



# S<sup>t</sup> Thomas' Cathedral

Mumbai • Estd 1718

The Church of North India

*A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion*

## The Third Sunday of Epiphany

### TEXT FOR THE DAY

John 15:1-17

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.  
He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit.  
Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it  
bear more fruit. Abide in me as I abide in you.  
Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it  
abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.  
I am the vine, you are the branches.



*The week beginning January 18 is observed as the 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.' This is an occasion for Christians the world over to unite in prayer, to remember the one mission that we all are involved in and to work out strategies in which we can continue to work together. Let us courageously proclaim and bear witness to the unity and reconciliation, which is a distinguishing feature of the Christian Church.*

*World Leprosy Day is observed each year on the last Sunday in January, with the aim of raising awareness and knowledge about leprosy, the fact that it can be cured and to change attitudes that stigmatise and marginalise people affected by the disease. We pray for the work of the Leprosy Mission.*



Sunday 24 January 2021

8.45 am

Welcome

# |The Preparation & Gathering|

## Voluntary

Prelude and Fugue in D

D. Buxtehude, BuxWV 139 (1637 - 1707)

*Please stand as the procession enters.*

“Praise my Soul the King of Heaven”

## Hymn

*Sung by the Cantors.*

1. Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;  
To His feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Who like me His praise should sing?  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise the everlasting King.
2. Praise Him for His grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise Him still the same for ever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Glorious in His faithfulness.
3. Father-like, He tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Widely as His mercy flows.
4. Angels, help us to adore Him;  
Ye behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him;  
Dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

*Words: H. F. Lyte (1793 - 1847)  
Music: J. Goss (1800 - 80)*

## Call to Worship

*The Presbyter*

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

*All*

**And also with you.**

*The Presbyter*

You call on us to see the beauty of each branch united to the vine, the beauty of each person.

*All*

**Come and direct our hearts toward you once again.**

*All sit.*

## Welcome

## Litany of Praise

We sing your praise in the midst of the world and among all peoples

**We sing your praise among suffering and tears.**

We sing your praise in the midst of rifts and divisions.

**We sing your praise in the midst of life and death  
the birth of a new heaven and a new earth.**

## Penitence and Confession

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

**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.**

*Officiant* Come and whisper in our hearts the prayer which Jesus addressed to his Father on the eve of his passion: “that they may all be one ... so that the world may believe”.

*All* **Lord have mercy.**

*Officiant* May the walls that separate us fall.

*All* **Christ have mercy.**

*Officiant* Open our hearts to forgiveness and reconciliation and bring us back from our wanderings.

*All* **Lord have mercy.**

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.**

*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 Day

*The Presbyter*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Lesson

*2 Kings 6. 14 - 23*

THE Syrians came by night, and compassed the city about. And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the Lord, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha. And Elisha said unto them, This is not the way, neither is this the city: follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom ye seek. But he led them to Samaria. And it came to pass, when they were come into Samaria, that Elisha said, Lord, open the eyes of these men, that they may see. And the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw; and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria. And the king of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, My father, shall I smite them? shall I smite them? And he answered, Thou shalt not smite them: wouldest thou smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword and with thy bow? Set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master. And he prepared great provision for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. So the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel.

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.  
*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 15**  
*Sung by the Cantors*

1. LORD, who shall dwell in thy tabernacle: or who shall rest upon thy holy hill?
2. Even he that leadeth an uncorrupt life: and doeth the thing which is right, and speaketh the truth from his heart.
3. He that hath used no deceit in his tongue, nor done evil to his neighbour: and hath not slandered his neighbour.
4. He that setteth not by himself, but is lowly in his own eyes: and maketh much of them that fear the Lord.
5. He that sweareth unto his neighbour, and disappointeth him not: though it were to his own hindrance.
6. He that hath not given his money upon usury: nor taken reward against the innocent.
7. Whoso doeth these things: shall never fall.

*All stand for the Gloria Patri.*

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.*

**The Epistle**

*St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 12. 1 - 13*

NOW about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.  
*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**The Gradual**

*"In Christ there is no East or West"*

*While seated, follow the words as the Cantors sing.*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. In Christ there is no east or west,<br/>in him no south or north,<br/>but one great fellowship of love<br/>throughout the whole wide earth.</li><li>2. In him shall true hearts everywhere<br/>their high communion find.<br/>His service is the golden cord<br/>close binding all mankind.</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. Join hands, then, brothers of the faith,<br/>whate'er your race may be;<br/>who serves my Father as a son<br/>is surely kin to me.</li><li>4. In Christ now meet both east and west,<br/>in him meet south and north;<br/>All Christlike souls are one in him,<br/>throughout the whole wide earth.</li></ol> |
|--|--|

*Words: John Oxenham (1852 - 1941)  
Music: W. Jones (1726 - 1800) • Tune: ST STEPHEN*

*All stand*

## **The Gospel Acclamation**

*Intoned by the Cantors.*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations  
and believed in throughout the world. *cf 1 Timothy 3.16*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## **The Gospel of Christ**

*St Matthew 8. 1 - 13*

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

WHEN Jesus was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him. And behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. And Jesus saith unto him, See thou tell no man, but go thy way, show thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them. And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion beseeching him, and saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say unto this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no not in Israel. And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way, and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the self-same hour.

*The Gospeller* 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.

*All sit.*

## **The Sermon**

*The Revd Father Merwyn D'Souza  
(Parish Priest of Our Lady of Fatima Church, Sewri)*

All stand.

## | The Sharing of the Peace |

*The Presbyter* The Lord calls us to be united among ourselves. He gives us his peace and invites us to share it. The peace of the Lord be always with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*While remaining in your place, share the sign of peace with a namaste with your neighbour.*

*Please kneel as able or sit.*

### Invocation

*Sung by the Cantors.*

When the poor leper's case I read,  
My own described I feel;  
Sin is a leprosy indeed,  
Which none but Christ can heal.

Lord, thou canst heal me if thou wilt,  
Oh pity to me show,  
O cleanse my leprous soul from guilt;  
My filthy heart renew.

*Words: John Netwon (1725 - 1807)  
Tune: CAITHNESS*

## | The Prayers of the People |

*Intercessor* God who gathers, you knit us together as one vine in your Son Jesus. May your loving Spirit abide in us at parish meetings and local ecumenical gatherings. Grant that together we might celebrate you with joy.

*All* **The joy of our heart is in God.**

*Intercessor* God of the one vineyard, you call us to abide in your love in all we do and say. Touched by your goodness, grant us to be a reflection of that love in our homes and workplaces.

*All* **The joy of our heart is in God.**

*Intercessor* God of life, you have created every human being in your image and likeness. We sing your praise for the gift of our many cultures, expressions of faith, traditions and ethnicities. Grant us the courage always to stand against injustice and hatred based on race, class, gender, religion, and fear of those not like ourselves.

*All* **God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope.**

*Intercessor* Merciful God, you have shown us in Christ that we are one in you. Teach us to use this gift in the world so that believers of all faiths in every country may be able to listen to each other and live in peace.

*All* **God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope.**

*Intercessor* O Jesus, you came into the world and shared fully in our humanity. You know the hardships of life for people who suffer in so many different ways. May the Spirit of compassion move us to share our time, life and goods with all those in need. We pray for those afflicted with leprosy. Pray for the healing ministry of the *Leprosy Mission*.

*All* **God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope.**

*Intercessor* Holy Spirit, you hear the fury of your wounded creation and the cries of those already suffering from climate change. May we learn to live in harmony as part of your creation.

*All* **God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope.**

*Intercessor* We are called to be ministers of God's healing and reconciling love. This work can only be fruitful when we abide in God, as branches of the true vine which is Jesus Christ. As we come closer to God we draw closer to one another.

*All* **God of peace, God of love, in you is our hope.**

The Cantors sing

Bind us together, Lord,  
bind us together  
with cords that cannot be broken.  
bind us together, Lord,  
bind us together, Lord,  
bind us together in Love

There is only one God, there is only one King;  
There is only one body, that is why we sing.

Words: Based on Colossians 3:14  
Music: Bob Gillman

All stand.

### Closing Prayer and Benediction *The Presbyter*

Be one, so that the world may believe!

Abide in his love, go into the world and bear the fruits of this love.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and all peace in faith, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

“Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go”

### Hymn at the Closing

*Follow the words as the Cantors sing.*

1. Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go,  
my daily labour to pursue;  
Thee, only Thee resolved to know,  
in all I think, or speak, or do.
2. The task Thy wisdom hath assigned  
O let me cheerfully fulfil;  
in all my works Thy presence find,  
and prove Thine acceptable will.
3. Give me to bear Thy easy yoke,  
and every moment watch and pray,  
and still to things eternal look,  
and hasten to Thy glorious day;
4. For Thee delightfully employ  
what e'er Thy bounteous grace hath given,  
and run my course with even joy,  
and closely walk with Thee to heaven.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707 - 88)  
Music: J. Hatton (d. 1793) Tune: DUKE STREET

### The Dismissal

*The Presbyter*  
All

Go forth in the light of Christ!  
**Let us bless our Lord. Thanks be to God!**

### Postlude

“Patriotic Fervour” – an improvisation

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

SOCIETY OF ST THOMAS CATHEDRAL

Account No.: 917010054452406

IFS Code: UTIB0000004

Bank name: AXIS BANK LTD.

Fort, Mumbai - 400 001

Worship material has been sourced from:

- The Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland, the World Council of Churches - Faith and Order Commission and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity
- Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England <https://www.churchofengland.org>
- The Book of Common Prayer
- Morning and Evening Prayer (The Church of North India)
- The English Hymnal (1933) and Hymns Ancient & Modern New Standard Edition.



## ~~~ Prayer Requests and Announcements ~~~

Your prayers are requested for:

- † our country as we celebrate Republic Day on January 26.
- † the ongoing vaccination drives. Pray for all recipients and those entrusted with the responsibility of carrying out the vaccination drive.
- † all those whose skill makes people well again. Pray for all doctors, nurses and healthcare workers especially in places where the situation is overwhelming.
- † all world leaders as they work at controlling the pandemic.
- † the well-being of all patients in hospitals and those in quarantine and self-isolation.
- † the various ecumenical movements which work at building bridges between different denominations. Pray of the *World Council of Churches* and the *Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity*.
- † all those who are unable to attend church services. Especially pray for all senior citizens,
- † St Stephen's Church (*Tamil congregation*), Bhandup and the Revd. John Thavakumar.
- † the *Church of North India's* Diocese of Nashik. Pray for the election of a new Bishop for Nashik.
- † the *Church of South India's* Diocese of Rayalaseema (*Andhra Pradesh*) and the Rt Revd B. D. Prasada Rao.
- † the new Bishop of the Diocese of Madhya (Central) Kerala, the Rt Revd Sabu K. Cherian. Bishop Sabu was consecrated at a service in Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kottayam on January 18, 2021. He succeeds the Rt Revd Thomas Oommen (*former Moderator of the Church of South India.*)
- † in the *Anglican Communion*, the Church of Bangladesh and the Most Revd Samuel Sunil Mankhin.
- A former Moderator of the *Church of North India*, the Most Revd Dharendra Kumar Mohanty passed away last month. Bishop Mohanty was Moderator from 1996 to 1998. Pray for his family.
- The *Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (WFCS)* of St Thomas' Cathedral will have their annual general meeting (virtually) on Sunday January 31, 2021 at 5pm. Contact Jaisy Desai.
- Tomorrow (Jan 25) the Church observes the *Conversion of St Paul*. We give thanks to God that through the preaching of the blessed Apostle St Paul the light of the Gospel shines throughout the world.
- *The Presentation of Christ in the Temple* falls on February 2. We will observe this day next Sunday.
- Lent begins with *Ash Wednesday* on February 17. There will be services at 7am and 6pm.
- We express our thanks to Fr Merwyn D'Souza for preaching this morning.

### ~~~ Birthdays this Week ~~~

*May God bless you abundantly.*

Anisha Ghose (25), Sudhir Issacs (25), David Palukuri (26), Alvina Magar (27),  
Vijay Pandian (28), Augustine Pastala (29)

### ~~~ Wedding Anniversaries this Week ~~~

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

James & Deborah Baker (26)

### Welcome

*We warmly welcome you to worship with us this morning.*

*In spite of the several restrictions, let us rejoice that we can gather and worship in spirit and in truth. There will be no offertory. You may place your offerings in the box placed at the entrance.*

**As per Government and Diocesan guidelines, you are requested to strictly comply with 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 throughout the service. ·
- Congregational singing is not yet permitted.
- Maintain the distance as indicated by the positioning of the chairs. ·
- Please take this service bulletin home with you. It is mandatory to do so. ·
- Leave as soon as the service is over. Avoid gathering outside in groups.
- Presently administration of Holy Communion is not allowed. Until further instructions from the Bishop,

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

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Presbyter-In-Charge: The Revd. Avinash T. Rangayya

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Contact the Presbyter for pastoral visits and administering Communion to the house-bound.

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY. PLEASE TAKE THIS SERVICE BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU.