(“Sleepers awake!”)

J.S. BACH, BWV 645 (1685 - 1750)

All stand

The Opening Acclamation

Presbyter

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

LUKE 3: 4, 6

Blessèd be God: † Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessèd be His Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Please be seated

Hymn

“Hark the glad sound the Saviour comes

Follow the words of the hymn as the Cantor sings.

1. Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long;
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.

2. He comes, the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

3. He comes, the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace,
to bless the humble poor.

4. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring,
with thy beloved name.

*Words: Based on St Luke 4: 18, 19
PHILIP DODDRIDGE (1720 - 51)
Music: T. RAVENSCROFT, 1621*

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. Familiarise yourself with the Diocesan advisory.

The Advent Wreath

Reader Today we light the second candle of the Advent wreath.
Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
the prophets said you would bring peace
and save your people in trouble:
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas-tide
and show all the world God's love.
May we be found ready and watching
when he comes again in glory and judgement;
for you are our light and our salvation.

Response **Blessèd be God for ever.**

(The candle is lit.)

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Penitence and Confession

All say

**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.**

The cantor sings

<i>Kyrie eleison.</i>	Lord, have mercy on us.
<i>Christe eleison.</i>	Christ have mercy on us.
<i>Kyrie eleison.</i>	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 the Second Sunday in Advent

BLESSED Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Old Testament Lesson

2 Kings 22. 8 - 10 and 23. 1 - 3

AND Hilkiyah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the Lord. And Hilkiyah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it. And Shaphan the scribe came to the king, and brought the king word again, and said, Thy servants have gathered the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of them that do the work, that have the oversight of the house of the Lord. And Shaphan the scribe shewed the king, saying, Hilkiyah the priest hath delivered me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king. And the king sent and they gathered unto him all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. And the king went up into the house of the Lord, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great: and he read in their ears all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the house of the Lord. And the king stood by the pillar, and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.

Psalm 72

Refrain (all): The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.

- 1 Give the king your judgements, O God, ♦ and your righteousness to the son of a king.
- 2 Then shall he judge your people righteously ♦ and your poor with justice.
- 3 May the mountains bring forth peace, ♦ and the little hills righteousness for the people.
- 4 May he defend the poor among the people, ♦ deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor. [R]
- 5 May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, ♦ from one generation to another.
- 6 May he come down like rain upon the mown grass, ♦ like the showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall righteousness flourish, ♦ and abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. [R]
- 8 May his dominion extend from sea to sea ♦ and from the River to the ends of the earth.
- 9 May his foes kneel before him ♦ and his enemies lick the dust.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute; ♦ the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.
- 11 All kings shall fall down before him; ♦ all nations shall do him service. [R]
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor that cry out, ♦ the needy and those who have no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the weak and poor; ♦ he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, ♦ and dear shall their blood be in his sight. [R]
- 15 Long may he live; unto him may be given gold from Sheba; ♦ may prayer be made for him continually and may they bless him all the day long.
- 16 May there be abundance of grain on the earth, standing thick upon the hilltops; ♦ may its fruit flourish like Lebanon and its grain grow like the grass of the field.
- 17 May his name remain for ever and be established as long as the sun endures; ♦ may all nations be blest in him and call him blessed. [R]
- 18 Blessèd be the Lord, the God of Israel, ♦ who alone does wonderful things.
- 19 And blessèd be his glorious name for ever. ♦ May all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. [R]

The Epistle

Romans 15. 4 - 13

WHATSOEVER things were written aforetime, were written for our learning; that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like-minded one towards another, according to Christ Jesus: that ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. Now I say, that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers; and that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written,

For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles,
and sing unto thy Name.

And again he saith,

Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people.

And again,

Continued overleaf

Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles,
and laud him, all ye people.

And again, Isaiah saith,

There shall be a root of Jesse,
and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles,
in him shall the Gentiles trust.

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope,
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Gradual

Follow the words of the hymn as the Cantor sings.

1. Thou whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight,
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the Gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.
2. Thou who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light.
3. Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the waters' face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.
4. Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light.

*Words: J. MARRIOTT (1780 - 1825)
Music: F. GIARDINI (1716 - 96)*

All stand

The Holy Gospel

St Luke 21. 25 - 33

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

JESUS said unto his disciples, There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh. And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig-tree, and all the trees; when they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled: heaven and earth shall pass away; but my words shall not pass away.

*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.

| The Prayers of the People |

Advent Prose *Sung by the Cantor*

Pour down, O heavens, from above and let the skies rain down righteousness.

We have sinned and become like one who is unclean; we have all withered like a leaf, and our iniquities like the wind have swept us away. You have hidden your face from us, and abandoned us to our iniquities.

Edited by STEPHEN CLEOBURY (1948 - 2019)

Prayers of Intercession

- Intercessor* In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.
Come to your Church as Lord and judge.
We pray for humanity at large as we continue to struggle with the pandemic.
We give thanks for the great progress which has been made in the development of new vaccines and a potential cure for COVID-19.
Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom.
Maranatha: [R] Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- Intercessor* Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for our President, the Prime Minister, the Governor and Chief Minister of this State. Before you rulers will stand in silence. *Maranatha: [R] Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.*
- Intercessor* Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter. We pray for the countless many who are unwell with the corona virus. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you for ever.
Maranatha: [R] Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- Intercessor* Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. We remember the many who have faced great hardships during the long months of lockdown.
Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death.
Maranatha: [R] Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- Intercessor* Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory.
Lift us up to meet you, that with all your saints and angels we may live and reign with you in your new creation. *Maranatha: [R] Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.*
- Intercessor* Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people, who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Maranatha: [R] Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.*

The Advent Blessing *The Presbyter*

May Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory: And the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

“Lo, he comes with clouds descending”

Hymn at the Closing

(Recorded music)

1. Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand, thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia!
Christ appears on earth to reign.
2. Every eye shall now behold him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced, and nailed him to the Tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.
3. Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!
4. Yea, Amen! Let all adore thee
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own;
Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

*Words: CHARLES WESLEY (1707 - 88)
& JOHN CENNICK (1718 - 55)*

*Music: Later form of melody in J. WESLEY'S
Select Hymns with Tunes Annexed, 1765*

Presbyter As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People In the name of Christ. Amen.

'Es ist das Heil uns kommen her' ('Salvation now is come to us')

~~~ Prayer requests and Announcements ~~~

Your prayers are requested for:

- † all nations as they continue to manage the pandemic and make challenging decisions.
- † invention of a vaccine to combat the pandemic. Thank God for the progress made so far. Pray for the safety and efficacy in the administration of vaccines. May all be able to access the vaccines.
- † all churches as they plan for services during Christmastide.
- † all senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for their well-being. Pray for all care providers.
- † the Church of St Michael and All Angels and the Revd. Alfred Tivade.
- † the Church of North India's Diocese of Nashik and the Rt Revd Dr P. L. Kamble.
- † the Church of South India's Diocese of Tirunelveli and the Rt Revd J. J. Christudoss .
- † in the Anglican Communion, the Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury) and the Rt Revd Carlos López-Lozano (Bishop of the Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church.)

- Please note the new weekday timings (provisional) when the Cathedral is open – 7AM to 3PM.
- The Annual General Body Meeting of the Society of St Thomas' Cathedral will be held today at 11AM.

~~~ Birthdays this Week ~~~  
May God bless you abundantly.

Danika Ponpandian (6), Ankith Kumar (8), Cheryl Adams (9), Rashmikant Salvi (9),
Sathia Solomonraj (10), Shravya Kuamr (12), Latha Ravichandran (12)



This Christmas the Diocese is reaching out to the clergy and missionaries of the Dioceses in the state of Maharashtra:

(Kolhapur, Marathwada, Nagpur, Nashik, Pune.)

Donations will go towards procuring provisions for two months.

Your generous contribution will help make this a reality.

Contact The Bombay Diocesan Office
(022) 2207 3904 (11AM to 6PM)

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

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

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY. PLEASE SHARE THIS SERVICE BULLETIN WITH A FRIEND.

Website <http://stthomascathedralmumbai.com>